

JANUARY

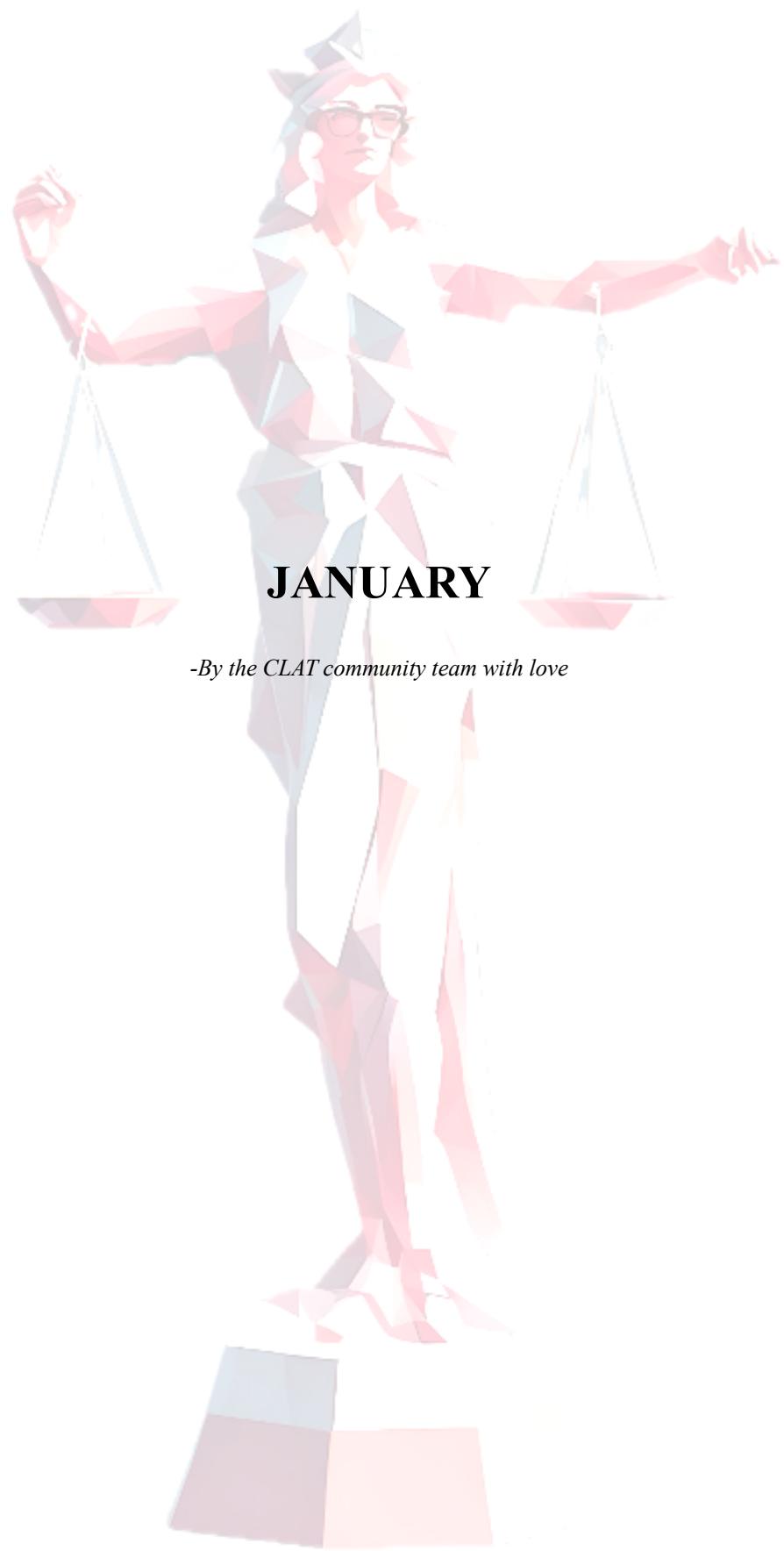


**CLAT
COMMUNITY**

CURRENT AFFAIRS

**WHERE ACHIEVERS HELP
YOU ACHIEVE!**

2025



-By the CLAT community team with love

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

1

Table of Contents

1. ‘Manipur accounts for 77% of Northeast violence cases’ Unresolved conflict:	5
2. The 18th edition of Exercise Surya Kiran, a joint military exercise between India and Nepal.....	7
3. 10 payloads of ISRO’s POEM-4 module deployed successfully.	9
4. UDAN 2.0 – Reviving Regional Connectivity in India.....	14
5. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2025.....	16
6. Forest Rights Dispute in Madhya Pradesh And Other Developments.....	18
7. Bharatpol Portal – A New Era in Crime Fighting.....	21
8. Magnitude Earthquake Hits Tibet.....	24
9. Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mark-III Helicopter Crashes	26
6. IIT Madras Inaugurates Asia’s Largest Shallow Wave Basin Research	28
10. Z-Morh Tunnel.....	30
11. India to Host 2026 Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference	33
12. Republic Day 2025: Tableaux Theme “Swarnim Bharat – Virasat aur Vikas”	36
13. Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto to Attend this years Republic Day 2025	38
14. Pink Fire Retardant	42
15. Gangasagar Mela 2025	44
16. Maha Kumbh Mela: New District Announced in UP	47
17. Supreme Court on Conjugal Rights	49
18. Great Indian Bustard Conservation Success in Rajasthan	51
19. Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal-Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project.....	56
20. Pune to Host Army Day Parade 2025	59
21. Launch of INS Utkarsh	61
22. Kokborok Language Protests.....	63
23. ISRO Successfully Germinates Black-eyed Pea Seeds in Space.....	65
24. ISRO Successfully Demonstrates Vikas Engine Restart Capability.....	67
25. Nigeria Joins BRICS Bloc	69
26. La Perouse Naval Exercise 2025	72
27. World Economic Forum Releases Global Risks Report.....	74
28. Digantara’s SCOT Mission Success	77

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

29. NeGD Launches Entity Locker.....	79
30. Supreme Court Proposes Ad Hoc Judges for Backlog Relief.....	81
31. India's Manufacturing Vision for Tier 2 and 3 Cities.....	84
32. India's Semiconductor and Electronics Manufacturing Initiatives.....	86
33. India Sets Ambitious Target for GI Tags.....	89
34. Govt Begins Procurement of 10,000 GPUs Under IndiaAI Mission.....	91
35. Gaganyaan: LPSC Delivers Crew Module's Liquid Propulsion System.....	93
36. US Withdrawal from OECD Global Tax Deal	96
37. National Health Mission Extended	98
38. Kalaripayattu Controversy Ahead of 38th National Games	101
39. Uttarakhand's Manual for Uniform Civil Code.....	103
40. SANJAY Battlefield Surveillance System.....	105
41. ISRO's 100th Launch	107
42. Punjab's Initiatives Against Drug Trafficking and Abuse.....	110
43. Sinhtoo Dance to Debut at Republic Day Parade 2025	113
44. Unified Lending Interface (ULI) Pilot.....	115
45. Madhya Pradesh Enforces Liquor Ban in Religious Towns.....	117
46. Guillain-Barre Syndrome.....	119
47. EU Proposes Ban on PFAS in Consumer Products	122
48. Africa Energy Summit	125
49. Christine Carla Kangaloo Receives Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award	127
50. Wing Commander Akshay Saxena Receives Vayu Sena Medal	129
 NEWSPAPER TOPIC NOTES	131
1. KHEL RATNA AND NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS 2024.....	132
2. THIRD LAUNCH PAD AT SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE	133
3. WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM (WEF) 2025 - DAVOS	134
4. INDIA-INDONESIA RELATIONS	135
5. RAMSAR SITES IN TAMIL NADU	136
6. INDIA-US JOINT SONOBUOY PRODUCTION.....	137

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

7. ISRO ASTRONAUT SHUBHANSU SHUKLA – AXIOM MISSION 4 (AX-4).....	138
8. MATSYA 6000 – INDIA’S DEEP OCEAN MISSION	139
9. MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE (MSP) 2024.....	140
10. INDIA’S DIGITAL ECONOMY GROWTH.....	141
11. HIGH SEAS TREATY (BBNJ AGREEMENT).....	142



"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

1. ‘Manipur accounts for 77% of Northeast violence cases’ Unresolved conflict:



The police firing tear gas shells at protesters in Imphal in July 2023. State recorded 137 incidents in 2022, which rose to 187 in 2023 and 203 till November-end in 2024, according to Home Ministry; counter-insurgency operations led to 33 insurgent deaths in 2023.

The MHA report published on Monday said that the rise in violent incidents in Manipur was due to the prevailing ethnic strife between Meitei and Kuki communities in the State, and the resultant increase in casualties among both civilians and security personnel in comparison to 2022.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

In comparison to the 187 incidents reported in 2023, which resulted in the deaths of 35 civilians and seven security personnel, there were 137 insurgency-related incidents registered in the State in 2022, in which five civilians and one security force personnel lost their lives. According to the MHA's data for 2024, until November 30, 203 violent incidents have been reported, which led to three security personnel being killed, and 28 civilian deaths.

On November 29, 2023, the MHA and the Manipur government signed a peace agreement with one of the factions of the United National Liberation Front (UNLF), the oldest armed Valley-based Meitei insurgent group. The group advocates for the secession of Manipur and largely operates from Myanmar.

There have been violent communal clashes in Manipur due to the Manipur High Court (HC) directing the State to pursue a 10-year-old recommendation to grant **Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the non-tribal Meitei community.**

- The violence escalated after the All-Tribal Student Union Manipur (ATSUM) organized a "tribal solidarity rally" against the alleged **move to include the Meiteis on the ST list.**

What is Manipur's ethnic composition?

- The State is like a football stadium with the Imphal Valley representing the playfield at the centre and the surrounding hills the galleries. The valley, which comprises about 10% of Manipur's landmass, is dominated by the non-tribal Meitei who account for more than 64% of the population of the State and yields 40 of the State's 60 MLAs.
- The hills comprising 90% of the geographical area are inhabited by more than 35% recognised tribes but send only 20 MLAs to the Assembly.
- While a majority of the Meiteis are Hindus followed by Muslims, the 33 recognised tribes, broadly classified into 'Any Naga tribes' and 'Any Kuki tribes' are largely Christians.

2. The 18th edition of Exercise Surya Kiran, a joint military exercise between India and Nepal.



The 18th edition of Joint Military Exercise “Surya Kiran” between the Nepali Army and the Indian Army commenced on Tuesday.

The exercise was inaugurated by **Major General Prem Bahadur Pun, Mid-Western Division Commander, of the Nepali Army Battle School in Saljhandi, Rupandehi District.**

As per the release from the Nepal Army, the exercise includes the participation of 668 personnel from the Nepali Army, led by **Lieutenant Colonel Nirajan Katwal** and the Indian Army, led by **Colonel Japender Pal Singh.**

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

The joint exercise is scheduled to conclude on January 13, 2025.

During the exercise, an Infantry Battalion each from the Indian Army and the Nepali Army will be training together to develop inter-operability and share their experience of unorthodox modes of warfare including Counter Insurgency and Counter Terrorist operations and also Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations, an official statement said.

The **17th edition** of exercise Surya Kiran was successfully concluded last year in **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, India**. Since its inception in 2011, the exercise has been held annually on a reciprocal basis in Nepal and India, completing 17 successful editions till date.

- **Exercise Surya Kiran:** It is a military exercise conducted **annually** between India and Nepal, **held alternately in both countries**. It started in **2011**.
- **Objective:**
 - Enhance interoperability between the two armies in **Counter-Terrorism (CT) Operations, jungle warfare, and mountain operations**.
 - Improve coordination in **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** under the **United Nations (UN) Charter**.
 - Focus on **operational preparedness, aviation aspects, medical training, and environment conservation**.
- **India-Nepal Relation:** Nepal shares a **1,850 km** border with 5 Indian states: **Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand**.
 - The **India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship**, signed in **1950**, forms the foundation of their special bilateral relations.
 - **Koshi Agreement** (1954, revised in 1966), **Mahakali Treaty** (1996) and **Gandak Agreement** (1959, revised in 1964) are the major water-sharing agreements between India and Nepal.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

3.10 payloads of ISRO's POEM-4 module deployed successfully.



The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) on Tuesday (December 31, 2024) said that it facilitated the successful establishment and operationalisation of 10 hosted payloads from Non-Government Entities (NGEs) on board the POEM-4 module of the PSLV-C60/SpaDeX mission.

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is set to achieve a significant milestone with the launch of the Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) mission on 30th December 2024. The mission aims to demonstrate satellite docking capabilities, a crucial technology for future space missions.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

What is SpaDeX?

About: **SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment)** is a technology demonstrator mission developed by the ISRO to showcase in-space docking technology. This mission aims to demonstrate the ability to rendezvous, dock, and undock two small spacecraft, marking a significant advancement in India's space capabilities.

Objective: The primary goal of SpaDeX is to develop docking technologies for two small spacecraft, **SDX01 (Chaser)** and **SDX02 (Target)**, in low Earth orbit. They will dock autonomously using advanced sensors and propulsion systems. Secondary objectives include testing electric power transfer and demonstrating spacecraft control.

Mission Duration: Two years

Mission Design: SpaDeX will deploy two satellites, SDX01 and SDX02, into a **470 km** orbit using the **Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)** rocket, where they drift apart and gradually approach each other, eventually docking at distances from 20 km to 3 meters. The two satellites are equipped with the **Bharatiya Docking System (BDS)**. BDS features identical, low-impact (approach velocity is in the order of 10 mm/s), androgynous (docking systems are identical for both spacecraft, Chaser & Target) docking mechanisms, enhancing mission flexibility and precision for future operations like satellite servicing, crew transfers, and India's space station development.

SpaDeX will use PSLV's fourth stage, POEM (PSLV Orbital Experimental Module)-4, to carry **24 payloads** from academic institutions and startups. These experiments will leverage the microgravity environment in orbit. **Docking Challenge:** The two satellites (**Chaser and Target**) will orbit at speeds of 28,800 km/h. They will need to carefully reduce their relative velocity to just 0.036 km/h before docking.

Space Docking

Space docking is the intricate process of maneuvering two fast-moving spacecraft into the same orbit, bringing them closer, and joining them to form a single unit. This capability is pivotal for assembling large structures or transferring equipment, crew, or supplies in space. For instance, **the International Space Station (ISS)** was built using this technique, with various modules launched separately and docked in space. Continuous docking missions keep the ISS operational by delivering supplies, new crew members, and modules while facilitating the return of the older crew to Earth.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 10

Why is Space Docking Technology Crucial for India?

Modular Space Infrastructure: Docking is a prerequisite for constructing multi-modular space stations. It allows the assembly of structures in space, reducing the size and weight constraints of single-launch missions.

Interplanetary and Lunar Missions: Docking supports orbital refueling, and payload exchange, enhancing mission flexibility for lunar bases and Mars exploration. It is crucial for future missions like Chandrayaan-4, space stations, and India's planned Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS).

Human Spaceflight Program: Space Docking is critical for crew transfers and emergency evacuations during long-duration missions like Gaganyaan and beyond. Global Collaboration and Market Potential: SpaDeX could position India as the fourth nation, after Russia, the US, and China, to master space docking, strengthening its presence in satellite servicing and enabling advanced international collaborations. Satellite Servicing: Docking allows for repairing, refueling, and upgrading satellites, enhancing their operational life and performance.

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

- ISRO is the space agency under the Department of Space of Government of India, headquartered in the city of Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Antrix Corporation Limited (ACL) is a Marketing arm of ISRO for promotion and commercial exploitation of space products, technical consultancy services and transfer of technologies developed by ISRO.
- Shri S. Somanath is the incumbent chairman of ISRO.
- The space research activities were initiated in India under Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, the founding father of Indian space programme, during 1960's.
- Since inception, the Indian space programme had three distinct elements such as, satellites for communication and remote sensing, the space transportation system and application programmes.
- The INCOSPAR (Indian National Committee for Space Research) was initiated under the leadership of Dr. Sarabhai and Dr. Ramanathan.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 11

- During the operational phase in 90's, major space infrastructure was created under two broad classes: one for the communication, broadcasting and meteorology through a multi-purpose Indian National Satellite system (INSAT), and the other for Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS) system. The development and operationalisation of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and development of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) were significant achievements during this phase.

Space Science & Exploration Satellites

Indian space programme encompasses research in areas like astronomy, astrophysics, planetary and earth sciences, atmospheric sciences and theoretical physics. Satellites come under this category are:

- **AstroSat**, was launched on September 28, 2015, by PSLV-C30 from Sriharikota. It is the first dedicated Indian astronomy mission aimed at studying celestial sources in X-ray, optical and UV spectral bands simultaneously. One of the unique features of AstroSat mission is that it enables the simultaneous multi-wavelength observations of various astronomical objects with a single satellite.
- **Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM)**, also known as (Mangalyaan), the truly maiden interplanetary mission of ISRO, launched on November 5, 2013, successfully got inserted into Martian orbit on September 24, 2014 in its first attempt. MOM completes 4 years in its orbit on September 24, 2018 though the designed mission life of MOM was six months. It was launched on board of PSLV C25 rocket with aim of studying Martian surface and mineral composition as well as scan its atmosphere for methane (an indicator of life on Mars). MOM is credited with many achievements like cost-effectiveness, short period of realization, economical weight-budget, miniaturization of five heterogeneous science payloads etc. Phobos and Deimos, the two moons of Mars were also imaged from close distances by Mars Colour Camera (MCC).
- **Chandrayaan-1**, India's first mission to moon, was an unmanned spacecraft along with 11 scientific payloads built in India, UK, USA, Germany, Bulgaria and Sweden. The mission comprised an orbiter and an impactor. Launched aboard PSLV-C11 by ISRO on October 22, 2008, the spacecraft was designed to study the Moon orbiting

around it at a height of 100 km from the lunar surface. It had operated much less than the intended two years, but achieved more than 90% of its planned objectives.

- **Chandrayaan-2**, India's second mission to the Moon is a totally indigenous mission comprising of an Orbiter, Lander and Rover. Chandrayaan-2 is planned to launch in 2019 by GSLV-F10. After reaching the 100 km lunar orbit, the Lander housing the Rover will separate from the Orbiter. After a controlled descent, the Lander will soft land on the lunar surface at a specified site and deploy a Rover. The payloads will collect scientific information on lunar topography, mineralogy, elemental abundance, lunar exosphere and signatures of hydroxyl and water-ice.

Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center

IN-SPACe is to be established as a single-window nodal agency, with its own cadre, which will permit and oversee the activities of private companies.

This is part of reforms aimed at giving a boost to the private sector participating in space-related activities or using India's space resources.

IN-SPACe, is the second space organisation which has been set up by the Union Government within two years, i.e., 2019 and 2020. In 2019, the Union Government approved the formation of New Space India Limited (NSIL).

4. UDAN 2.0 – Reviving Regional Connectivity in India

The Indian civil aviation sector is poised for expansion with the anticipated introduction of the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) 2.0 scheme. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is expected to allocate funds for this initiative in the upcoming Union Budget. This new iteration aims to enhance last-mile connectivity by developing cost-effective airport infrastructure. The previous budget allocated ₹502 crore for the UDAN scheme, which was lower than previous estimates. Industry insiders suggest that the allocation for UDAN 2.0 will be higher, supporting the goal of increasing operational airports to 350-400 by 2047.

Objectives of UDAN 2.0

UDAN 2.0 aims to stimulate the regional aviation market. It seeks to provide affordable air travel to underserved and unserved areas. The scheme focuses on reviving existing airports and airstrips to facilitate connectivity. It also intends to ease operational regulations for new airlines and operators.

Financial Framework

The financial framework includes support from the Central and state governments. Viability Gap Funding (VGF) will incentivise airlines to operate in underserved regions. The scheme aims to keep airfares affordable for passengers. This financial backing is crucial for the sustainability of operations at smaller airports.

India cultural tours

Operational Progress

Since its inception in 2016, UDAN has operationalised over 85 aerodromes, including airports, heliports, and water aerodromes. The scheme has facilitated over 1.44 crore passengers across more than 2.8 lakh flights. It has also successfully operationalised 601 routes, including helicopter routes. The number of operational airports has increased from 74 in 2014 to over 157 in 2024.

Cost Reduction Strategies

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 14

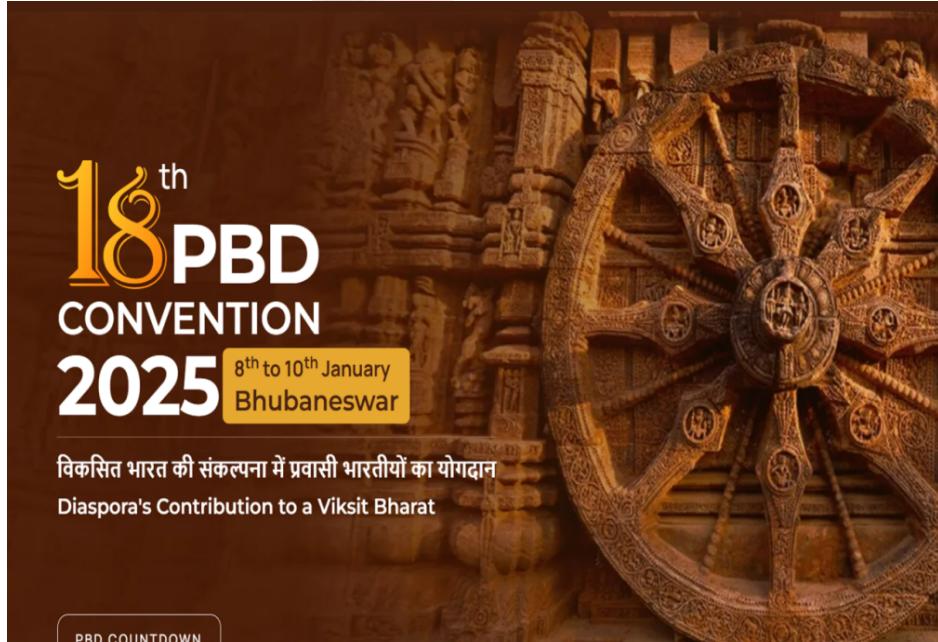
UDAN 2.0 proposes to reduce the operational costs of small regional airports. Estimates indicate that running costs can range from ₹7 to ₹10 crore annually. The scheme will explore ways to lessen these expenses while maintaining service quality. This includes easing entry barriers for new airlines and operators, which is critical for encouraging competition.

Future Aspirations

The long-term vision for UDAN 2.0 includes developing over 100 underutilised airstrips. The initiative aims to enhance regional connectivity across India. By 2047, the government envisions a robust network of operational airports catering to diverse regions. This expansion will help meet the growing demand for air travel in smaller towns and cities.

1. UDAN stands for “Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik,” meaning “Let the common citizen fly.”
2. The scheme has facilitated travel for over 1.44 crore passengers since its launch.
3. Viability Gap Funding (VGF) is a financial incentive to encourage airlines in underserved areas.
4. The number of operational airports in India has doubled from 74 in 2014 to 157 in 2024.
5. ALGs refer to Advance Landing Grounds, essential for regional connectivity.

5. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2025



The 18th edition of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) will take place in Bhubaneswar from January 8 to 10, 2025. This event aims to strengthen ties between India and its diaspora. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the convention, with President Christine Carla Kangaloo of Trinidad and Tobago as the chief guest addressing the gathering virtually. The event celebrates the contributions of overseas Indians to India's progress.

India cultural tours

Historical Significance of PBD

The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated annually on January 9. This date marks Mahatma Gandhi's return to India from South Africa in 1915. The event marks the importance of the Indian diaspora in shaping India's identity and global presence. It serves as a reminder of the historical connections between India and its overseas citizens.

Participants and Themes

This year's theme is "Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat." The convention will see participation from over 50 countries, including prominent businessmen, entrepreneurs, and economists. The event aims to encourage dialogue between the Government of India and its diaspora. Discussions will focus on visa regulations, investment opportunities, and community welfare.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

Awards and Recognitions

During the PBD, the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award will be conferred. President Droupadi Murmu will deliver the valedictory address on January 10. This award recognises individuals and organisations that have made contributions in various fields. A total of 27 honourees will be recognised this year from countries such as the US, Fiji, and Mauritius.

Cultural Exhibitions and Activities

Several exhibitions will be held during the PBD. One exhibition, titled “Vishwaroop Ram — The Universal Legacy of Ramayana,” will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister. Another exhibition will focus on the diaspora’s technological contributions. A third exhibition will showcase the evolution of the Indian diaspora, featuring rare documents from migrants.

Focus on Economic Development

The PBD aims to encourage investment in India, particularly in Odisha. The state government has planned discussions on business and investment opportunities. Workshops and cultural exhibitions will provide vital information about Odisha’s heritage. The event is expected to attract NRIs, government officials, and business leaders to discuss economic development.

1. The Indian diaspora exceeds 35.4 million globally.
2. The largest PIO group resides in the US, with over 2 million.
3. The UAE is home to more than 3.5 million NRIs.
4. The first PBD was held in 2003.
5. The event aims to strengthen global ties through cultural exchange.

Future Prospects and Collaborations

The PBD will serve as a platform for NRIs to connect with state of India leaders. Discussions will revolve around potential collaborations in industries, education, and tourism. The event aims to encourage relationships that may lead to long-term partnerships. Janata Maidan will be a hub for dialogue on the future of the Indian diaspora and technology’s role in shaping these relationships.

6. Forest Rights Dispute in Madhya Pradesh And Other Developments



The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) has intervened in dispute concerning forest rights in Madhya Pradesh. Recently, 52 villages have raised concerns about the denial of their forest rights and threats of eviction from the Rani Durgavati Tiger Reserve. This situation has arisen after the reserve was established in September 2023, leading to allegations that local communities are being unjustly displaced and restricted from accessing vital forest resources.

Background of the Rani Durgavati Tiger Reserve

Rani Durgavati Tiger Reserve spans 2,339 square kilometres. It was formed by merging the Rani Durgavati and Nauradehi wildlife sanctuaries. The creation of this reserve was intended to compensate for the loss of 100 square kilometres of forest due to the Ken Betwa River linking project. This initiative aims to support tiger conservation while addressing environmental concerns.

Allegations from Local Villages

The affected villagers from Damoh, Narsinghpur, and Sagar districts have alleged that their forest rights claims were ignored. They reported being pressured to relocate from their ancestral lands, violating the Forest Rights Act (FRA) of 2006 and the Wildlife Protection Act (WLPA) of 2006. The villagers claim that they have been barred from accessing forest products and resources, which are crucial for their livelihoods.

MoTA's Response to the Complaints

In response to these complaints, MoTA has directed the Madhya Pradesh government to investigate the situation. The Ministry's letter emphasised that the state should resolve these issues in collaboration with local forest departments and district collectors. MoTA brought into light that the violation of community rights under the FRA is a serious concern that needs immediate attention.

Legal Framework Governing Forest Rights

The FRA and WLPA provide a legal framework for recognising the rights of tribal and forest-dwelling communities. According to these laws, any relocation of communities from forest areas must be voluntary and based on informed consent. The government must ensure that the rights of local communities are acknowledged before creating protected areas free from human settlements.

Current Status of Evictions and Relocations

Abdul Aleem Ansari, Divisional Forest Officer of Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary, has denied allegations of forceful evictions. He stated that while some families have been informed about relocation packages, no current evictions are taking place due to budget constraints. Out of the 93 villages within the reserve, 40 have been relocated since 2014, and eight more are in the process of relocation.

1. Rani Durgavati Tiger Reserve was established in 2023.
2. The FRA was enacted in 2006 to protect forest rights.
3. Ken Betwa River linking project affects 100 square kilometres of forest.
4. MoTA oversees tribal welfare and forest rights matters.
5. Damoh district has the highest number of villages in the reserve.

Future Steps and Community Participation

The future actions regarding the forest rights dispute will depend on thorough investigations by the Madhya Pradesh government. Community participation and free, prior, and informed consent will be essential in any decision-making processes concerning relocations. The involvement of local villagers in discussions about their rights and livelihoods is crucial for sustainable conservation efforts.

Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 was enacted for protection of plants and animal species. Prior to 1972, India only had five national parks and few wildlife sanctuaries. The act clearly defines crucial terms like hunting, wild animals, wildlife etc. to reduce ambiguity in interpretation of the law.

Schedules - The act categories plants and animal species under 6 schedules based on the levels of protection required. Schedule I and part II of Schedule II lists out critically endangered species while Schedule III and Schedule IV covers vulnerable wildlife species. Plants are listed under Schedule VI.

Madhya Pradesh has recently gained international recognition as the Wall Street Journal named it one of the Go-To Global Destinations for 2025.

Madhya Pradesh is home to numerous UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Notable sites include Khajuraho, famous for its intricate temples and sculptures. The state also features the ancient city of Mandu, with its historical architecture. Cultural festivals, local crafts, and traditional dance forms enhance the state's vibrant cultural tapestry.

- **Pachmarhi:** Pachmarhi is a popular hill station in Madhya Pradesh. It features lush greenery, waterfalls, and caves. The area is ideal for trekking and nature exploration.
- **Dhuandhar Waterfall:** Dhuandhar Waterfall is a stunning natural attraction in Madhya Pradesh. It is known for its picturesque views and the unique mist it creates, attracting numerous visitors.
- **Bandhavgarh National Park:** Bandhavgarh National Park is renowned for its tiger population. It offers wildlife safaris and is a key destination for nature enthusiasts and wildlife photographers.

Madhya Pradesh Launches PARTH Yojana Initiative

Madhya Pradesh has revealed the PARTH Yojana, aimed at empowering youth for careers in defence and law enforcement. This initiative, introduced by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav during the State-Level Youth Festival, focuses on enhancing physical and mental preparedness.

The PARTH Yojana stands for Police Army Recruitment Training and Hunar. It is designed to provide targeted training for aspiring candidates in Madhya Pradesh. The initiative addresses the need for structured support for youth pursuing careers in security services.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 20

7. Bharatpol Portal – A New Era in Crime Fighting



The Bharatpol portal, launched by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, marks advancement in India's law enforcement capabilities. This innovative platform, developed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), facilitates real-time information sharing among state police and central agencies. The initiative aims to enhance international police cooperation through Interpol, particularly in addressing transnational crimes such as cybercrime, human trafficking, and drug trafficking.

Purpose of the Bharatpol Portal

The Bharatpol portal is designed to streamline requests for international assistance in criminal investigations. It allows police forces across states and Union Territories to send requests for information on fugitives and other criminal matters. The portal aims to expedite the process of obtaining support from Interpol, which is crucial for tackling crimes that cross national borders.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 21

Real-Time Information Sharing

This portal enables seamless communication between various law enforcement agencies. By providing a common platform, it reduces reliance on traditional methods like letters and faxes. The integration of Interpol Liaison Officers (ILOs) and Unit Officers (UOs) enhances coordination among different levels of police forces, ensuring that information is shared quickly and efficiently.

Impact on Law Enforcement

The Bharatpol portal is expected to transform the operational efficiency of field-level police officers. By facilitating faster access to international assistance, it strengthens India's ability to combat transnational crimes. This improvement in coordination is anticipated to lead to an increase in the number of notices published by Interpol, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness of law enforcement in India.

Historical Context of the CBI

The CBI was established in 1963, evolving from the Special Police Establishment set up during World War II. Originally focused on corruption, the agency has expanded its mandate to include serious crimes such as terrorism, economic fraud, and organized crime. The CBI operates under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946, and is recognised as the nodal agency for Interpol-related affairs in India.

Types of Cases Handled by the CBI

The CBI investigates a wide range of cases, including:

- Anti-Corruption Crimes – Cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act against public officials.
- Economic Crimes – Major financial scams, bank frauds, and cybercrime.
- Special Crimes – Serious crimes like terrorism and kidnappings, often at the request of state governments or courts.
- Suo Moto Cases – Investigations initiated by the CBI in Union Territories or as directed by higher courts.
- **Interpol Liaison Officers (ILOs):** Key figures in coordinating international police requests.
- **Delhi Special Police Establishment Act:** The legal foundation for the CBI's investigative powers.

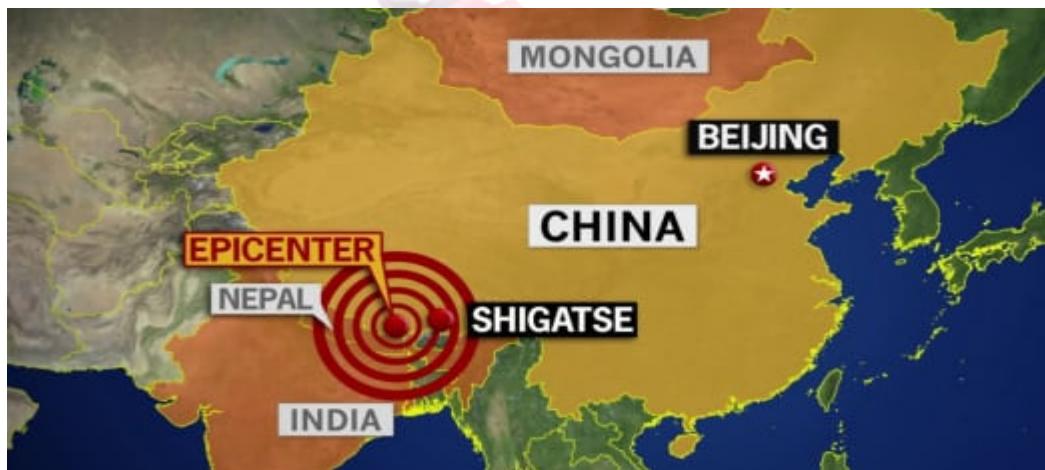
- **Red Notices:** Requests to locate and provisionally arrest fugitives pending extradition.
- **President's Police Medals:** Awards given to outstanding CBI officers for distinguished service.
- **Transnational Crimes:** Criminal activities that span across national borders, requiring international cooperation.



"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

23

8. Magnitude Earthquake Hits Tibet



On January 7, 2025, a 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck the Tibetan region near the Nepal border. The quake's epicentre was approximately 80 km north of Mt Everest, located 10 km below the surface. By evening, reports indicated at least 95 fatalities and over 130 injuries in China, with extensive property damage. Tremors were felt as far away as Kathmandu and Kolkata. This event marks the seismic activity in the Himalayan region and raises concerns about future earthquakes.

Location and Impact

The earthquake's epicentre was in Tingri County, Shigatse, Tibet. This area is situated 4-5 km above sea level and is home to roughly 7000 residents. The region is known for its spiritual heritage, being the seat of the Panchen Lama. Local authorities have restricted tourist access post-quake, especially as winter typically sees fewer visitors. The impact on infrastructure has been devastating, with hundreds of houses reported flattened.

Seismic Activity in the Region

The **Himalayan region** is known for its seismic activity due to the collision of the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates. This interaction generates considerable stress along fault lines, leading to earthquakes. The Indian plate continues to push northward at approximately 60 mm per year, causing frequent seismic events. Since 1950, over 21 earthquakes of magnitude 6 or higher have been documented in the Lhasa terrane.

Geological Significance

The Lhasa terrane plays a critical role in understanding the earthquake's cause. This geological fragment is involved in construction projects, including the world's largest hydroelectric dam on the Yarlung Tsangpo River. Concerns arise regarding how this dam may affect the river's flow into India, where it becomes the Brahmaputra. The Himalayan region is often referred to as the 'third pole' due to its vast freshwater reserves.

Future Earthquake Risks

Experts warn that the western Himalayas are prone to future seismic events. The region, spanning from the Hindu Kush to Arunachal Pradesh, is overdue for a major earthquake, potentially exceeding magnitude 8. The accumulation of energy along fault lines poses risk. Historical data shows that only two major Himalayan earthquakes in the past 500 years have ruptured to the surface, indicating a build-up of elastic energy that could lead to catastrophic quakes.

1. The Lhasa terrane is a key geological fragment in Tibet.
2. The Panchen Lama is spiritual figure in Tibetan Buddhism.
3. The Yarlung Tsangpo River is crucial for hydroelectric projects in Tibet.
4. Seismicity in the Himalayas results from the collision of two major tectonic plates.
5. The region is often called the 'third pole' due to its freshwater resources.

About Tectonic Movements

Earthquakes occur due to movements along faults in the Earth's crust. The Earth's surface comprises 15 major and minor tectonic plates. These plates are constantly in motion but can become stuck at their edges due to friction. When stress overcomes this friction, energy is released, causing an earthquake. The processes beneath the Earth's surface, including convection currents, drive these movements. Understanding these mechanisms is crucial for predicting future seismic events.

9. Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mark-III

Helicopter Crashes



Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mark III

On January 5, 2025, an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mark-III of the Indian Coast Guard crashed during a training sortie in Porbandar, Gujarat. Tragically, all three personnel on board lost their lives. This incident marked the second fatal crash involving the ALH Mark-III within a span of four months. The previous crash occurred in September during a medical evacuation mission, also resulting in three fatalities. Earlier, in March 2023, another ALH incident in Kochi did not lead to any casualties. These events have raised serious safety concerns regarding the helicopter model.

About Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH)

- The ALH, also known as Dhruv, is an indigenously developed helicopter by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- It is a twin-engine utility aircraft with multi-role capabilities. Development began in 1984, and it first flew in 1992, entering service in 2002.
- The ALH has several variants, including Mk-I, Mk-II, Mk-III, and Mk-IV.

Investigation and Safety Audits

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

26

The specific causes of the recent crashes are still under investigation. The Indian Coast Guard has initiated Boards of Inquiry to assess the incidents. The inquiries focus on the helicopter's flying controls and transmission systems. Following each crash, safety audits have been conducted, leading to temporary groundings for thorough inspections. After the January crash, the entire fleet of approximately 300 ALH helicopters was grounded for safety checks.

Design and Development of HAL ALH

The HAL Dhruv, the base model of the ALH, began development in 1984. It was designed to replace the older Chetak and Cheetah helicopters in the Indian defence services. The ALH is intended as a multi-role, multi-mission helicopter. Significant components, including the airframe, are produced in India. However, critical elements like the Shakti engines were developed in collaboration with foreign companies. Over the years, the level of indigenisation has increased, with more systems and parts being manufactured domestically.

Previous Crashes of ALH Variants

Other variants of the ALH have also experienced crashes. In January 2021, an Army ALH crashed due to a technical issue near Lakhanpur in Jammu and Kashmir. In August 2021, an **ALH Rudra**, the attack helicopter variant, crashed into the Ranjit Sagar Dam, resulting in the deaths of both pilots. An October 2022 crash in Arunachal Pradesh involved an ALH Rudra, leading to the loss of two pilots and three soldiers. In May 2023, an Army ALH crashed in Kishtwar, killing one soldier.

Safety Concerns and Design Flaws

The recent crashes have brought into light safety concerns about the ALH helicopters. Military aviation veterans have called for independent inquiries to assess the safety record of the helicopters. Previous investigations have identified design flaws, particularly with the booster control rods, which could impact helicopter control. In response, HAL has initiated a program to replace these rods with more durable steel versions in newer ALH models.

1. ALH Dhruv – Multi-role helicopter developed by HAL.
2. Shakti engines – Jointly developed with Turbomeca, now Safran Helicopter Engines.
3. Ranjit Sagar Dam – Site of a fatal ALH Rudra crash in 2021.
4. HAL – Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd, responsible for the ALH design.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 27

5. Indigenisation – Increased domestic production of helicopter components over time.

6. IIT Madras Inaugurates Asia's Largest Shallow Wave Basin Research

Facility

The Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M) has recently inaugurated Asia's largest shallow wave basin research facility. This development is located at the Discovery satellite campus in Thalayur, approximately 36 km from the main IIT-M campus. The facility is designed to meet the research and industry requirements of India, particularly in coastal engineering and port management.

Facility Overview

The shallow wave basin is a multidirectional structure capable of simulating complex wave and current interactions. It serves as a vital tool for addressing challenges faced by Indian ports and waterways. The facility was established by the National Technology Centre for Ports Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC), which is the technology arm of the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India.

Indigenous Development

Most components of the shallow wave basin were developed indigenously. Professor K. Murali from the Ocean Engineering department stated that this facility eliminates the need for foreign technology to generate laboratory waves. The majority of the wavemaker's fabrications were completed at IIT-Madras, showcasing the institute's capabilities in engineering and research.

Research and Applications

The facility can be utilised for various research purposes, including the testing of coastal structures and analysing the impact of climate change. It supports projects related to harbour and offshore engineering, as well as inland waterways. The unique mobile wavemaker allows for multiple simultaneous experiments, enhancing the facility's versatility.

International Collaboration

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 28

The establishment of this facility is expected to elevate IIT-Madras' status on the global stage. It has the potential for encouraging international collaboration in marine science and engineering. The facility will enable groundbreaking research across various disciplines.

India food delivery

Future Prospects

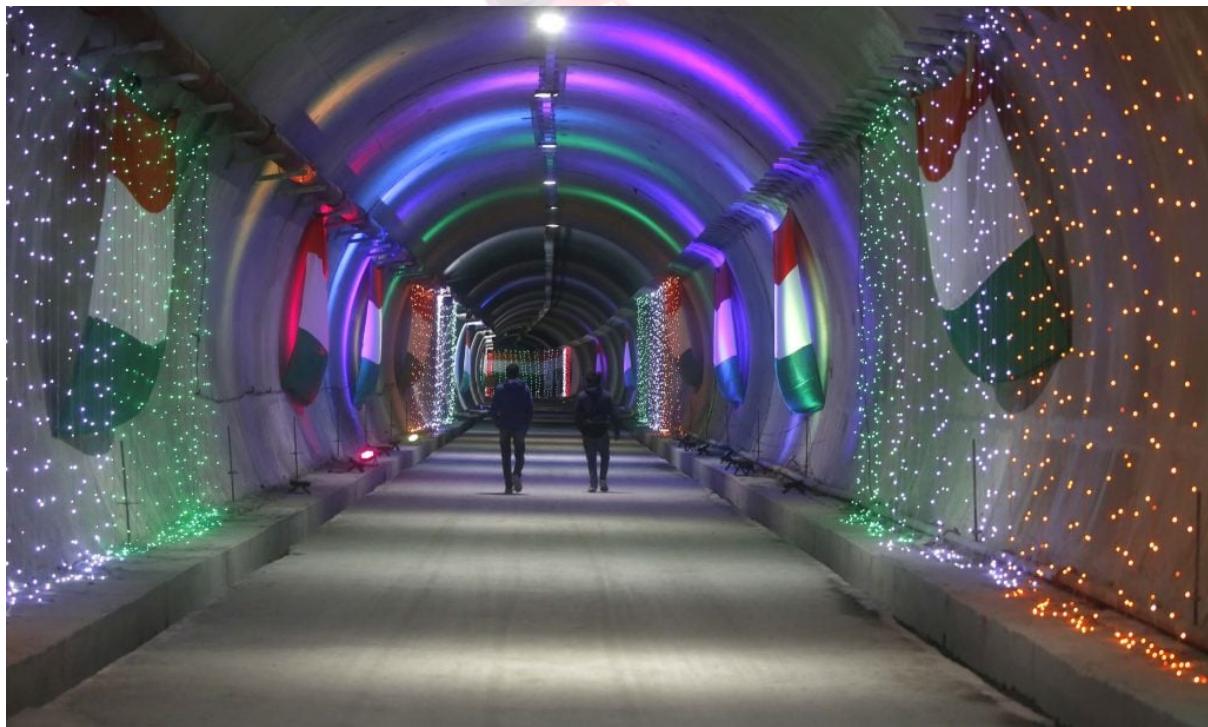
IIT-Madras aims to leverage the knowledge gained from this facility to assist other Indian institutes in developing their own research centres. This initiative aligns with the government's plans for new ports and coastal engineering projects. By providing effective solutions to industry challenges, the NTCPWC will contribute to the growth of maritime transportation at multiple levels.

1. NTCPWC stands for National Technology Centre for Ports Waterways and Coasts.
2. IIT-Madras is located in Tamil Nadu, India.
3. Thalayur is a suburb of Chennai.
4. Professor K. Murali is a key figure in the Ocean Engineering department.
5. The facility can simulate wave periods from 5 to 18 seconds.

Key Benefits of the Facility

The shallow wave basin offers numerous advantages for research and industry. It facilitates the testing of various coastal structures and allows for post-impact analysis. The facility is particularly relevant for assessing the effects of climate change and developing large solar floating plants. Its capacity to handle multiple projects simultaneously makes it a unique asset in the field of maritime research.

10. Z-Morph Tunnel



The Z-Morph Tunnel, infrastructure project in Kashmir, aims to enhance connectivity in the region. This 6.4-kilometre-long tunnel connects Sonamarg, a popular tourist destination, with Kangan town in the Ganderbal district. Its construction addresses the challenges posed by heavy snowfall and avalanches during winter, which often render the roads impassable. The tunnel promises year-round access, benefiting both tourism and military operations in Ladakh.

The Need for the Z-Morph Tunnel

The region's altitude of over 8,500 feet leads to severe winter conditions. Seasonal road closures have historically isolated Sonamarg, impacting its tourism-driven economy. The Z-Morph Tunnel will ensure uninterrupted access, vital for both civilian and military transport.

Construction Challenges

Initiated in 2012, the project faced numerous delays due to financial and administrative issues. Initially awarded to Tunnelway Ltd., it was later taken over by the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL). APCO Infratech eventually

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 30

won the contract, leading to a soft opening in February 2024. The final inauguration was postponed due to the Model Code of Conduct for local elections.

Strategic Importance

The Z-Morh Tunnel is part of the broader [Zojila Tunnel](#) project, which aims to connect Srinagar with Ladakh. This connectivity is critical for India's defence strategy, especially given the region's contentious borders with Pakistan and China. The tunnel will reduce reliance on air transport for military logistics, enhancing operational efficiency.

India food delivery

Economic Benefits

Beyond military significance, the Z-Morh Tunnel is expected to boost local economies. By ensuring year-round access to Sonamarg, it will revive the tourism sector and facilitate trade between Kashmir and Ladakh. Farmers and traders will benefit from reduced travel times, leading to increased investment in the region.

1. The Z-Morh Tunnel spans 6.4 km and is located at over 8,650 feet.
2. It complements the ongoing Zojila Tunnel project, Asia's longest under construction.
3. The original completion date for the Z-Morh Tunnel was set for August 2023.
4. APCO Infratech formed a special purpose vehicle for the project's execution.
5. The Zojila Tunnel aims to connect Sonamarg with Drass in Ladakh.

Future Prospects

The Z-Morh Tunnel will transform Sonamarg into a year-round tourist destination, promoting winter sports and adventure tourism. Local leaders envision the area becoming a major ski resort. The improved connectivity will reduce travel distance between Srinagar and Leh, enhancing accessibility and economic opportunities in the region.

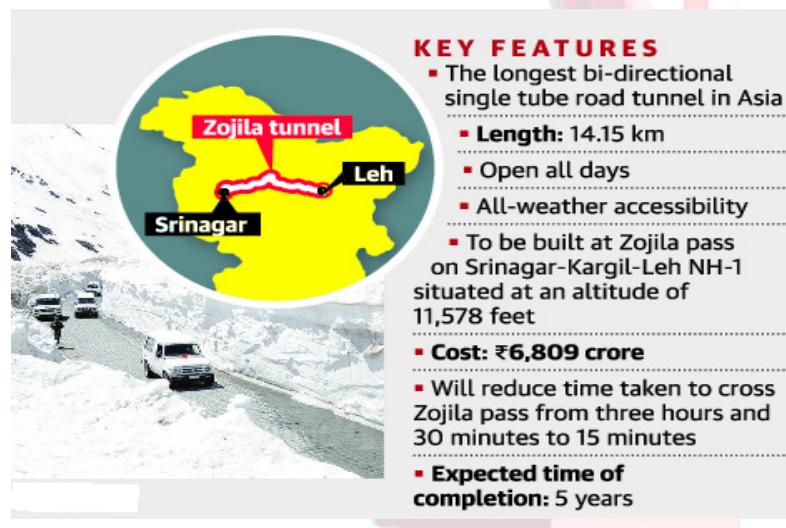
Zojila Tunnel

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in **2018** inaugurated construction of Rs **6,809 crore Zojila tunnel** project in Jammu and Kashmir's Leh. It will be India's and Asia's longest and strategic bi-directional road tunnel, which will provide all-weather connectivity between Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar, Kargil and Leh.

It will be situated at altitude of 11,578 feet on Srinagar-Kargil-Leh National Highway (NH-1A). It consists of 14.150 km long two-lane bidirectional single tube tunnel with parallel 14.200 km long egress (escape) tunnel, making it Asia's longest bidirectional road tunnel.

Its objective is to provide safe, fast and cheap all weather connectivity to strategically important Leh region in J&K which at moment is limited to at best six months because of snow on mountainous passes and threat of avalanches. It will reduce time taken to cross Zojila pass from present three and half hours to just fifteen minutes. The tunnel will have latest safety features like uninterrupted power supply (UPS), tunnel emergency lighting, fully transverse ventilation system, CCTV monitoring, variable message signs (VMS), traffic logging equipment, over height vehicle detection, tunnel radio system etc.

The construction project will be implemented by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) through National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode. It will be completed in five years.



11. India to Host 2026 Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference



India is set to host the 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of Parliaments of Commonwealth Countries (CSPOC) in January 2026. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla announced this at the recent CSPOC Standing Committee Meeting in Guernsey. The conference will centre on the role of artificial intelligence and social media in parliamentary processes. Birla brought into light India's economic growth and technological advancements. He invited participants to witness the integration of India's rich cultural heritage with its modern developments during the conference.

Background of CSPOC

The CSPOC was established in 1969 by the then Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada, Lucien Lamoureux. It serves as a platform for Speakers and Presiding Officers from Commonwealth parliaments. The conference is held every two years, with Canada providing

a secretariat to facilitate its activities. The group operates independently without formal ties to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association or the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Objectives of the Conference

The primary goals of CSPOC include promoting impartiality and fairness among parliamentary leaders. It seeks to enhance knowledge and understanding of parliamentary democracy. Additionally, it aims to develop parliamentary institutions across member nations. The conference is an opportunity to discuss best practices and share experiences among [Commonwealth](#) countries.

India's Role and Responsibilities

As the host nation, India will have the opportunity to showcase its traditions and commitment to inclusivity. Speaker Om Birla emphasised the importance of dialogue among parliamentary leaders to address global challenges. He pointed out issues such as climate change, terrorism, and cybercrime, which require collaborative efforts from all nations.

Agenda Setting for 2026 Conference

The Standing Committee is responsible for setting the agenda for the upcoming conference. This committee comprises 15 members, with a quorum of five required for decision-making. The committee's chair is the Speaker of the lower house of the hosting jurisdiction. The agenda will focus on issues facing parliaments globally, including sustainable development and governance.

1. CSPOC was initiated in 1969 by Lucien Lamoureux.
2. The term "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" means "the whole world is one family."
3. India previously hosted the CSPOC in 1970-71, 1986, and 2010.
4. The Standing Committee oversees CSPOC activities and sets the agenda.
5. CSPOC operates on a two-year cycle, alternating between full conferences and committee meetings.

India cultural tours

Importance of Inclusivity and Dialogue

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 34

Birla stressed the need for inclusive and transparent parliamentary practices. He believes that dialogue among parliamentary leaders is essential for tackling shared issues. The conference will serve as a platform for enhancing cooperation among member countries. Participants will discuss strategies to address pressing global challenges, such as poverty, inequality, and malnutrition.

Future Implications for Global Cooperation

The 2026 CSPOC will likely influence future parliamentary practices across the Commonwealth. By focusing on technology and social media, the conference aims to modernise parliamentary processes. The insights gained from this event can lead to improved governance and policy-making in member nations.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 35

12. Republic Day 2025: Tableaux Theme “Swarnim Bharat – Virasat aur Vikas”



The Ministry of Defence has revealed the theme for the Republic Day celebrations in 2025, the theme is “Swarnim Bharat – Virasat aur Vikas,” which aims to showcase India’s cultural heritage and development. The event will feature tableaux from various states and Union Territories, denoting the nation’s diverse strengths.

Participating States and Union Territories

Fifteen states and Union Territories will present their tableaux during the Republic Day parade on Kartavya Path. The selected regions include Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Dadar Nagar Haveli and Daman, Diu, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, and Karnataka. Each state will depict unique aspects of its culture and development.

In addition to the states, eleven Ministries and Union government departments will also participate in RDC 2025. Their involvement will enhance the representation of India’s progress and initiatives. The focus will be on showcasing government efforts in various sectors.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

Theme Significance

The theme “Swarnim Bharat – Virasat aur Vikas” encapsulates the essence of India’s rich heritage and its journey towards development. It aims to celebrate cultural inclusiveness and progress. The theme is designed to resonate with a global audience, reflecting India’s aspirations for a bright future.

The tableaux will serve as a visual narrative of India’s evolution. They will highlight the country’s historical significance and contemporary achievements. Each tableau will represent the unique identity of the participating states while contributing to the overarching theme.

Global Audience Engagement

The Republic Day parade aims to engage a global audience through its thematic representation. By showcasing India’s cultural diversity and developmental strides, the event seeks to encourage international appreciation. The tableaux will be a testament to India’s unity in diversity.

Notes:

1. **Swarnim Bharat:** This theme translates to “Golden India.” It embodies India’s rich heritage and developmental journey. The initiative aims to showcase cultural inclusiveness and progressive aspirations globally.
2. **Kartavya Path:** Kartavya Path is a ceremonial boulevard in New Delhi. It replaced Rajpath as the venue for the Republic Day parade. This location signifies India’s commitment to duty and service.
3. **Dadar Nagar Haveli:** Dadar Nagar Haveli is a Union Territory in India. It was formed by merging Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. The region is known for its natural beauty.
4. **Tableaux:** Tableaux are artistic displays used in parades. They represent cultural, historical, and social themes. Each tableau tells a unique story, denoting the diversity and unity of India.

13. Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto to Attend this years Republic Day 2025



Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto will attend India's Republic Day celebrations as the Chief Guest. This visit marks diplomatic engagement between Indonesia and India. Subianto's itinerary has changed, as he will now visit Malaysia instead of Pakistan after discussions with Indian officials. This decision reflects India's concerns regarding the potential implications of including Pakistan in his travel plans.

Historical Context of Republic Day Celebrations

India's Republic Day is celebrated annually on 26th January. The event commemorates the adoption of the Constitution in 1950. Each year, India invites a foreign leader as the Chief Guest. The tradition began in 1950, and it has included notable figures such as French President Emmanuel Macron and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi. The celebrations showcase India's military might and cultural heritage through a grand parade in New Delhi.

Notable Chief Guests Over the Years

The list of Chief Guests at Republic Day celebrations includes various world leaders. In 2020, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro attended. In 2019, South African President Cyril

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

Ramaphosa was the guest. The years 2021 and 2022 saw no Chief Guest due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2018, leaders from all ASEAN countries participated, denoting India's growing ties with Southeast Asia.

Prabowo Subianto's Diplomatic Maneuvers

President Subianto's visit to India aims to strengthen bilateral relations. His decision to visit Malaysia instead of Pakistan indicates a careful diplomatic approach. This change comes after India's formal objections regarding his planned trip to Pakistan. The Indonesian government has expressed interest in military cooperation with India, particularly concerning defence procurement.

Military Cooperation and BrahMos Missiles

Indonesia's defence ministry has requested a loan from India to purchase BrahMos missiles. This joint development between India and Russia has gained interest from several Southeast Asian nations. Indonesia seeks to modernise its military capabilities, particularly in light of its extensive coastline. The proposed \$450 million loan reflects Indonesia's commitment to enhancing its defence infrastructure.

Challenges in Defence Procurement

Indonesia faces financial constraints in its defence spending. The current government prioritises social sector projects, limiting available funds for military purchases. Previous discussions between Subianto and Indian officials regarding BrahMos missiles had not materialised due to budgetary issues. However, with the recent focus on military upgrades, there is renewed interest in finalising this deal.

1. ASEAN leaders attended Republic Day in 2018.
2. Subianto was Indonesia's defence minister in 2020.
3. BrahMos missiles are developed by India and Russia.
4. Indonesia has Su-27 and Su-30 fighter jets.
5. The Republic Day parade showcases military strength.

INDIA INDONESIA RELATIONS

Both countries signed several **MoUs** covering areas such as **health cooperation, digital infrastructure, and defence collaboration.**

- **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership:** Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to elevating the bilateral relationship, which was upgraded to a **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2018.**
- **Defence Cooperation:** The leaders committed to strengthening defence ties through initiatives like **Coordinated Patrol, Ex Garuda Shakti (Army), and Ex Samudra Shakti (Naval).**
 - Both agreed to establish **Bilateral Maritime Dialogue and Cyber Security Dialogue.**
- **Trade Cooperation:** Both nations aim to boost bilateral trade, which reached **USD 38.8 billion in 2022-2023**, and agreed to resolve trade barriers and expedite the **AITIGA review.**
 - The MoU on **Local Currency Settlement Systems** aims to boost trade by enabling transactions in local currencies.
- **Energy, and Health Security:** Both nations are focusing on **biofuels** and joint exploration of **critical minerals like nickel and bauxite.**
 - MoUs on **Health Cooperation and traditional medicine Quality Assurance** were signed, focusing on digital health and healthcare professional capacity-building.
- **Technological Cooperation:** India offered to share its expertise in **Digital Public Infrastructure, Quantum Communication, and High-Performance Computing** with Indonesia.
- **Cultural Cooperation:** India aims to assist in restoring the **Prambanan Temple** in Indonesia and reaffirmed the "**Kashi Cultural Pathway**" principles from the G20 Culture Ministers' Meeting.
 - The Kashi Cultural Pathway aims to **restore heritage structures** and return cultural artifacts to their countries of origin.
- **Multilateral Cooperation:** Both countries emphasized the importance of **ASEAN centrality** and cooperation on regional issues like the **ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific, India-Indonesia-Australia Trilateral and Indo-Pacific Oceans**

Initiative (IPOI), BRICS and Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

- The two countries signed a **Treaty of Friendship in 1951**, and cooperation in trade, culture, and military matters flourished.
- Both nations aligned on non-alignment, anti-colonialism, and peaceful coexistence, leading to their active participation in the 1955 Bandung Conference and **NAM's formation in 1961**.
- 'Look East' Policy 1991 (1990s): Under **India's 'Look East' policy 1991**, trade grew and both nations evolved a comprehensive partnership covering economic, security, and cultural cooperation.
- **India's 2014 'Act East'** 2014 policy strengthened ties with Southeast Asia, making Indonesia a key regional partner.
- Indonesia is now **India's 2nd largest trading partner** in the ASEAN region (1st-Singapore), and trade has grown significantly from USD 4.3 billion in 2005-06 to USD 38.84 billion in 2022-23. Indian investments in Indonesia amount to USD 1.56 billion.
- India and Indonesia jointly called for resolving maritime disputes and finalizing the **South China Sea Code of Conduct** as per international law, including UNCLOS.
- Indonesia is negotiating with India to acquire the **BrahMos missile system**, with a broad agreement on pricing, estimated at **USD 450 million**.

14.Pink Fire Retardant



Recent wildfires in Southern California have brought into light the use of pink fire retardant as authorities deploy aerial resources to combat the flames. The United States Forest Service has mobilised nine large planes and 20 helicopters to disperse this chemical mixture, aiming to protect lives and property. Despite its long-standing use, the environmental impact and effectiveness of pink fire retardant have come under scrutiny.

What is Pink Fire Retardant?

Pink fire retardant is a chemical mixture used to extinguish or slow down wildfires. The most common brand used in the United States is Phos-Chek, which primarily consists of ammonium phosphate-based slurry. This formulation includes salts like ammonium polyphosphate, which remains effective longer than water. The bright pink colour is added for visibility, enabling firefighters to identify treated areas against the landscape.

How Does it Work?

Fire retardant is strategically sprayed ahead of advancing flames to coat vegetation. This coating prevents oxygen from igniting the foliage, thereby slowing the fire's progress. The effectiveness of this method is contingent upon several environmental factors, including

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 42

terrain, fuel type, and weather conditions. Firefighters create fire lines around the treated areas to enhance safety and control the fire's spread.

Environmental Concerns

Environmental experts express concerns regarding the use of aerial fire retardants. A study from the University of Southern California revealed that Phos-Chek contains toxic metals, including chromium and cadmium. These substances pose health risks, including cancer and organ damage, while also threatening aquatic ecosystems when they enter waterways. The debate continues over the balance between fire suppression and environmental safety.

Effectiveness Debate

The effectiveness of aerial fire retardants is contentious. Researchers argue that it is difficult to ascertain the effectiveness of Phos-Chek since it is used alongside various firefighting strategies. Additionally, the conditions under which it works best are shrinking due to climate change. Experts assert that the increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires will lead to more reliance on aerial retardants, making the need for effective and safe alternatives more pressing.

1. Phos-Chek is the most widely used fire retardant in the US.
2. Over 440 million gallons of retardant were used from 2009 to 2021.
3. The pink colour aids visibility for firefighters during operations.
4. Heavy metals released from fire retardants can harm aquatic life.
5. Environmental effectiveness is influenced by climate change factors.

15.Gangasagar Mela 2025



The Gangasagar Mela, Hindu pilgrimage held annually on Makar Sankranti, has recently faced the impacts of climate change. Sagar Island, located in the Ganges delta, hosts this festival where millions gather for sacred rituals. Recently, the event brought into light rising temperatures and sea erosion, alongside robust state management and ongoing political tensions regarding the festival's national recognition.

Location and Significance

- Sagar Island is situated about 100 km south of Kolkata.
- It is part of the Sundarbans but lacks typical mangrove forests and tiger habitats.
- The island is a pilgrimage site for Hindus, particularly during Makar Sankranti, when devotees gather to bathe at the confluence of the Ganges and Bay of Bengal.

Climate Change Effects

The island has experienced climate change effects, including higher morning temperatures— 1.25°C above the normal trend—during the festival. Erosion has affected half of the six

ghats, and reduced fog has contributed to a warmer atmosphere, altering the traditional experience of the event.

Key Facts About Gangasagar

- Gangasagar refers to the confluence of the Ganges River with the Bay of Bengal, located in Sagardwip, West Bengal.
- It is a sacred pilgrimage site in Hinduism, mentioned in ancient texts like the Mahabharata and Raghuvamṣa.
- **Historical Mentions:**
 - The Mahabharata describes the Pandavas visiting Gangasagar during their travels, dating the site to 1500–2000 BC.
 - The site is also mentioned in the 5th-century epic poem Raghuvamṣa by Kalidasa.
 - The temple of Kapil Muni is referenced in 16th-century texts like *Tirthaattvapradayini* and in inscriptions by King Devapala of the Pala dynasty.
- **Gangasagar Mela:**
 - Held annually on Makar Sankranti (14 or 15 January), the Gangasagar Mela is the second-largest Hindu fair after the Kumbh Mela.
 - Devotees gather to take a holy dip at the confluence, believed to cleanse sins and bring blessings.

Festival Management

Despite climate challenges, the West Bengal government has effectively managed the mela. Approximately 2,500 buses, nine barges, and 120 launches facilitated transportation. Over 13,000 police personnel ensured safety and order, with ministers actively overseeing arrangements.

Attendance and Facilities

An estimated 8.5 million devotees attended, though actual figures may be lower due to concurrent events like the Maha Kumbh Mela. Visitors praised the facilities, noting

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 45

improvements over the years, although some reported issues with vessel services and bathing conditions.

Political Context

The mela has been a focal point of political debate. The ruling Trinamool Congress accused the central government of neglecting the event, while the opposition claimed insufficient efforts to elevate Gangasagar's status. Calls for national recognition have been met with mixed responses, denoting ongoing tensions between state and central authorities.



"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

46

16.Maha Kumbh Mela: New District Announced in UP



The Uttar Pradesh government has announced the creation of the Maha Kumbh Mela district in Prayagraj. The decision aims to enhance the management of the Kumbh Mela, which will take place in January 2025 and attract millions of pilgrims from around the world.

Purpose of the New District

The new district will improve coordination during the Kumbh Mela, which will facilitate better law enforcement and resource management. This initiative demonstrates the government's commitment to safety and organisation for devotees.

A special administrative team will manage the Kumbh Mela preparations. The Mela Adikari will lead this team. This official will have powers similar to a District Magistrate. Their role is to ensure smooth governance throughout the event.

Importance of the Kumbh Mela

The Kumbh Mela occurs every 12 years, which is one of the largest religious gatherings globally. The upcoming event is expected to attract millions. Efficient management is crucial for the safety and convenience of attendees.

Maharashtra leads with the *Ladki Bahin Yojana*. This scheme offers ₹1,500 monthly to eligible women. Karnataka follows with a similar scheme, allocating \$3.6 billion. Haryana

and Madhya Pradesh have also proposed funds for their programs. Delhi has set aside \$200 million for its initiative.

1. **Maha Kumbh Mela District:** This new district aims to enhance management for the Kumbh Mela. It is located in Prayagraj. The event attracts millions of pilgrims globally every twelve years.
2. **Mela Adikari:** The Mela Adikari oversees Kumbh Mela preparations. This official holds powers akin to a District Magistrate. Their role ensures smooth governance and coordination during the event.
3. **Ladki Bahin Yojana:** Launched in 2023, this scheme supports women in Maharashtra. It provides ₹1,500 monthly to eligible beneficiaries. The initiative aims to boost women's economic empowerment and electoral support.
4. **Cash Transfer Programs:** Nine states of India allocated \$18 billion for women's cash transfer initiatives. This represents 0.5% of India's GDP for 2024-25. These programs influence electoral outcomes and voter support.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 48

17. Supreme Court on Conjugual Rights



Recently, the Supreme Court has clarified that proceedings for the restitution of conjugual rights and maintenance are independent. This decision emphasises that a husband must continue paying maintenance to his wife, even if she does not comply with a court order for restitution.

Restitution of Conjugual Rights

Section 9 of The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 allows a spouse to petition for restitution if the other has withdrawn from their society. This aims to preserve the traditional family unit.

Challenges to Section 9

- **1983:** Andhra Pradesh High Court struck down the law, questioning its place in modern society.
- **1984:** The Supreme Court overturned this ruling, stating it aids in preventing marital breakdown.
- **2019:** A PIL by Gujarat National Law University students challenged the constitutionality of Section 9, arguing it violates rights to privacy and non-discrimination. The case is pending.

Case Background

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 49

In the recent case, the wife left her husband in 2015. The husband filed for restitution in 2018, while the wife sought maintenance in 2019, claiming neglect.

Maintenance Proceedings

The family court ordered the wife to return home in 2022, but she did not comply. In February 2022, she was granted Rs 10,000 monthly maintenance, which the husband contested.

Supreme Court Ruling

The Supreme Court overturned the Jharkhand High Court's decision, ordering the husband to continue maintenance payments. It emphasised that the refusal to comply with a conjugal rights decree does not automatically disqualify a wife from receiving maintenance.

Legal Implications

The ruling marks that courts must consider individual circumstances when determining maintenance eligibility. The Supreme Court noted that the Jharkhand High Court had placed too much emphasis on the conjugal rights case findings.

Current Legal Debate

The constitutionality of Section 9 remains contested. Critics argue it perpetuates gender stereotypes and violates rights to privacy. The Centre maintains that it provides a balanced legal remedy for marital disputes.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 50

18.Great Indian Bustard Conservation Success in Rajasthan



Recent sightings of the Great Indian Bustard (GIB) in Rajasthan have provided boost to conservation efforts for this critically endangered species. Recently, twelve GIBs were spotted together in the Desert National Park (DNP), showcasing the success of protective measures implemented in their habitat. These birds, known locally as “Godawan” and “Maldhok,” are vital to the ecosystem and cultural heritage of northern and western India.

Birdwatching tours

Current Population Status

Only 173 Great Indian Bustards remain in existence, with 128 living in the wild. The remaining birds are bred in captivity. Their primary habitat includes regions in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka. Conservationists continue to monitor their numbers closely to prevent further decline.

Conservation Efforts Initiated

In 2013, the Rajasthan government initiated a Rs 12.90 crore project aimed at conserving the GIB population. This project adopted a dual approach – protecting the birds’ natural habitat and enhancing breeding conditions. The state has successfully bred 45 chicks across two sites, Sam and Ramdevra, contributing to population recovery.

Recent Milestones in Conservation

In a groundbreaking achievement, scientists at the National Conservation Breeding Centre in Jaisalmer successfully hatched a GIB chick through artificial insemination. Named

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 51

“Arambh,” this male chick is now four months old, marking milestone in the conservation programme. This initiative is part of the broader Bustard Recovery Program launched in collaboration with multiple governmental bodies.

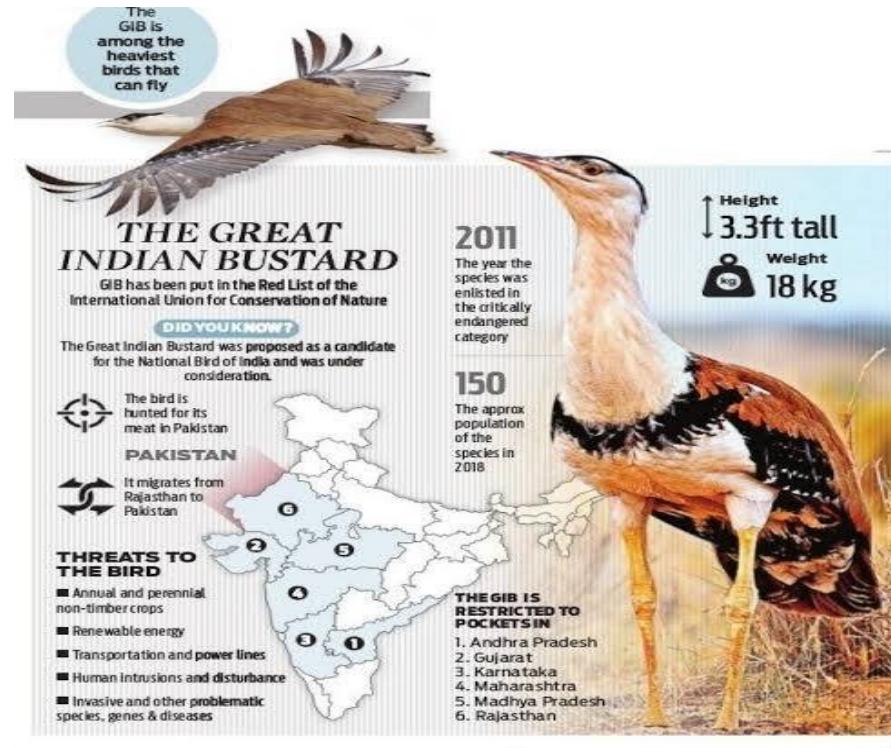
What is the Great Indian Bustard?

- **About:**

- The Great Indian Bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*), the State bird of Rajasthan, is considered India's most critically endangered bird.
- It is considered the flagship grassland species, representing the health of the grassland ecology.
- Its population is confined mostly to Rajasthan and Gujarat. Small populations occur in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- Rajasthan's DNP is crucial for GIB habitat preservation.
- GIBs are primarily found in the Thar Desert region.
- The IUCN classified GIBs as “critically endangered” in 2011.
- The GIB is also known as the “Indian Bustard.”
- “Arambh” is the first GIB chick born from artificial insemination.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

52



▪ Vulnerability:

- The bird is under constant threats due to collision/electrocution with power transmission lines, hunting (still prevalent in Pakistan), habitat loss and alteration as a result of widespread agricultural expansion, etc.
- **GIBs are a slow-reproducing species.** They lay a few eggs and have almost **a year-long parental care of chicks.** The GIB achieves maturity in around 3-4 years.

▪ Protection Status:

- **IUCN Red List:** Critically Endangered
- **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES):** Appendix 1
- **Convention on Migratory Species (CMS):** Appendix I
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** Schedule I

What Steps are Being Taken to Conserve the GIB?

▪ Species Recovery Programme:

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 53

- It is kept under the species recovery programme under the **Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats** of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

- **Firefly Bird Diverters:**

- **Firefly bird diverters** are flaps installed on power lines. They work as **reflectors for bird species like the GIB**.
- Birds can spot them from a distance of about 50 meters and change their path of flight to avoid collision with power lines.

- **Artificial Hatching:**

- The conservation breeding programme started in 2019 by collecting eggs from the wild and **artificially hatching them**. The first chick hatched on 21st June 2019, and was **named ‘Uno’**. Eight more chicks were hatched that year and raised and monitored.
- A total of **29 GIBs have been housed** in the two breeding centres in Rajasthan.

- **National Bustard Recovery Plans:**

- It is currently being implemented by conservation agencies.

- **Conservation Breeding Facility:**

- MoEF&CC, the Rajasthan government and the **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)** have also established a conservation breeding facility in **Desert National Park at Jaisalmer in June 2019**.

- **Project Great Indian Bustard:**

- It has been **launched by the Rajasthan government** to construct breeding enclosures for the species and develop infrastructure to reduce human pressure on its habitats.

Desert National Park:

- It is situated on the western border of India **within the Jaisalmer & Barmer Districts of Rajasthan**.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 54

- Great Indian Bustards, Rajasthan State animal (Chinkara), State tree (khejri) and State flower (Rohida) are found naturally at this park.
- It was declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1980** and National Park in 1992.

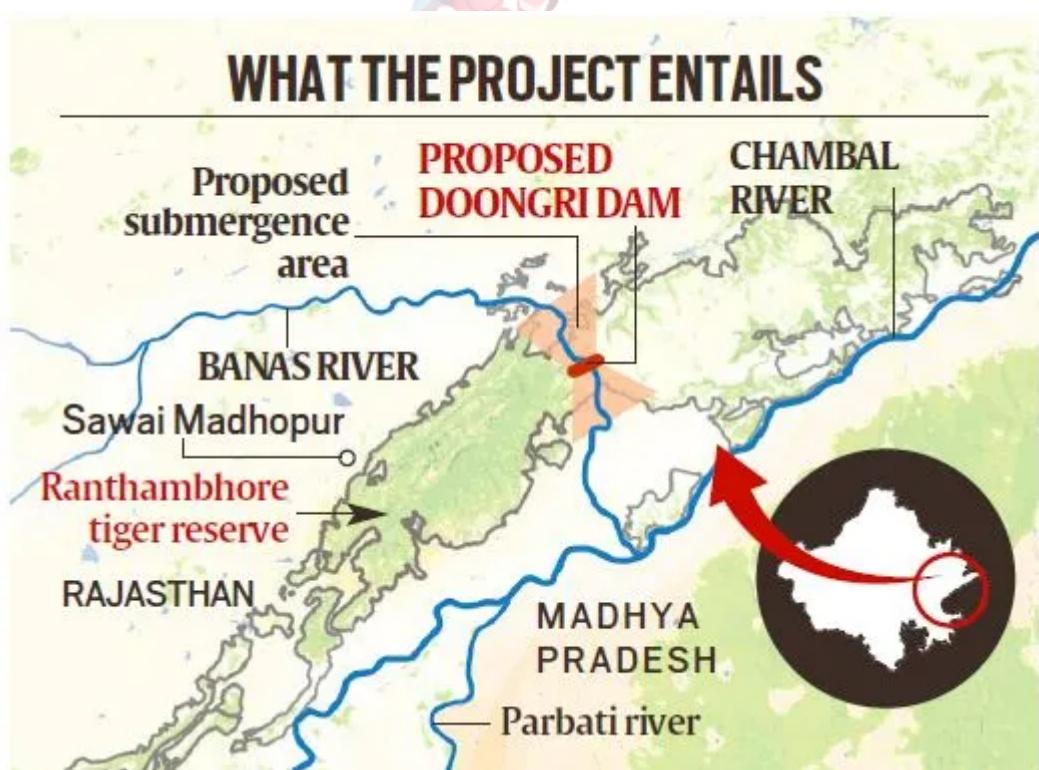
Kutch Bustard Sanctuary:

- The Kutch Bustard Sanctuary is **located near Nalia in the Kutch district of Gujarat, India.**
- It is the smallest sanctuary in the country, spread over just two square kilometres. The sanctuary, also known as the **Lala-Parijan sanctuary**, was declared in July 1992 primarily to **safeguard the endangered Great Indian bustard**.
- The sanctuary is home to three **species of Bustards**: the Great Indian bustard, lesser floricans, and the Macqueen bustard.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

55

19.Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal-Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project



The Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal-Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (PKC-ERCP) is initiative aimed at enhancing irrigation in Rajasthan. This project will impact 23 districts and is crucial for providing water for irrigation, drinking, and industrial use. However, it poses environmental challenges, particularly regarding the Ranthambore tiger reserve.

Project Context

The PKC-ERCP will submerge 408.86 sq km of land, including 37 sq km of the Ranthambore tiger reserve. This reserve is home to 57 tigers and is vital for wildlife conservation. The project aims to channel surplus water from the Chambal River basin, benefiting approximately 3.45 crore people in Rajasthan.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 56

Dam Specifications

The project includes a 39-metre-high dam across the Banas River, located near Doongri, about 30 km from Sawai Madhopur. The dam will be 1.6 km long and is designed to support the irrigation needs of the region. However, its construction will disrupt the north-south animal dispersal route within the tiger reserve.

Environmental Concerns

Conservationists have raised alarms about the project's impact on habitat connectivity and the carrying capacity of the tiger reserve. The submergence of land is expected to adversely affect the ecosystem. Experts suggest that high-value forests should be avoided in dam designs to mitigate these impacts.

Government Response

Baleshwar Thakur, director general of the National Water Development Agency, stated that multiple agencies will evaluate the Detailed Project Report (DPR) before approval. He assured that measures would be taken to minimise the impact on the tiger reserve. If unavoidable, compensatory measures will be implemented, similar to those in previous projects.

Project History

The Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project was initially conceived in 2017. After political changes, the project was expanded to include the PKC initiative. An MoU was signed by Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh with the Centre for the revised project. The DPR for the Rajasthan segment is set to be submitted to the Central Water Commission soon.

Future Developments

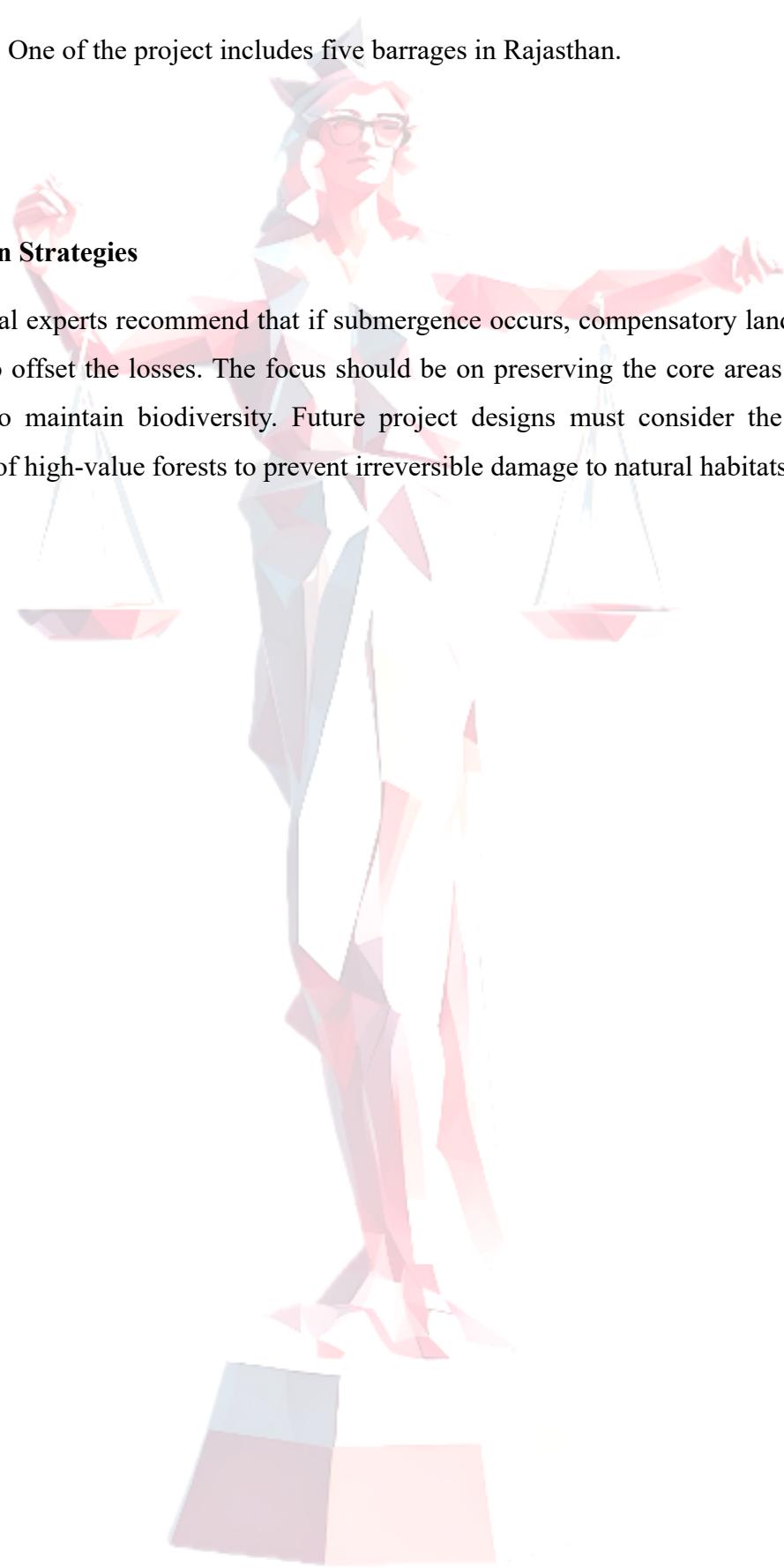
Phase One of the PKC-ERCP includes constructing the Doongri dam and five barrages. These structures aim to enhance the water supply for irrigation purposes. The deadline for completing this phase is set for 2028, with ongoing assessments to ensure minimal environmental disruption.

1. Ranthambore was declared a tiger reserve in 1974.
2. The PKC-ERCP will affect 23 districts in Rajasthan.
3. 57 tigers currently inhabit the Ranthambore tiger reserve.

4. The Doongri dam is 39 metres high and 1.6 km long.
5. Phase One of the project includes five barrages in Rajasthan.

Conservation Strategies

Environmental experts recommend that if submergence occurs, compensatory land should be designated to offset the losses. The focus should be on preserving the core areas of wildlife sanctuaries to maintain biodiversity. Future project designs must consider the ecological significance of high-value forests to prevent irreversible damage to natural habitats.



"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

20.Pune to Host Army Day Parade 2025



The Army Day Parade, event in India's military calendar, will take place in Pune for the first time on 15 January 2025. This parade commemorates the appointment of Field Marshal K M Cariappa as the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army. The event, which traditionally occurs in Delhi, has been rotating to different cities since 2023, enhancing local engagement with the Armed Forces. Pune's selection puts stress on its historical connection to the military, being home to the Southern Command Headquarters and the National Defence Academy.

History of Army Day

Indian Army Day is celebrated annually on 15 January. This date marks the founding of the Indian Army and the transfer of military leadership to Indian hands post-independence. Originally observed on 1 April 1895, the date was changed to honour the contributions and sacrifices of soldiers. The day aims to instil patriotism and respect for the armed forces among citizens.

Significance of the Parade

The Army Day Parade serves as a national celebration of bravery and technological advancement. It showcases the Indian Army's commitment to defending the nation. The event promotes a sense of unity between the military and civilians, allowing communities to connect with the Armed Forces. This year's parade will feature marching contingents, mechanised columns, and cutting-edge defence technologies.

The 2025 Parade Highlights

The 2025 parade will take place at the Bombay Engineering Group and Centre in Pune. It will include various demonstrations, such as combat displays, martial arts performances, and an exhibition of advanced military equipment, including drones and robotics. The theme for the 77th Army Day celebration is “**Samarth Bharat, Saksham Sena,**” reflecting the Army’s capabilities and commitment to the nation.

Participation and Access

For the first time, the Indian Army has introduced a digital seat-booking system for the parade. The ADP 25 app, available on iOS and Android, allows residents to register for attendance. Users must link their Aadhaar number and complete a face scan for verification. This system ensures safe and easy access for all attendees.

1. K M Cariappa was the first Indian Commander-in-Chief.
2. The Indian Army Day was first observed on April 1, 1895.
3. The ADP 25 app facilitates digital seat booking for the parade.
4. The Southern Command Headquarters is located in Pune.
5. “Samarth Bharat, Saksham Sena” is the 2025 theme.

Role of the Indian Army

The Indian Army is one of the world’s largest and most respected military forces. It operates under the command of the Chief of Army Staff, who oversees all branches of the military. The Army plays important role in maintaining national security and responding to various challenges. Events like Army Day reinforce the importance of military service and the sacrifices made by soldiers.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 60

21.Launch of INS Utkarsh



Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has successfully launched the second multi-purpose vessel (MPV) for the Indian Navy, named INS Utkarsh. The launch took place at the Kattupalli Shipyard near Chennai. This event marks India's advancements in indigenous shipbuilding as part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat mission. The launch occurred within three months of the first MPV, INS Samarthak, demonstrating L&T's accelerated production capabilities.

Overview of INS Utkarsh

INS Utkarsh measures 107 metres in length and 18.6 metres in width. It has a displacement of over 3,750 tonnes. The vessel is designed to achieve a maximum speed of 15 knots. It will enhance the Navy's maritime surveillance, patrolling, and disaster relief capabilities.

Features and Capabilities

The MPVs serve multiple roles, including towing ships, launching and recovering various targets, and operating unmanned autonomous vehicles. They act as trial platforms for indigenous weapons and sensors. The vessels contribute to humanitarian assistance and combat sea pollution.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 61

Design and Construction

The design engineering of the MPVs was conducted at L&T's in-house Warship Design Centre in Chennai. Construction occurred at Kattupalli Shipyard, one of India's most advanced shipbuilding facilities. The shipyard is equipped with ship-lift, dry, and wet berths for concurrent shipbuilding and repairs.

Other Projects by L&T

In addition to the two MPVs, L&T is constructing three Cadet Training Ships and six other defence vessels for the Indian Navy. These projects are part of a public-private partnership model. The repair of the Indian naval ship INS Tir is also currently underway at the Kattupalli Shipyard.

1. INS Utkarsh means 'Superior in Conduct' in Hindi.
2. Vice Admiral B. Sivakumar oversees Warship Production & Acquisition.
3. Kattupalli Shipyard is equipped for concurrent shipbuilding and repairs.
4. INS Samarthak was the first MPV launched by L&T.
5. Aatmanirbhar Bharat promotes self-reliance in defence manufacturing.

Future of Indigenous Shipbuilding

The launch of INS Utkarsh and the ongoing projects at L&T signify important step towards enhancing India's naval capabilities. The commitment to indigenous shipbuilding reflects the government's vision for self-reliance in defence. The advancements in technology and production tell the importance of local manufacturing in strengthening national security.

22.Kokborok Language Protests



Recently, the Twipra Student Federation (TSF) protested in Agartala, [Tripura](#), demanding the adoption of the Roman script for the Kokborok language. This movement marks the ongoing struggle for linguistic recognition and cultural justice among the Borok people.

Background of Kokborok

- Kokborok is a Sino-Tibetan language.
- It is spoken by the Borok people of Tripura.
- Officially recognised in 1979, it has historical roots dating back to the 1st century AD.
- The name Kokborok combines “Kok” (verbal) and “Borok” (people).
- According to the 2011 Census, approximately 880,537 people speak Kokborok, accounting for nearly 24% of Tripura’s population.

Previous Efforts

The TSF has pursued this demand for several years. They have met with various officials, including the President of the Tripura Board of Secondary Education. Despite assurances of updates before 2025, no progress has been made.

Roman Script Significance

- The Roman script, or Latin script, is the most widely used writing system globally.
- Its adoption for Kokborok aims to enhance literacy and cultural identity among its speakers.

Official Language Status

There is a demand for Kokborok to be recognised as one of India's official languages under the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. This recognition would promote its use in government and education.

Language Classification

- Kokborok belongs to the Bodo–Garo branch of the Sino-Tibetan language family.
- It is related to Bodo and Dimasa languages and has various dialects, with the Agartala dialect being the official form.

Current Challenges

- Despite its official status, Kokborok faces challenges in terms of recognition and resources.
- The community continues to advocate for linguistic rights and educational support for the language.

23.ISRO Successfully Germinates Black-eyed Pea Seeds in Space



Recent advancements in space agriculture have emerged as critical for long-duration human missions to celestial bodies. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully germinated black-eyed pea seeds in space as part of its Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies (CROPS). This milestone marks the potential for sustainable food sources during extended space travel, addressing both nutritional needs and psychological well-being of astronauts.

ISRO's CROPS Initiative

- The CROPS project aims to explore plant growth in space.
- It is designed to simulate Earth-like conditions, excluding gravity.
- The first mission, CROPS-1, demonstrated seed germination and initial plant growth in a controlled environment aboard a spacecraft.

Challenges of Space Agriculture

Growing plants in microgravity presents unique challenges:

- Roots cannot grow downwards, and water distribution is difficult.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

65

- High radiation levels and extreme temperature fluctuations also threaten plant development.
- Adequate light is essential for photosynthesis, especially in areas with limited sunlight.

Methods of Cultivation

Plants in space can be grown using the following methods:

- **Hydroponics** delivers nutrients through liquid solutions
- **Aeroponics** uses mist to reduce water and fertiliser usage
- **Soil-like media** can also be employed to create a familiar growing environment.

Technical Specifications of CROPS-1

- CROPS-1 features a mini greenhouse setup with a soil-like medium made of porous clay pellets.
- The module maintains Earth-like atmospheric conditions, with controlled temperature and light cycles.
- Water is delivered via an electric valve, allowing for precise moisture regulation.

Germination Process

After launch, water was injected into the soil medium, initiating germination. Sensors monitored carbon dioxide and oxygen levels, indicating plant growth. On the fourth day, sprouting was observed, and by the fifth day, two leaves had emerged.

Ideal Plants for Space

Plants selected for space cultivation are fast-growing and nutrient-rich. **Leafy greens** like lettuce and spinach are ideal, along with beans for their protein content. **Root vegetables** and **grains** like wheat and rice are also suitable for long-term sustenance.

Future Prospects

The next phase of the CROPS initiative will focus on extended growth periods, aiming for plant development beyond the two-leaf stage. This will involve active control systems to manage environmental factors, ensuring sustainable plant growth in space.

24.ISRO Successfully Demonstrates Vikas Engine Restart Capability



Recently, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) achieved milestones with its Vikas liquid engine. The successful demonstration of engine restart capabilities marks a critical step towards enhancing the reusability of launch vehicles. This progress aligns with ISRO's commitment to advancing space technology and commercial operations.

Vikas Engine Overview

The Vikas engine is a family of hypergolic liquid-fuel rocket engines developed by ISRO. It powers the liquid stages of various launch vehicles, including PSLV, GSLV, and LVM3. The engine was first developed in the 1970s and has undergone several enhancements since.

Recent Testing Milestones

On January 17, 2025, ISRO successfully demonstrated the restart of the Vikas engine. The test involved firing the engine for 60 seconds, shutting it off for 120 seconds, and then restarting it for an additional seven seconds. Previous tests in December 2024 had shorter shut-off durations.

Engine Specifications

The Vikas engine operates using a combination of Unsymmetrical Dimethylhydrazine (UDMH) as fuel and Nitrogen Tetroxide (N₂O₄) as an oxidiser. It achieves a maximum thrust of 725 kN. The propellant loading varies – 40 tonnes for PSLV and GSLV Mark I and II, and 55 tonnes for [LVM3](#).

Types of Vikas Engines

There are several variants of the Vikas engine, including:

- **HTVE (High Thrust Vikas Engine):** Modified engine with 800 kN thrust for GSLV.
- **HPVE (High Pressure Vikas Engine):** Under development for future GSLV boosters.

Throttling Tests

The first throttling test of the Vikas engine occurred in January 2023, achieving a 67% thrust level for 43 seconds. Throttling allows for precise control of speed and trajectory during missions.

Applications in Gaganyaan Mission

The Vikas engine will play important role in India's Gaganyaan mission, the country's first manned space initiative. A high-thrust variant underwent successful testing to ensure resilience under extreme conditions.

Commercial Launch Operations

ISRO has flagged off the L110 core liquid stage of the LVM3 launch vehicle for commercial operations. This mission is part of a commercial agreement to launch the BlueBird Block-2 satellite, further establishing ISRO's role in global space commerce.

25.Nigeria Joins BRICS Bloc



Recently, Nigeria was officially admitted as a partner country of the BRICS group, which includes Brazil, Russia, China, and South Africa. This move reflects Nigeria's growing influence as Africa's largest economy and its commitment to enhancing international collaboration. BRICS aims to provide a counterbalance to Western-led economic forums and promote South-South cooperation.

BRICS Overview

BRICS was formed in 2009 to represent emerging economies. Initially comprising Brazil, Russia, and China, South Africa joined in 2010. The group focuses on economic cooperation, political dialogue, and reforming global governance.

Recent Expansion

In 2023, BRICS expanded by inviting Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, and the UAE. Nigeria's admission marks it as the ninth partner, joining Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Thailand, Uganda, and Uzbekistan.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 69

Nigeria's Role

Nigeria's inclusion is due to its large population and economic potential. It aims to leverage BRICS for trade, investment, and socio-economic cooperation, aligning with its development objectives.

Geopolitical Context

The BRICS bloc seeks to challenge the dominance of the US dollar in global trade. Leaders have discussed creating alternative payment systems to reduce dependence on dollar-based transactions.

BRICS Summits

Annual summits address global issues such as climate change, food security, and international terrorism. The 15th summit in 2023 focused on partnerships for sustainable development and inclusive multilateralism.

Challenges Ahead

Despite its expansion, BRICS faces challenges, including differing geopolitical interests among members and the need for cohesive strategies. Economic slowdowns and trade disputes can hinder progress.

Future Prospects

With over 40 countries expressing interest in joining BRICS, the group's influence is expected to grow. However, managing diverse interests will be crucial for its continued relevance in global affairs.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 70

BRICS

- BRICS is an acronym for the grouping of the world's leading emerging economies, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- The BRICS brings together five of the largest developing countries of the world, representing 41% of the global population, 24% of the global GDP and 16% of the global trade.
- The acronym "BRICS" was initially formulated in 2001 by economist Jim O'Neill, of Goldman Sachs, in a report on growth prospects for the economies of Brazil, Russia, India and China – which together represented a significant share of the world's production and population.
- The first BRIC Summit took place in 2009 in the Russian Federation and focused on issues such as reform of the global financial architecture.
- South Africa was invited to join BRIC in December 2010, after which the group adopted the acronym BRICS.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

71

26.La Perouse Naval Exercise 2025



Recently, nine Indo-Pacific nations participated in the La Perouse naval exercise, hosted by France. This exercise took place in the strategic straits of Malacca, Sunda, and Lombok, crucial for maritime trade between the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The Indian Navy contributed with its guided-missile destroyer INS Mumbai. The exercise aimed to enhance maritime safety and interoperability among participating navies amid rising Chinese naval activities in the region.

Participating Nations

The exercise involved nine countries – Australia, Canada, France, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the U.K., and the U.S. Each nation brought specific naval capabilities to strengthen collective maritime security.

Strategic Importance of Straits

The straits of Malacca, Sunda, and Lombok are vital chokepoints for global trade. They face risks from maritime accidents, environmental hazards, illegal immigration, and drug trafficking. The exercise aimed to address these challenges.

Focus on Interoperability

A key objective was to develop interoperability among navies. Participants trained using IORIS (Indo-Pacific Information Sharing platform), a communication system for real-time

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 72

information exchange during maritime crises. This platform enhances coordination and situational awareness.

Maritime Security Operations

The exercise included training for maritime security operations, such as searching and intervening on vessels suspected of illicit activities. These operations aimed to enhance cooperation in maritime surveillance and interdiction.

Complex Naval Drills

Participants engaged in advanced multi-domain exercises. These included surface warfare, anti-air warfare, air defence, and VBSS (Visit, Board, Search and Seizure) operations. The drills aimed to improve tactical interoperability among the navies.

Previous Exercises and Port Calls

Before La Perouse, the French Carrier Strike Group conducted a port call in Goa and Kochi. They also participated in the 42nd edition of the bilateral exercise Varuna with the Indian Navy, further strengthening ties.

Significance of the Exercise

La Perouse showcased the commitment of participating navies to a rules-based international maritime order. It brought into light the importance of collective action in maintaining maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region.

27. World Economic Forum Releases Global Risks Report



Recently, the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** released its **Global Risks Report**. This report precedes the WEF annual meeting in Davos, focusing on the need for global cooperation to tackle environmental challenges. The report notes rise in the frequency and cost of extreme weather events, which are affecting numerous countries worldwide.

The World Economic Forum (WEF) has warned that **artificial intelligence (AI)** driven misinformation and disinformation will pose great risks globally in 2023 and 2024. The warning comes in the WEF's Global Risks Report 2024 released ahead of its annual meeting in Davos next week.

Key Highlights from the WEF Report

- Misinformation and disinformation are the biggest short-term risks highlighted in the report. Extreme weather events and critical changes to Earth's systems like biodiversity loss are noted as the greatest long-term concerns.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 74

- Cost-of-living crisis and the interlinked risks of AI-enabled misinformation/disinformation and societal polarization dominate the global risks outlook for 2024.
- With several live conflicts underway, underlying geopolitical tensions and weakening societal resilience risk creating conflict contagion, the report warns.

The survey for the report covered over 1400 global risk experts, industry heads and policymakers.

AI's Misinformation Threatens Elections

The report notes that misinformation and disinformation spread by domestic and foreign actors will widen societal and political divides. This is especially concerning given major national elections lined up in 2023-24.

Countries like the US, India, UK, Indonesia and Mexico will see over 3 billion people voting in 2023-24. In this backdrop, the widespread use of misinformation and disinformation tools may undermine the legitimacy of newly elected governments, the WEF cautions.

Global Risks Overview

The report categorises risks into economic, environmental, geopolitical, societal, and technological domains. It assesses these risks over short (1-2 years) and long-term (10 years) horizons.

Short-Term Risks

For 2025-2027, extreme weather events rank as the second most severe global risk. They are now among the top five risks in 28 countries, up from 24. The United States faces challenges, particularly from wildfires in Los Angeles, projected to incur losses exceeding \$200 billion.

Impact on Countries

Twelve countries consider extreme weather among their top three short-term risks. Countries like the Dominican Republic, Oman, and Bangladesh rank these events first or second. Some nations, including Malawi and Mauritius, have seen a rise in the severity of these risks.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 75

Climate Change Drivers

Climate change influences multiple global risks, including involuntary migration, which ranks as the eighth most severe short-term risk. The World Meteorological Organization reported 2024 as the warmest year recorded, exacerbating extreme weather impacts.

Environmental Risks

Biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse, and pollution are among the top ten long-term risks. These interconnected challenges threaten global ecosystems and human health, necessitating urgent action.

Pollution Threats

Pollution, ranked tenth in long-term risks, is driven by unsustainable practices. It threatens air, water, and land quality, contributing to public health issues such as cardiovascular diseases and cancers. Current green initiatives often overlook pollution mitigation.

World Economic Forum

- WEF is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. The Forum engages the foremost **political, business, cultural and other leaders of society** to shape global, regional and industry agendas.
- It is headquartered in **Geneva, Switzerland**.
- **Klaus Schwab**, a German professor with a background in mechanical engineering and a Master of Public Administration from **Harvard**, founded **WEF in 1971**, originally known as the **European Management Forum**.
- **Børge Brende** is President and CEO of the World Economic Forum.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 76

28.Digantara's SCOT Mission Success



On January 14, 2025, Indian space startup Digantara achieved milestone with the successful launch of its Space Camera for Object Tracking (SCOT) mission. This marks an important step in enhancing space situational awareness and tracking capabilities in Low Earth Orbit (LEO). The mission was launched aboard SpaceX's Transporter-12 rocket, showcasing India's growing presence in the global space industry.

Mission Overview

- SCOT is designed for space surveillance and is one of the world's first commercial Space Situational Awareness (SSA) satellites.
- The satellite aims to track Resident Space Objects (RSOs) effectively.

Launch Details

The SCOT satellite was launched on SpaceX's Transporter-12 mission from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. The mission successfully established contact with its ground station shortly after launch.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 77

Operational Capabilities

SCOT is built to monitor smaller RSOs, ensuring surveillance of objects as small as 5 cm. It is equipped to deliver higher revisit rates and improved tracking accuracy compared to existing systems.

Funding and Support

The mission is backed by Aditya Birla Ventures and SIDBI. It aims to boost national security and enhance space operations through improved tracking capabilities.

Technological Advancements

SCOT will operate in a sun-synchronous orbit, optimising its ability to track objects in LEO. This positioning allows it to overcome limitations faced by traditional systems, such as geographic restrictions and weather conditions.

Reactions and Recognition

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Digantara on the success of SCOT, emphasising its contribution to India's space industry. The mission was also praised by other political figures, denoting its significance on National Startup Day.

Related Launches

Alongside SCOT, two other Indian startups launched satellites on the same SpaceX mission. Bengaluru-based Pixxel deployed three satellites of its Firefly constellation, marking development in India's private space sector.

29.NeGD Launches Entity Locker



Recently, the Government of India revealed Entity Locker, a digital platform designed to streamline the management and verification of business documents. Developed by the National eGovernance Division (NeGD) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), this initiative aims to enhance digital governance and facilitate ease of doing business in India.

What is Entity Locker?

Entity Locker is a secure, cloud-based platform. It caters to various entities, including corporations, MSMEs, trusts, and startups. The platform simplifies document storage, sharing, and verification.

Technological Framework

The platform integrates with multiple government systems. It provides real-time access to documents through government databases. Key features include consent-based sharing and Aadhaar-authenticated access management.

Storage and Security Features

Entity Locker offers 10 GB of encrypted cloud storage. It includes legally valid digital signatures for document authentication. This ensures secure and reliable document management.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 79

Benefits for Businesses

The platform streamlines document sharing with partners. It simplifies compliance with regulatory requirements. It also tracks document activities for accountability and reduces administrative overhead.

Integration with Government Systems

Entity Locker connects with institutions like the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and GSTN. This integration facilitates instant access to critical documents, enhancing compliance processes.

Use Cases Supported

The platform supports various applications. These include vendor verification, expedited MSME loan applications, and corporate annual filings. It also aids in FSSAI compliance and [GSTN](#) registrations.

Strategic Importance

Entity Locker is more than a technological tool; it is a strategic initiative. It aims to reduce administrative friction and boost productivity across sectors. The platform reflects the government's commitment to a digitally empowered business environment.

Future Implementation

The phased implementation of Entity Locker will expand its integration with more government platforms. Businesses and stakeholders are encouraged to adopt this innovative solution for improved operational efficiency.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

80

30. Supreme Court Proposes Ad Hoc Judges for Backlog Relief



On January 21, 2025, the [Supreme Court of India](#) suggested the temporary appointment of retired judges to alleviate the backlog of pending criminal cases in various High Courts. This proposal is rooted in Article 224A of the [Constitution of India](#), which permits such appointments under specific conditions. This article has seldom been utilised, but its invocation is crucial in addressing the judicial backlog.

About Article 224A

- Article 224A allows the Chief Justice of a High Court to request retired judges to serve temporarily.
- This requires the consent of both the retired judge and the President of India.
- Appointed judges receive allowances as decided by the President but are not classified as regular judges.

Appointment Procedure

The procedure for appointing ad hoc judges is outlined in the 1998 Memorandum of Procedure (MOP). Following a retired judge's consent, the Chief Justice must recommend the appointment to the state's Chief Minister, who then forwards it to the Union Law Minister.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 81

The Minister consults the Chief Justice of India before passing the recommendation to the Prime Minister, who advises the President on approval.

Supreme Court Ruling on Recommendations

In a 2021 ruling, the Supreme Court emphasised that recommendations for appointing ad hoc judges must go through the Supreme Court's collegium, which includes the Chief Justice and two senior judges. This ruling aims to ensure proper oversight and adherence to judicial processes.

Criteria for Ad Hoc Appointments

- The Supreme Court has established specific conditions for initiating the appointment of ad hoc judges.
- These include situations where regular appointment recommendations have not been made for at least 20% of the vacancies.
- The court also set a “Trigger Point” for appointments, requiring that High Courts have over 20% vacancies and that more than 10% of cases have been pending for over five years.

Historical Context of Ad Hoc Judges

Historically, ad hoc judges have been appointed infrequently. The Supreme Court identified only three instances since the provision's inception – Justice Suraj Bhan in 1972, Justice P. Venugopal in 1982, and Justice O P Srivastava in 2007. This rarity marks the underutilisation of Article 224A.

Recommendations for Future Appointments

The Supreme Court has recommended that Chief Justices create a panel of retired judges for potential ad hoc appointments. These judges should typically serve for 2-3 years, with each High Court appointing two to five ad hoc judges. Regular reviews of these appointments are advised to ensure their effectiveness.

Addressing Judicial Vacancies

The Supreme Court's suggestions come amidst vacancy crisis, with nearly 40% of High Court positions unfilled. Previous Law Commission reports have advocated for the use of

retired judges to mitigate this issue. The current proposals aim to balance the need for immediate judicial relief with the importance of regular appointments.

Supreme Court of India

- On January 28, 1950, India's Supreme Court succeeded the Federal Court of India which was established by Government of India Act 1935 and the Privy Council.
- The organisation, independence, jurisdiction, powers and functions of the Supreme Court are provided in articles 124 to 147 in Part V of the Constitution of India.
- Since February 2009, Supreme Court of India has total sanctioned strength 31 judges including the Chief Justice.
- Appointment of judges in SC – Article 124
- The CJI and other Judges of the Supreme Court of India hold the office until they attain the age of 65 years {Presently, Supreme Court judges retire at 65 and High Court judges at 62}
- H.J. Kania is the 1st Chief Justice of India.
- Justice Yeshwant Vishnu Chandrachud is the longest-serving Chief Justice in India's history.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

31. India's Manufacturing Vision for Tier 2 and 3 Cities



The Government of India is focusing on enhancing manufacturing capabilities in Tier 2 and 3 cities. This initiative aims to boost the country's economic growth by increasing the contribution of manufacturing to the Gross Value Added. The Commerce Ministry has mandated states and Union Territories (UTs) to develop a 'City Level Economic Vision' for 100 selected cities by June 2026.

Strategic Framework Overview

The initiative is part of a broader strategic framework established by the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). This framework was discussed at the Fourth National Conference of Chief Secretaries. It targets 1,039 towns, aiming to shift manufacturing focus from traditional industrial hubs to less developed areas.

Importance of Tier 2 and 3 Cities

Tier 2 and 3 cities are vital for India's economic growth. They offer a demographic dividend, an affordable workforce, and potential for industrial expansion. The government believes that addressing infrastructure challenges and enhancing logistics will create a robust manufacturing ecosystem in these areas.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 84

Tailored Approaches for States

States with lower Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) are encouraged to prioritise capital-efficient and labour-intensive industries. Conversely, states with established manufacturing bases should focus on research and development, high-tech industries, and innovation. This tailored approach allows states to leverage their unique strengths.

Key Enablers for Manufacturing Growth

The government has identified several key enablers necessary for manufacturing growth, including:

- Industrial Infrastructure: Development of flexible land lease policies and 100 plug-and-play parks by December 2025.
- Logistics: Implementation of a State Logistics Action Plan by June 2026.
- Ease of Doing Business: Improvement of the single-window system and reduction of compliance burdens by December 2025.
- Skilling and Entrepreneurship: Conducting skill gap studies and establishing 100 new start-up incubation centres by December 2029.

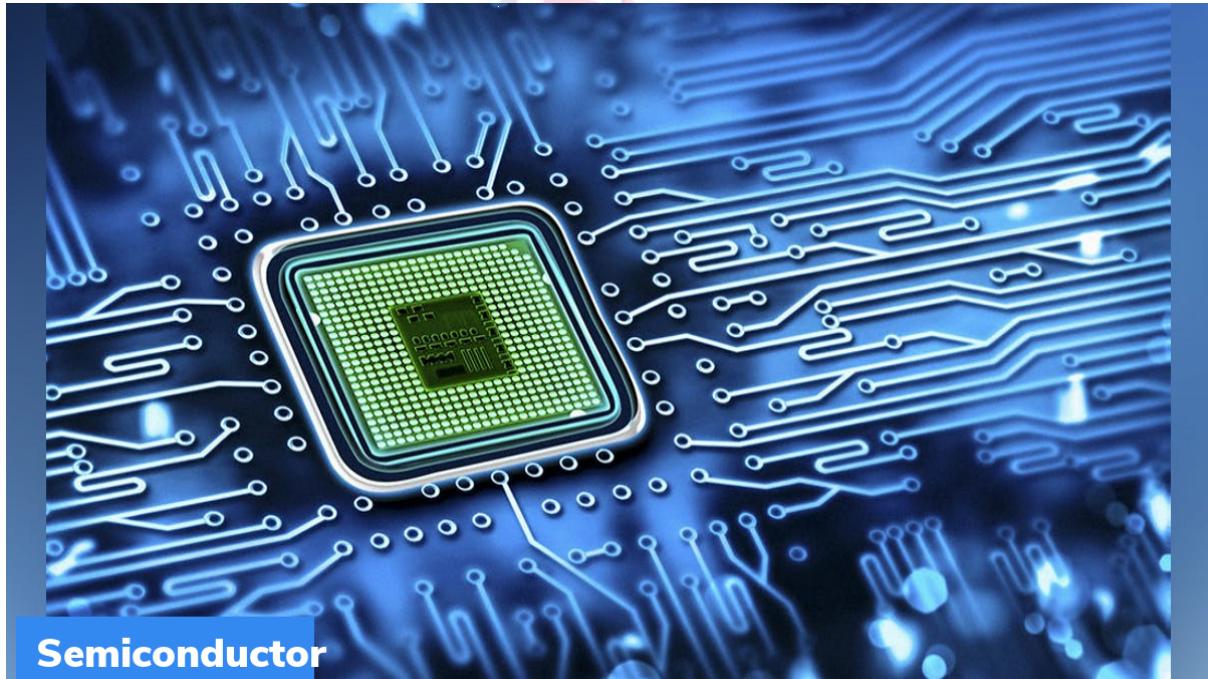
Timelines for Implementation

States and UTs have been given specific timelines to implement various reforms. Key deadlines include: – June 2026 – Submission of City Level Economic Vision and State Logistics Action Plan. – December 2025 – Development of flexible land lease policies and improvement of the single-window system. – December 2026 – Formulation of City Logistics Plans for 25 cities.

Employment Growth Objectives

The government aims to increase the share of manufacturing in employment from 12% to 22% by 2047. This goal reflects the stagnant employment share in manufacturing since 1972-73. By expanding manufacturing into Tier 2 and 3 cities, the government anticipates boost in job creation.

32. India's Semiconductor and Electronics Manufacturing Initiatives



India is making strides in the [semiconductor](#) and [electronics](#) manufacturing sectors as it prepares for the Union Budget 2025-26. The Union Finance Ministry has brought into light the government's successful policies aimed at boosting investments and job creation through the semiconductor programme and the [Production-Linked Incentive \(PLI\)](#) scheme. These initiatives are crucial for establishing India as a global hub for semiconductor and electronic goods manufacturing.

Semiconductor Programme Overview

- The ‘Programme for Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem’ offers attractive incentives to semiconductor packaging and design companies.
- Launched in December 2021, the Semicon India Programme has approved five semiconductor projects and supported 16 design companies.
- This initiative is expected to attract investments of ₹1.52 lakh crore and create approximately 25,000 direct jobs, along with 60,000 indirect jobs.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme

- Under the PLI scheme for electronics, India has achieved production worth ₹6.14 lakh crore and exports of ₹3.12 lakh crore.
- This has led to the creation of over 128,000 direct jobs in the electronics sector, reinforcing India's position as a global manufacturing powerhouse. T
- The PLI scheme aims to provide competitive incentives to companies in the semiconductor and electronics manufacturing sectors.

Incentives for Semiconductor Manufacturing

- The semiconductor programme includes fiscal support of up to 50% for setting up semiconductor and display fabrication units.
- The government collaborates with states to create high-tech clusters with necessary infrastructure.
- Additionally, fiscal support of 30% is available for capital expenditure in compound semiconductor units.

Design Linked Incentive Scheme

- The Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme offers incentives of up to 50% on eligible expenditures for semiconductor design companies.
- This includes support for Integrated Circuits (ICs), chipsets, and System on Chips (SoCs).
- The goal is to boost domestic capabilities in semiconductor design and innovation.

India Semiconductor Mission

The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) will be established to drive long-term strategies for developing a sustainable semiconductor ecosystem. Led by global experts, ISM will act as the nodal agency for implementing semiconductor and display manufacturing schemes efficiently.

Strategic Importance of Semiconductors

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

In the current geopolitical landscape, semiconductors are vital for national security and economic stability. The development of a robust semiconductor ecosystem will enhance India's self-reliance and integration into global supply chains.

Challenges in the Electronics Sector

Despite growth, India faces challenges such as low net value addition in electronics production, reliance on imports for critical components, and a lack of indigenous semiconductor foundries. These factors hinder the country's ability to fully capitalise on its manufacturing potential.

Future Directions for India's Semiconductor Industry

To advance in semiconductor manufacturing, India must focus on building comprehensive support across the chip-making supply chain, including design, testing, and packaging. Increasing fiscal support and leveraging public sector enterprises can facilitate the establishment of semiconductor foundries. Emphasising a collaborative approach within a trusted semiconductor ecosystem will be essential for India's success in this domain.

33. India Sets Ambitious Target for GI Tags

The Government of India has set a goal to achieve 10,000 Geographical Indication (GI) tags by 2030. This initiative was announced by Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal, during the GI Samagam event in New Delhi. The current number of GI tags stands at 605. This ambitious target aims to enhance the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) ecosystem in India.

About Geographical Indication Tags

A Geographical Indication (GI) tag identifies products originating from specific geographic locations. The quality and reputation of these products are linked to their origin. GI tags are crucial for protecting the uniqueness of Indian products and promoting regional economic development.

Legal Framework and History

The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act was enacted in December 1999, coming into effect in September 2003. This legislation provides a framework for registering unique goods and protecting their geographical origins. The first GI tag was awarded to Darjeeling tea in 2004-2005.

As of now, India has issued 605 GI tags. The number of authorized users has surged from 365 to 29,000 over the past decade. This increase reflects growing recognition and utilisation of GI products in the market.

Government Initiatives and Support

The government is adopting a whole-of-government approach to achieve the 10,000 GI tag target. A committee will be formed to oversee this initiative. Additionally, the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Fund and the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme are being leveraged to promote GI products.

There is a need for improved branding of GI products. Collaboration with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is crucial

for ensuring quality standards. This collaboration aims to combat counterfeit products and enhance consumer trust.

E-Commerce and Export Potential

The potential for GI products is , especially in e-commerce. The government is exploring partnerships with e-commerce platforms and other organisations to promote GI products. Listing these products on platforms like GeM and ONDC can unlock new markets.

Role of Indian Embassies

Indian embassies abroad can play a vital role in showcasing GI products. Similar to the ODOP initiative, this exposure can enhance international visibility and export potential for Indian goods.

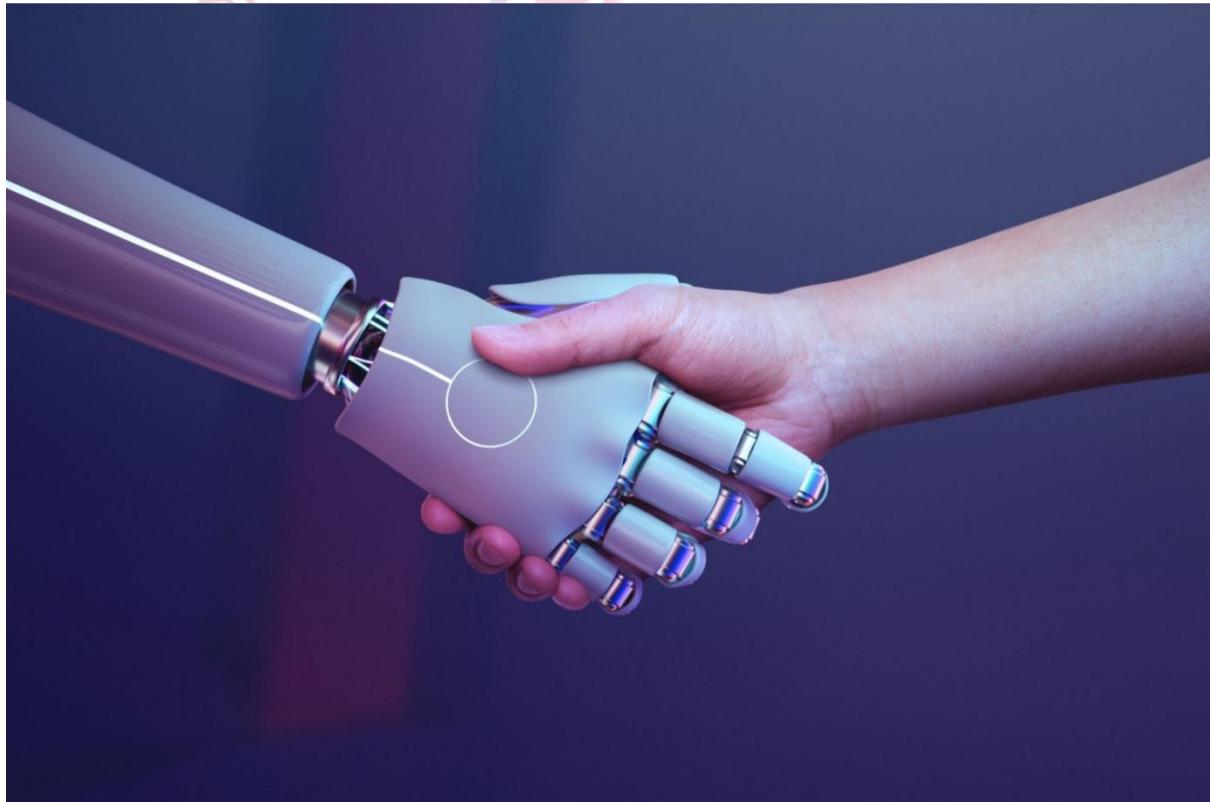
Categories of GI Products

GI tags are applicable to a diverse range of products. These include agricultural products, natural products, manufactured items, textiles, handicrafts, and foodstuffs. Each category reflects the unique characteristics attributed to its geographical origin.

Registration Process for GI Tags

To obtain a GI tag, a product must originate from a specific location where its unique qualities are derived from its geographic environment. Registration is valid for ten years and can be renewed thereafter. If not renewed, the GI tag will be removed from the register. This structured approach aims to enhance India's IPR ecosystem while promoting economic growth through the protection of unique products and regional identities.

34. Govt Begins Procurement of 10,000 GPUs Under IndiaAI Mission



Recently, the Government of India initiated the bidding process for the procurement of 10,000 graphics processing units (GPUs) under the IndiaAI Mission. This mission, approved by the Cabinet in March 2024, has a budget of ₹10,372 crore over five years, aimed at boosting artificial intelligence development in the country. The GPU procurement is a critical step to enhance computing capabilities and support various stakeholders in creating an AI ecosystem.

GPU Procurement

The procurement process involves ten selected companies, including Jio Platforms and Tata Communications, competing for the supply of GPUs. The bidding commenced on January 22, 2025, with results expected within a week. A portion of the mission's budget, about 44% (₹4,563.36 crore), is allocated for GPU procurement.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 91

Importance of GPUs

GPUs are essential for training and running AI models efficiently. They can process vast amounts of data simultaneously, making them much faster than traditional CPUs. This speed is crucial for developing advanced AI applications across various sectors.

Challenges in GPU Procurement

Despite the ambitious goals, challenges exist. High costs of GPUs, limited availability, and a shortage of skilled AI professionals may hinder progress. Moreover, the existing computing infrastructure in India is minimal, comprising less than 2% of global capacity.

Modifications to Bidding Requirements

To encourage participation from smaller firms, the government revised the bidding requirements. The average turnover for primary bidders was reduced from ₹100 crore to ₹50 crore, while non-primary members saw their requirements halved to ₹25 crore.

Current Status of AI in India

AI adoption is on the rise across sectors in India. Initiatives like Digital India and the National AI Strategy are driving this trend. Major cities, such as Bengaluru and Hyderabad, are emerging as AI hubs, supported by research institutions and a growing number of startups.

What is IndiaAI Mission?

- India AI web portal was launched in May 2022.
- The IndiaAI Mission aims to build a robust AI computing infrastructure.
- Its objectives include enhancing data quality, encouraging industry collaboration, and promoting indigenous AI technologies.
- The mission will support sectors like healthcare, agriculture, and governance by developing foundational AI models.

35.Gaganyaan: LPSC Delivers Crew Module's Liquid Propulsion System



The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is advancing its [Gaganyaan](#) project, which aims to establish human spaceflight capabilities. As of January 22, 2025, the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) has successfully integrated the Crew Module's liquid propulsion system and dispatched it for the first uncrewed mission, Gaganyaan (G1). This mission is a critical step towards sending a crew of three astronauts into a 400 km orbit for a three-day mission.

About Gaganyaan Project

- The Gaganyaan project is India's ambitious initiative to demonstrate human spaceflight capabilities.
- It involves launching a crewed spacecraft into low Earth orbit and returning it safely.
- The mission plans to develop essential technologies, including a human-rated launch vehicle and life support systems.

Crew Module and Propulsion System

- The Crew Module Propulsion System (CMPS) is a bi-propellant Reaction Control System (RCS) designed for precise manoeuvring of the spacecraft.
- It utilises 12 thrusters, each providing 100 Newtons of thrust, to control the module's pitch, yaw, and roll during descent and re-entry.
- This system ensures stability until the parachute system deploys.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 93

Integration and Testing Phases

Following its dispatch, the Crew Module will undergo further integration at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC). This includes assembling avionics packages and conducting extensive checks. The module will later be sent to the U R Rao Satellite Centre for the final integration of the Orbital Module.

Precursor Missions and Safety Measures

Before the crewed mission, ISRO plans several precursor missions to test and validate technologies. These include the Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT) and Pad Abort Test (PAT). Safety and reliability will be proven through unmanned missions, ensuring all systems are robust before human involvement.

Human Rated Launch Vehicle – HLVM3

The Human Rated LVM3 (HLVM3) rocket will serve as the launch vehicle for Gaganyaan. It features a solid, liquid, and cryogenic stage, all modified for human rating. The HLVM3 includes a Crew Escape System (CES) designed to safely detach the Crew Module in emergencies during launch or ascent.

Orbital Module Composition

- The Orbital Module (OM) consists of the Crew Module (CM) and Service Module (SM).
- The CM provides a habitable environment with life support and avionics systems. It features a double-walled construction for safety during re-entry.
- The SM supports the CM in orbit, housing propulsion and power systems.

Development of New Technologies

Ensuring human safety is paramount in the Gaganyaan mission. ISRO is developing advanced engineering and human-centric technologies to support this goal. These include life support systems and emergency protocols to protect astronauts during their mission.

Astronaut Training Initiatives

An Astronaut Training Facility in Bengaluru has been established to prepare selected astronauts. Training modules encompass classroom instruction, physical fitness, simulator

use, and survival training. This comprehensive programme ensures astronauts are well-prepared for the rigours of space travel.



"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

95

36.US Withdrawal from OECD Global Tax Deal



Recently, shortly after taking office, [US President Donald Trump](#) issued an executive order withdrawing the United States from the OECD's global tax deal. This agreement, designed to combat tax avoidance by multinational corporations, has been put on hold.

What is OECD Global Tax Deal?

- The OECD Global Tax Deal was established to address tax avoidance by large multinational companies.
- It consists of two main pillars:
- Pillar 1 reallocates profits from home countries to jurisdictions where revenue is generated.
- Pillar 2 sets a global minimum corporate tax rate of 15%.
- Over 140 countries had signed the deal, aiming for a fairer international tax landscape.

US Executive Order Details

President Trump's memorandum criticises the global tax deal for undermining US sovereignty and economic competitiveness. The order states that the deal imposes

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 96

extraterritorial jurisdiction over American income and restricts the US's ability to create tax policies beneficial to American businesses. Consequently, the US will not comply with the deal's stipulations.

Impact on Global Tax Landscape

Experts predict that the US withdrawal will have consequences for the global tax framework. Countries that have already begun implementing the Global Anti-Base Erosion Model (GloBE) rules may need to revise their strategies to align with the new US stance. Approximately 50 jurisdictions had made progress towards adopting these rules, and they now face uncertainty.

India's Position on the Global Tax Deal

- India has historically maintained a cautious approach towards adopting GloBE rules.
- The country has not yet made legislative changes in response to the OECD deal.
- In the [Union Budget 2024](#), India eliminated the 2% equalisation levy, which had been a contentious issue with the US.
- Consequently, the impact of the US withdrawal on India's tax collection is expected to be minimal.

Role of the OECD in Global Economics

- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development is an intergovernmental organization with 38 member countries, founded in 1961.
- The OECD, comprising 37 democracies with market economies, serves as a forum for developing policy standards that promote sustainable economic growth.
- It facilitates collaboration among governments, enabling them to share experiences and develop high economic policy standards.
- The OECD has been important source of evidence-based policy analysis and economic data for over 50 years.
- The OECD's headquarters are at the Château de la Muette in Paris, France.
- Mathias Cormann is the current Secretary-General.

37.National Health Mission Extended



The Union Cabinet recently approved the continuation of the National Health Mission (NHM) for additional 5 years. It has emerged as a very important force in enhancing public health across India. Launched to address various health challenges, the NHM has made strides in reducing mortality rates and improving healthcare delivery from 2021 to 2024. The recent assessment by the Central Government marks its achievements and ongoing initiatives.

Key Achievements in Human Resources

NHM has boosted the healthcare workforce:

- In FY 2021-22, it engaged 2.69 lakh additional healthcare workers, including doctors and nurses. This number increased to 4.21 lakh in FY 2022-23 and 5.23 lakh in FY 2023-24.
- The inclusion of community health officers has been crucial, with 1.29 lakh and 1.38 lakh added in the subsequent years.

Decline in Maternal and Child Mortality Rates

- The NHM has achieved a remarkable 83% reduction in maternal mortality since 1990, surpassing the global decline of 45%.
- The Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR) dropped from 45 per 1,000 live births in 2014 to 32 in 2020.
- The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) also fell from 39 to 28 during the same period.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 98

These improvements align India with U.N. Sustainable Development Goals for maternal and child health.

Control of Infectious Diseases

- The incidence of tuberculosis decreased from 237 to 195 per 1,00,000 population between 2015 and 2023.
- Malaria cases and deaths also declined, with a 13.28% reduction in cases in 2021 compared to 2020.
- Kala-azar elimination efforts have achieved 100% success in endemic blocks.

Vaccination Campaigns and Coverage

The Measles-Rubella Elimination Campaign under Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 vaccinated over 34.77 crore children, achieving 97.98% coverage. Additionally, NHM has facilitated the administration of over 220 crore COVID-19 vaccine doses from January 2021 to March 2024, utilising an extensive network of healthcare workers.

Specialized Health Initiatives

Various specialised health initiatives have been launched under NHM:

- The Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan registered over 1.56 lakh volunteers supporting TB patients.
- The National Sickle Cell Anemia Elimination Mission screened over 2.61 crore individuals in tribal areas, aiming for elimination by 2047.
- The Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme expanded services, providing over 62.35 lakh dialysis sessions.

Buy vitamins and supplements

Addressing Public Health Concerns

NHM has tackled pressing health issues, including tobacco use and snakebite envenoming. Public awareness campaigns have led to a 17.3% reduction in tobacco use over the past decade. The National Action Plan for Snakebite Envenoming was launched in FY 2022-23 to enhance prevention and management strategies.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 99

Digital Health Initiatives

Digital health has been a focus area, with the launch of the [U-WIN platform](#) in January 2023. This platform ensures timely vaccination for pregnant women and children, expanding to 65 districts by the end of FY 2023-24. The initiative enhances real-time tracking of immunisations, improving overall coverage. The NHM's comprehensive approach has not only improved healthcare delivery but also laid the foundation for a healthier future for millions in India.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

38.Kalaripayattu Controversy Ahead of 38th National Games



Kalaripayattu, the ancient martial art from Kerala, is at the centre of a dispute as the [38th National Games](#) approach. The Indian Kalaripayattu Federation has raised concerns about its relegation to a demonstration event by the Indian Olympics Association (IOA). This decision has disappointed athletes and sparked discussions about the sport's future in competitive arenas.

Background of Kalaripayattu

- Kalaripayattu is a traditional Indian martial art originating in Kerala, dating back to the 11th–12th century CE.
- It combines combat techniques with unique weapons and healing methods.
- The term derives from “kalari” (training ground) and “payattu” (martial arts practice).

Recent Developments

Ahead of the 38th National Games, Kalaripayattu was moved from a competitive event to a demonstration section. This change affects approximately 200 athletes from 18 states. The decision was made public in December 2024, leading to widespread discontent.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 101

Legal Intervention

The Delhi High Court intervened on January 15, 2025, mandating a review of Kalaripayattu's status in the National Games. The IOA is expected to make a decision based on this ruling.

Historical Significance

Kalaripayattu has deep roots in Kerala's culture, historically linked to military training and discipline. It was essential in the feudal society of Kerala, with each village having its own kalari for martial education.

Decline and Resurgence

The art form declined in the 17th century due to the advent of firearms and colonial rule. However, a revival occurred in the 20th century, thanks to efforts by prominent gurukkals who preserved and promoted the practice.

Training and Techniques

Training in Kalaripayattu involves rigorous physical conditioning, weaponry, and healing arts. Classes follow the guru-shishya tradition, emphasising respect and discipline. Techniques include strikes, grappling, and the use of various weapons.

Current Status

Kalaripayattu is gaining recognition globally, with practitioners incorporating it into dance and performance arts. The establishment of the Kalaripayattu Academy in Kerala aims to further promote and preserve this ancient martial art.

39.Uttarakhand's Manual for Uniform Civil

Code



Recently, Uttarakhand's government approved a comprehensive manual for its Uniform Civil Code (UCC), aiming to standardise personal laws across the state. This initiative marks Uttarakhand as the first state of India to implement the UCC, with preparations underway for training officials and launching online services. The UCC seeks to streamline processes related to marriage, divorce, inheritance, and other personal matters, amid ongoing discussions about its broader implications for Indian society.

Key Provisions of UCC

The UCC introduces several provisions, including Tatkal registration for expedited services and simplified processes for live-in relationships. It allows online registration of wills and provides a platform for various civil services through a dedicated portal.

Training and Implementation Timeline

Training for officials is in its final stages, with a state-wide mock drill scheduled for January 21, 2025. The government aims to train 10,000 Village Development Officers (VDOs) by January 24, 2025, to facilitate local registration services.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

Online Services and Accessibility

The UCC portal features Aadhaar-based verification and AI translation in 22 languages. It aims to improve access to registration services, especially in remote areas through Common Service Centres (CSCs) and local officials.

Historical Context of UCC in India

The UCC concept is rooted in Article 44 of the Constitution of India, which calls for a uniform set of laws governing personal matters for all citizens. Historical debates have shaped its evolution, with judicial pronouncements advocating for its necessity.

Arguments Supporting UCC

Proponents argue that UCC promotes equality, simplifies legal processes, and empowers women. It aims to eliminate discriminatory practices and encourage national integration by treating all citizens equally under the law.

Arguments Against UCC

Critics raise concerns about cultural preservation and the potential infringement on religious freedoms. They argue that a UCC might marginalise minority communities and face practical implementation challenges in India's diverse society.

Future Considerations for UCC

The path forward for UCC may involve inclusive dialogue with stakeholders and phased implementation. Safeguards for minority rights could be essential to address concerns while ensuring legal uniformity across the state.

40.SANJAY Battlefield Surveillance System



The SANJAY system was recently launched by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on January 24, 2025. This Battlefield Surveillance System (BSS) is designed to enhance the operational capabilities of the Indian Army. It integrates ground and aerial battlefield sensors to create a comprehensive surveillance picture. This innovation marks advancement in military technology.

Overview of SANJAY

- SANJAY is an automated system that processes inputs from various battlefield sensors.
- It confirms the accuracy of data, prevents duplication, and fuses information to generate a common surveillance picture.
- This system operates over a secured Army Data Network and Satellite Communication Network.

Key Features

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

- The SANJAY system is equipped with state-of-the-art sensors and advanced analytics.
- It is capable of monitoring vast land borders and assessing situations with high accuracy.
- This capability acts as a force multiplier in Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) operations.

Operational Phases

The induction of SANJAY into the Indian Army will occur in three phases from March to October 2025. It will be deployed across all operational brigades, divisions, and corps. This timeline has been designated as the ‘Year of Reforms’ by the Ministry of Defence.

Indigenous Development

Developed in collaboration with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), SANJAY embodies the Indian Army’s commitment to self-reliance, known as '[Aatmanirbharta](#)'. This initiative follows the Indian Army’s ‘Year of Technology Absorption’. The project reflects a strategic move towards indigenously developed military technology.

Technological Advancements

SANJAY leverages [artificial intelligence](#) and information-based techniques to assess battlefield scenarios. The data collected includes voice, video, and images transmitted over secure digital communication links. This technology enhances the decision-making process for military commanders.

Importance of Surveillance

Effective surveillance is crucial for understanding terrain, infrastructure, and troop placements. SANJAY provides a unified platform for data collection and analysis, facilitating rapid response to threats. It transforms how commanders engage with both conventional and sub-conventional operations.

Cost and Budget

The development of SANJAY has been undertaken at a cost of approximately Rs 2,402 crore. This investment puts stress on the Government of India’s focus on strengthening national defence through advanced technology.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

41.ISRO's 100th Launch



The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is set to mark milestone with its 100th launch. Scheduled for January 29, 2025, the GSLV-F15 mission will deploy the NVS-02 satellite from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre. This mission enhances India's Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC), an independent regional navigation satellite system.

NavIC Overview

- NavIC is India's regional navigation system.
- It provides Position, Velocity, and Timing (PVT) services.
- The primary service area extends 1,500 km beyond India.
- NavIC consists of two service types – Standard Positioning Service (SPS) and Restricted Service (RS).
- NavIC signals are designed to provide a position accuracy of better than 20 meters and a timing accuracy of better than 50 nanoseconds.
- SPS signals work well with other global navigation satellite systems like GPS, Glonass, Galileo, and BeiDou.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 107

Significance of GSLV-F15

- The GSLV-F15 is crucial for deploying the NVS-02 satellite.
- This satellite is part of the second generation of NavIC satellites.
- It is designed to replace older satellites in the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System ([IRNSS](#)).
- The GSLV-F15 mission will last approximately 19 minutes.

NVS-02 Satellite Features

- NVS-02 has a lift-off mass of 2,250 kg.
- It is equipped with advanced atomic clocks for precise timing.
- The satellite operates on the standard I-2K bus platform.
- It will be positioned at 111.75°E, replacing IRNSS-1E.
- The NVS-02 includes navigation payloads in multiple frequency bands.

Advancements in Navigation Technology

The NVS series incorporates L1 band signals. This is as it aligns with frequencies used by the US Global Positioning System (GPS). Such compatibility is expected to enhance the use of NavIC in smaller devices like fitness trackers.

Challenges and Improvements

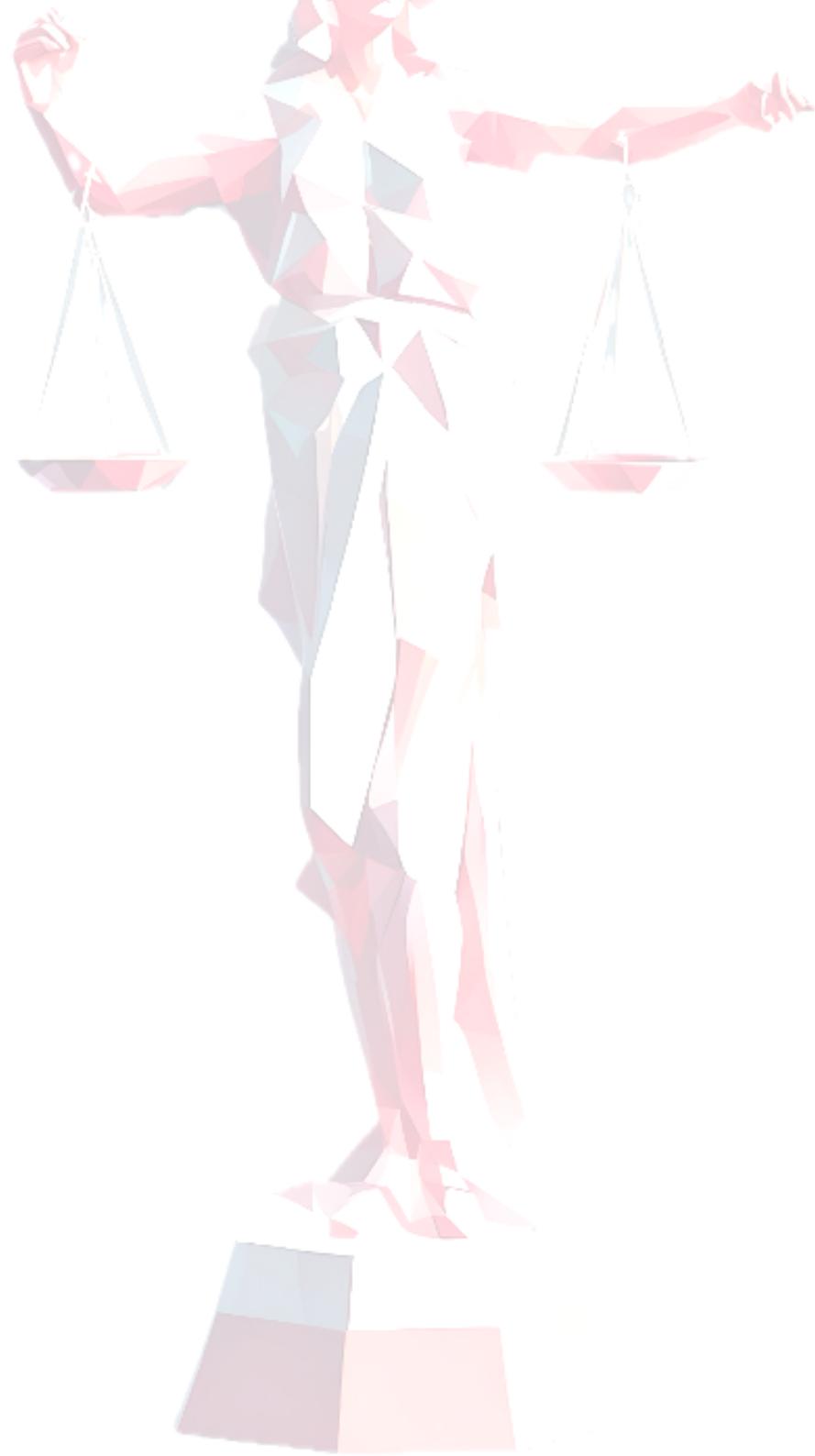
The initial IRNSS satellites faced issues, including malfunctioning atomic clocks. These challenges necessitated replacements before the end of their operational life. The new generation of satellites aims to address these issues. They are designed for a longer lifespan of 12 years.

Recent Developments in Navigation Services

Despite criticisms regarding underutilisation of NavIC services, recent advancements have been made. The development of user receivers has progressed since 2017. New mobile devices are now capable of receiving NavIC signals, expanding its practical applications.

Future of Indian Navigation

The NVS series will consist of five satellites. Each satellite aims to enhance the accuracy and reliability of NavIC services. The successful launch of NVS-02 will pave the way for further advancements in India's navigation capabilities.



"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

42.Punjab's Initiatives Against Drug Trafficking and Abuse



Punjab is facing drug crisis exacerbated by its geographical location. The state shares a lengthy border with Pakistan and is near the “Golden Crescent,” a notorious drug trafficking route. In response to the escalating drug problem, the Punjab government has requested a one-time special assistance of Rs 600 crore from the Centre. This funding aims to establish special Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) courts for the swift handling of drug-related cases.

About NDPS Courts

- NDPS courts are special tribunals established under the [NDPS](#) Act of 1985, which governs the production, sale, and use of narcotics.
- The establishment of these courts is crucial for expediting trials related to drug offences.
- The Punjab government marks the need for these courts to address a backlog of 35,000 cases, which could potentially increase without intervention.

Current Case Backlog

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 110

- As of January 2025, the backlog of NDPS cases in Punjab stands at 35,000.
- Currently, it takes an average of seven years for a session court to resolve cases.
- This timeline could extend to 11 years if no action is taken.
- The Punjab government aims to establish 79 new NDPS courts to tackle this issue effectively.

Funding and Resources Required

To facilitate the establishment of these courts, Punjab has requested Rs 60 crore annually for the next decade. This funding will be used for appointing public prosecutors and hiring necessary staff. Additionally, Punjab seeks resources under the National Fund for Control of Drug Abuse for various initiatives, including anti-narcotics operations and de-addiction centres.

Geographical Challenges

Punjab's unique geographical position makes it susceptible to drug smuggling. The state has a 552 km border with Pakistan, with gaps in fencing that traffickers exploit. Increased border security has led to the use of drones for drug trafficking, complicating interception efforts.

Key Facts About Golden Crescent

- The Golden Crescent is one of Asia's largest illicit opium production regions.
- The region is located at the crossroads of Central, South, and Western Asia.
- It includes Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan.
- Afghanistan is the main producer, while Iran acts as a transit and consumer country.
- The region is infamous for organized crime activities like drug trafficking, which funds terrorism and insurgency.
- Groups such as Baloch separatists, the Quetta Shura Taliban, and the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps are linked to narcotics trade operations.
- Indian states like Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Gujarat are vulnerable due to their proximity to the Indo-Pakistan border. These states are affected by drug trafficking and serve as transit routes for heroin and hashish.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 111

Judicial Support and Recommendations

In September 2024, the Punjab and Haryana High Court acknowledged the need for special NDPS courts. The Law Commission's 1997 report also pointed out the inadequacies in the enforcement of the NDPS Act, suggesting the establishment of special courts as a necessary measure.

Punjab's Drug Control Efforts

Punjab has been actively combating drug abuse for several years. Since 2022, the state has registered over 31,500 NDPS cases, leading to the arrest of 43,000 individuals and the seizure of quantities of narcotics. The state has also frozen assets worth Rs 449 crore linked to drug traffickers. A comprehensive database of criminals has been created to enhance case management.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly. **112**

43.Sinhtoo Dance to Debut at Republic Day Parade 2025



The Sinhtoo dance, a traditional folk dance of the Hatti community from the Giri region of Sirmaur district, has been selected for the 76th [Republic Day parade](#) in Delhi. This marks the first time the Sinhtoo will be showcased at such a prestigious national event. Approximately 200 artists will perform this unique dance, which is part of a larger cultural programme featuring 5,000 artists from across India.

About Sinhtoo Dance

- Sinhtoo is a mask dance where performers wear intricately crafted masks representing various animals.
- The term “Sinhtoo” translates to “lion cub” in the Pahari dialect, which explains the prominence of lion masks in the performance.
- The dance aims to celebrate wildlife and raise awareness about environmental conservation.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 113

Historical Context and Evolution

- Traditionally, the costumes for Sinhtoo were made from sheep's wool and tree bark.
- Over the years, these materials have evolved into woollen outfits and cloth scraps.
- The masks were originally crafted from wood and natural materials but have since adapted to include more modern elements.

Cultural Significance and Advocacy

- The Hatti community has sought Scheduled Tribe (ST) status since 1967.
- Their efforts were realised in 2023 when the central government granted this status.
- The selection of Sinhtoo for the Republic Day parade is seen as a celebration of Hatti culture and a step towards greater recognition.

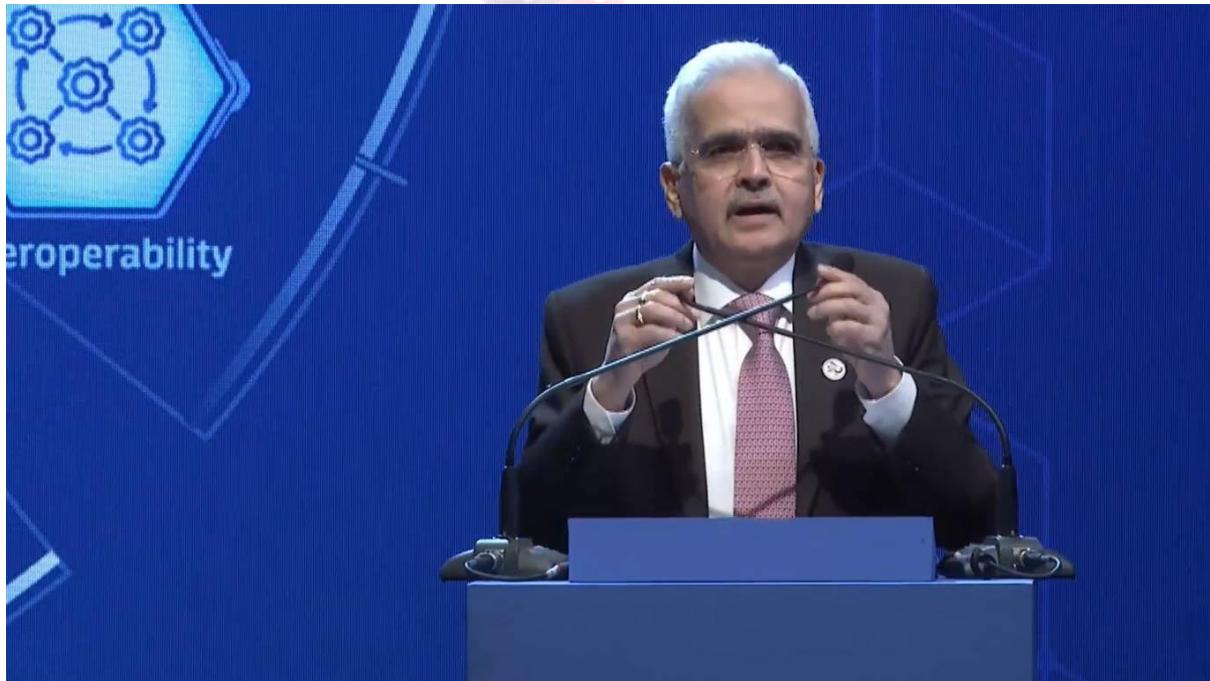
Preparation and Performance Details

Currently, 500 artists from Himachal Pradesh are rehearsing for the event, with 200 specifically preparing for the Sinhtoo performance. The choreography for the parade is overseen by Dr. Sandhya Purecha, President of the Sangeet Natak Akademi. The performance is set to be recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records for its scale and cultural representation.

Broader Cultural Context

The inclusion of Sinhtoo marks the diversity of Indian folk traditions. It serves to educate the public about lesser-known art forms and their significance. The performance will also showcase other Himachali dances, further enriching the cultural tapestry of the event.

44.Unified Lending Interface (ULI) Pilot



The Unified Lending Interface (ULI) was launched by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to streamline the lending process. Since its pilot inception in August 2023, ULI has facilitated the disbursement of ₹38,000 crore across 7.5 lakh loans. This platform aims to revolutionise credit delivery by connecting lenders with diverse data sources through a single interface.

What Is the Unified Lending Interface?

- ULI is a technology platform designed to enable seamless access to digitised financial and non-financial data.
- It connects lenders to multiple data service providers via standardised Application Programming Interfaces (APIs).
- This ‘plug and play’ approach simplifies the credit underwriting process, making it easier for borrowers to access loans.

Key Features of ULI

- The ULI allows lenders to access a comprehensive range of data including land records, satellite imagery, and financial insights.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 115

- This is particularly beneficial for first-time borrowers who lack traditional credit histories.
- With ULI, lenders can quickly assess an applicant's creditworthiness through available data, reducing the time and complexity of loan approvals.

Benefits for Borrowers

Borrowers, especially from rural areas, can now secure loans without extensive documentation. ULI provides vital information about their economic activities, allowing lenders to automate decision-making. For instance, a dairy farmer can have their loan eligibility assessed based on cash flow data from milk cooperatives and land ownership records.

Expansion and Future Scope

The RBI plans to expand ULI's scope by incorporating more loan types and data providers. This includes kisan credit cards, housing loans, and micro-business loans. The goal is to enhance the platform's capabilities and further simplify credit access for diverse borrower profiles.

Digital Public Infrastructure

India's embrace of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) facilitates transparency and efficiency across various sectors. ULI is an important component of this infrastructure, aiming to break down data silos that hinder effective credit delivery. By integrating diverse data sources, ULI enhances the overall digital ecosystem for financial transactions.

The Role of FinTechs

FinTech companies stand to benefit from ULI. They can access a variety of lenders through a single platform, enabling them to provide deeper customer insights. This collaboration between traditional banks and FinTechs is expected to enhance the lending landscape further.

45. Madhya Pradesh Enforces Liquor Ban in Religious Towns



Madhya Pradesh has recently taken a step towards prohibition by banning liquor sales in 17 religious towns. This decision, announced by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, coincides with the 300th birth anniversary of the revered Maratha ruler Devi Ahilyabai Holkar. The towns affected include Ujjain, Orchha, and Maheshwar, among others. This move aims to address long-standing concerns regarding alcohol consumption in holy areas while navigating the complex socio-economic landscape of the state.

Historical Context of Prohibition in Madhya Pradesh

- Prohibition has been a recurring theme in Madhya Pradesh politics.
- In the 1990s, former Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh attempted to shift liquor shops based on community consent. However, enforcement was weak, leading to increased illicit liquor production.
- Subsequent attempts by other leaders, including Uma Bharti and Shivraj Singh Chouhan, also faced challenges. Chouhan's earlier efforts included closing liquor shops near the [Narmada River](#) but lacked a comprehensive ban.

Economic Implications of Liquor Sales

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 117

- Alcohol sales contribute to Madhya Pradesh's revenue, accounting for approximately 15% of state income.
- In 2023, the excise department generated ₹13,590 crore from liquor sales.
- This revenue is vital for funding welfare schemes and infrastructure projects.
- The financial reliance on alcohol complicates the implementation of prohibition measures.

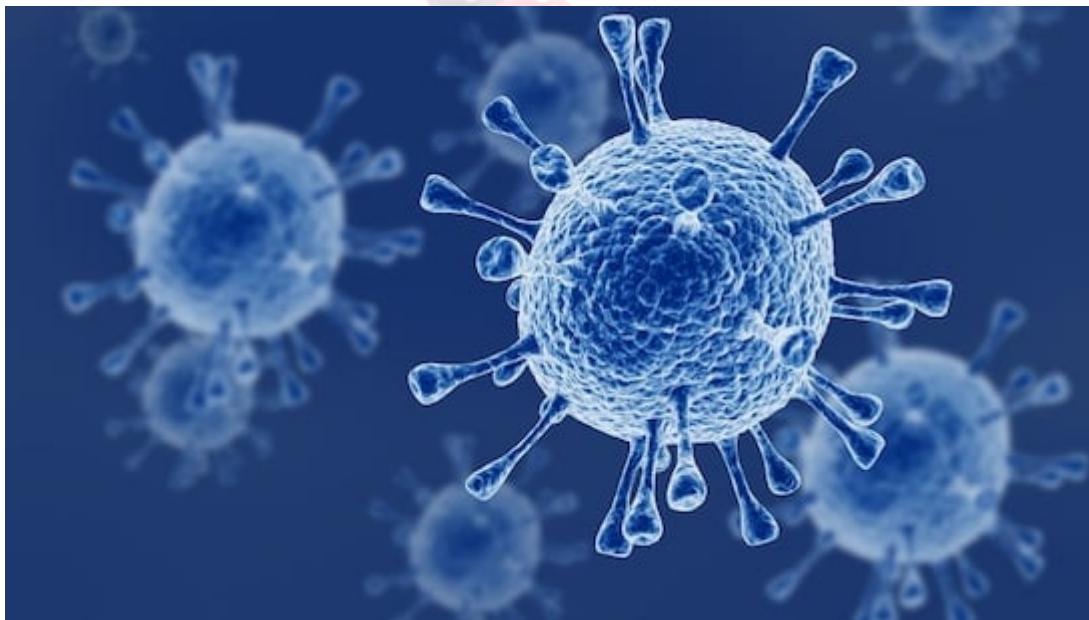
Cultural Resistance to Prohibition

Madhya Pradesh is home to traditional brewing practices, particularly among tribal communities. Many view prohibition as an infringement on their cultural identity and livelihood. This resistance poses a challenge to the state's efforts to enforce a blanket ban on alcohol sales. Political leaders must balance the cultural significance of local practices with the objectives of public health and safety.

The Role of Stakeholders in Alcohol Policy

Effective alcohol policy requires dialogue with stakeholders, including local communities and health experts. Critics argue that current prohibition measures lack practical alternatives to reduce consumption. A more holistic approach is needed to address the complexities of alcohol use in society, including education and rehabilitation.

46.Guillain-Barre Syndrome



Recently, Pune has reported increase in Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) cases, with 59 individuals diagnosed, including 12 requiring ventilator support. The Maharashtra health department is investigating this sudden rise. Health officials indicate that GBS can occur after infections, but it does not lead to widespread outbreaks

Peru has declared a 90-day national health emergency in response to a recent surge in **Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS)** cases, raising concerns about the potential connection between GBS and **Covid-19**.

- Notably, **Peru experienced a large outbreak of GBS in 2019 as well**, with 683 suspected or confirmed cases during a specific period.

What is Guillain-Barre Syndrome?

- **About:** GBS is a serious **autoimmune disorder** that affects the **peripheral nervous system**. It initially presents **weakness, tingling, and numbness in the limbs**, which can progress to **paralysis lasting 6-12 months or longer**.
 - The syndrome **affects the nerves responsible for muscle movement, pain, temperature, and touch sensations**.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly. **119**

- While **more common in adults and males**, GBS can occur in individuals of all ages.
- **Cause:** The exact cause of GBS is unknown, but as per the **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, GBS is often preceded by an infection. This could be a **bacterial or viral infection. This leads the immune system to attack the body itself**. Notably, infections like COVID-19 and the Zika virus have been linked to GBS. The syndrome can affect individuals of any age, though it is more prevalent in adults.
 - In rare cases, **vaccinations and surgery may slightly increase the risk of developing GBS**, but the likelihood of this happening is very low.
 - Studies have shown that the **risk of getting GBS from infections like the flu is much higher than the risk from vaccines**, such as the **flu vaccine**.
- **Treatment Options**

Currently, there is no definitive cure for GBS. Treatment focuses on alleviating symptoms and speeding recovery. Therapies such as intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) and plasmapheresis can reduce the severity of the condition. Most patients recover fully, although recovery can take months to years.

Types of Guillain-Barré Syndrome

GBS encompasses several forms. The most common is Acute Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyradiculoneuropathy (AIDP), primarily seen in North America and Europe. Other types include Miller Fisher Syndrome (MFS), characterised by eye-related paralysis, and Acute Motor Axonal Neuropathy (AMAN), prevalent in certain regions like China and Japan.

Symptoms of GBS

- Common initial symptoms include tingling and weakness, typically starting in the feet and legs.
- As the condition progresses, these sensations can spread to the upper body, leading to more severe weakness or paralysis.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 120

- Other symptoms may include difficulty with vision, swallowing, and facial movements, as well as severe pain, rapid heart rate, and problems with bladder control.

GBS and Covid-19: GBS cases have been reported in both adults and children with Covid-19. Also, there have been concerns about cases of GBS following **administration of Covid-19 vaccines.**

About **100 suspected cases of GBS** were identified among the **12.8 million people** who received the **Johnson & Johnson vaccine (viral vector vaccine)**.

Some cases of GBS have also been reported after receiving the **Pfizer (mRNA vaccine)** and **AstraZeneca (viral vector vaccine)** as well.

A subcommittee of the **WHO** found that rare cases of GBS have been reported with **adenovirus vector Covid-19 vaccines, but not with mRNA vaccines.**

However, recent studies suggest despite these potential side effects, the **benefits of Covid-19 vaccination outweigh the risks.**

The **incidence rate of GBS after SARS-CoV-2 infection or vaccination is low.**

World Health Organization (WHO)

World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations' specialized agency for Health was founded in **1948**.

- Its **headquarters** are situated in **Geneva, Switzerland.**
- There are 194 Member States, 150 country offices, six regional offices.
- It is an inter-governmental organization and works in collaboration with its member states usually through the Ministries of Health.
- The WHO provides leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about 121 understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly."

- It began functioning on **April 7, 1948** – a date now being celebrated every year as **World Health Day**.

47.EU Proposes Ban on PFAS in Consumer Products



The European Commission is moving towards ban on PFAS, commonly known as "[forever chemicals](#)," in consumer products. This decision arises from growing environmental and health concerns linked to these substances. PFAS are notorious for their persistence in the environment and human body, prompting urgent regulatory action.

Buy vitamins and supplements

What Are PFAS?

- PFAS stands for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 122

- They are synthetic chemicals widely used in various industries due to their resistance to heat, water, and oil.
- Common applications include non-stick cookware, waterproof clothing, and industrial products.
- Their stability makes them durable but also problematic, as they do not decompose in the environment.

Health and Environmental Concerns

- PFAS are known to stay in the environment almost forever. They can migrate to water, soil and air during their production and usage.
- These chemicals accumulate in ecosystems, drinking water, and human tissues, leading to serious ecological and health risks.
- Research has connected PFAS exposure to several health issues, including liver damage, lower birth weights, and certain cancers.

Exemptions in EU Regulations

- While the ban targets consumer products, specific industrial applications may be exempt.
- Potential exceptions include asthma inhalers and components in green technologies, such as electric vehicles. These exemptions will be carefully evaluated, especially concerning their disposal methods to mitigate environmental impact.

Buy vitamins and supplements

Industry Reactions and Concerns

The proposed ban has prompted feedback from various industries. Trade associations representing sectors like automotive, clean energy, and plastics have expressed concerns over potential exemptions. The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is currently assessing the scope of the ban, which has attracted thousands of comments from stakeholders.

Legal Implications and Litigation Risks

The rising awareness of PFAS-related health risks has led to increased litigation against companies involved in their production and use. In the U.S., settlements exceeding \$11

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 123

billion have been reached due to water contamination cases. European companies may face similar legal challenges as awareness of PFAS pollution grows.

International Support for the Ban

Several EU member states, including Denmark, Germany, Norway, and Sweden, have previously supported a broad ban on PFAS. This collective stance reflects a growing consensus on the need for stringent regulations to protect public health and the environment from these harmful substances.

Future Developments

The EU's proposal is still in the early stages, with final decisions expected next year at the earliest. The ongoing discussions will focus on determining which uses of PFAS are essential and how to effectively phase out non-essential applications. The outcomes will impact industries reliant on these chemicals.

48.Africa Energy Summit



Recently, the Africa Energy Summit took place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Twelve African nations presented their National Energy Compacts. These strategies aim to tackle energy access deficits and promote clean energy solutions. The summit was part of “Mission 300,” a World Bank and African Development Bank initiative. The goal is to provide electricity to 300 million people in sub-Saharan Africa by 2030.

Energy Access Deficits in Africa

- Over 600 million Africans lack reliable electricity.
- This represents more than half of the continent’s population. Sub-Saharan Africa is home to 80% of the world’s population without electricity.
- Countries like Nigeria have the largest number of people without access.
- The challenges include outdated infrastructure and insufficient financing.

Focus on Clean Cooking Solutions

- The National Energy Compacts also address clean cooking solutions.
- Currently, 800 million Africans rely on traditional biomass for cooking.
- This reliance poses health risks and contributes to deforestation.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 125

- Household air pollution from cooking smoke leads to over 700,000 premature deaths annually.
- Nigeria aims for a 25% annual increase in clean cooking solutions to achieve universal access by 2030.

Commitments from Participating Nations

- The twelve nations outlined ambitious plans.
- For instance, Tanzania aims for 75% electricity connectivity by 2030 and 80% access to clean cooking by 2034.
- Each country's strategy includes specific policy measures.
- These measures focus on increasing renewable energy adoption and upgrading infrastructure.

Alignment with Global Goals

- The commitments made at the summit align with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7).
- This goal seeks to ensure affordable and reliable energy access for all by 2030.
- Energy access is crucial for achieving other development goals like poverty reduction and gender equality.
- The National Energy Compacts serve as roadmaps for these objectives.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

49.Christine Carla Kangaloo Receives Pravasi

Bharatiya Samman Award



The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award has been awarded to Christine Carla Kangaloo, the President of Trinidad and Tobago. This recognition marks her contributions to public affairs and her role in enhancing India's global reputation. The award was presented by the High Commissioner of India during a Republic Day reception. Kangaloo's achievements were celebrated at the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, where she served as the chief guest.

Historical Context of Indo-Trinidadian Relations

- The relationship between India and Trinidad and Tobago dates back to 1845.
- Indian indentured workers arrived in Trinidad, marking the beginning of cultural exchange.
- India was one of the first nations to establish diplomatic relations with Trinidad and Tobago after its independence in 1962.
- This long-standing connection has led to a strong Indo-Trinidadian community.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 127

Contributions of the Indian Diaspora

Indian diaspora has significant impact on Trinidad and Tobago. Descendants of Indian indentured workers now make up approximately 42 per cent of the nation's population. They have enriched the cultural, social, and economic landscape of Trinidad and Tobago through their traditions and heritage.

Significance of the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award

- The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award is the highest honour for overseas Indians.
- It acknowledges exceptional contributions across various fields.
- This award strengthens ties between India and its global diaspora, celebrating their achievements and encouraging collaboration.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

50.Wing Commander Akshay Saxena Receives Vayu Sena Medal

Vayu Sena Medal



Wing Commander Akshay Saxena has been awarded the Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry) for his exceptional contributions during anti-piracy operations in the Arabian Sea. This recognition marks the increasing threats posed by piracy in international waters, particularly from Houthi rebels targeting merchant vessels. The operation, conducted on 16 March last year, was part of the Indian Navy's Operation Sankalp, aimed at ensuring maritime security in the region.

Key Facts About Vayu Sena Medal

- The Vayu Sena Medal (VM) was instituted on January 26, 1960 to honor exceptional devotion to duty or acts of courage by Indian Air Force personnel.
- In 1994, it was split into two categories:
 - **VM (Gallantry):** For acts of courage.
 - **VM (Devotion to Duty):** For outstanding service and commitment.

Operation Sankalp Overview

- Operation Sankalp was initiated by the Indian Navy in response to escalating maritime threats.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 129

- It focuses on safeguarding Indian-flagged vessels in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman.
- Following attacks on merchant ships in June 2019, this operation has become crucial for maintaining safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz.
- Currently, 23 warships are deployed, providing an average of 16 safe passages daily.

Wing Commander Saxena's Mission Details

- Wing Commander Saxena led a critical mission involving the airdrop of Combat Rubberised Raiding Craft (CRRC) and marine commandos.
- The operation targeted a pirate-controlled ship that had attacked merchant vessels and opened fire on INS Kolkata.
- The mission required precise execution under time constraints and the need for secrecy.
- Saxena ensured aircraft readiness and coordinated effectively with the Navy.

Significance of the Operation

The operation puts stress on the importance of inter-service coordination in modern military operations. It demonstrates the Indian Armed Forces' capability to respond swiftly to maritime threats. The successful execution of this mission also reflects the strategic importance of the Arabian Sea for trade and security.

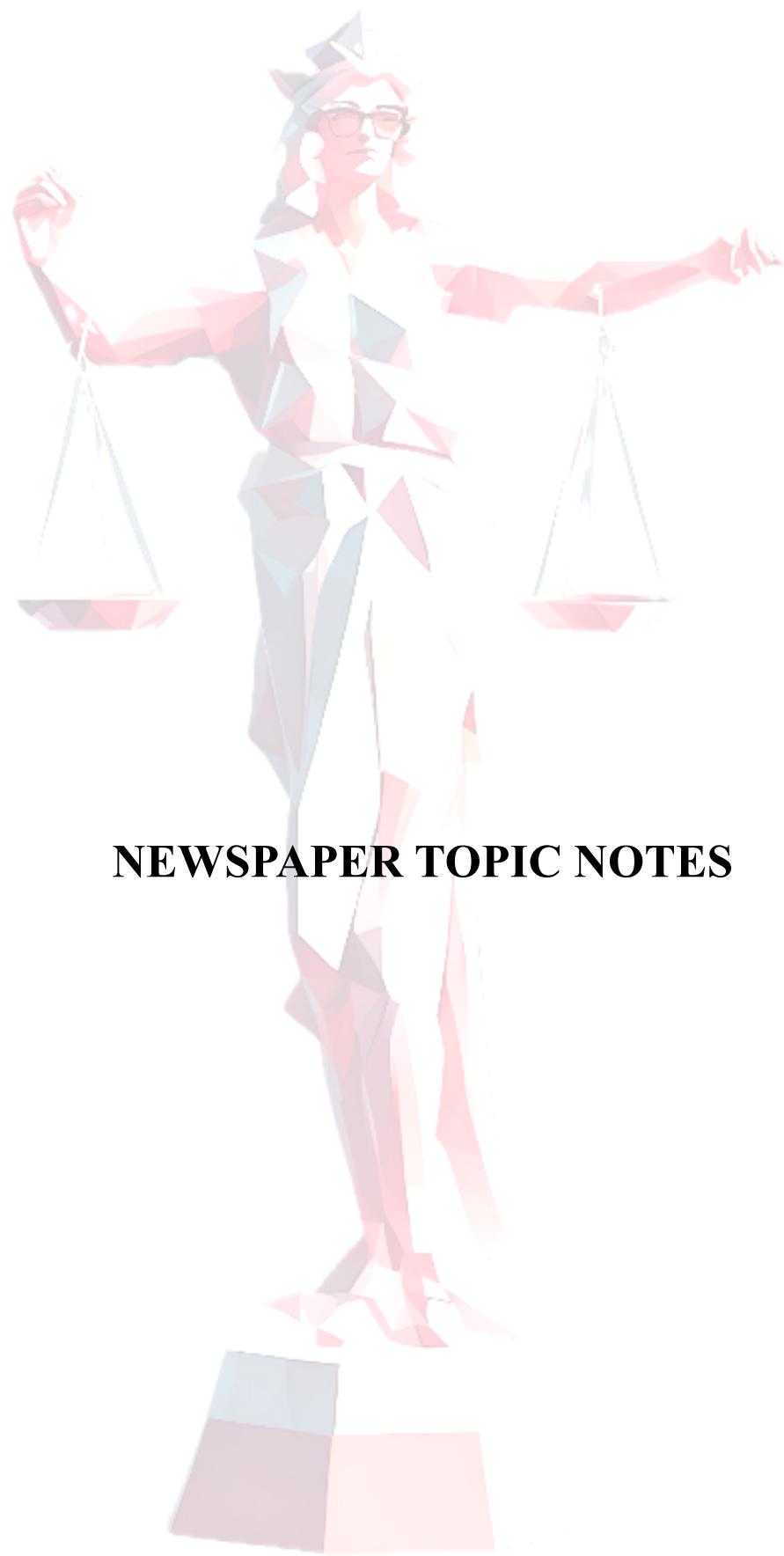
INS Talwar and Maritime Security

INS Talwar, a Talwar-class frigate, plays role in Operation Sankalp. This vessel is equipped for anti-air, anti-ship, and anti-submarine warfare. Its deployment marks India's commitment to securing its maritime interests, particularly given its reliance on oil imports from the Gulf region.

Geopolitical Context of the Persian Gulf

The Persian Gulf is vital for global oil trade, containing two-thirds of the world's proven oil reserves. Its strategic significance is told by the heavy maritime traffic that passes through. The Gulf of Oman serves as a critical shipping route, linking the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf, making its security a shared interest among major oil exporters and importers.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 130



NEWSPAPER TOPIC NOTES

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly.

1. KHEL RATNA AND NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS 2024

Overview

The **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award**, India's **highest sporting honor**, was awarded to four **distinguished athletes** for their contributions to their respective sports. The **National Sports Awards** ceremony, held at **Rashtrapati Bhavan**, was led by **President Droupadi Murmu**, with an increased focus on **para-athletes**, who outnumbered able-bodied awardees this year due to their **historic Paralympics performance**.

Key Highlights

- **Award Recipients:**
 - **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award:**
 - **D. Gukesh** (Chess) - The youngest **World Chess Champion**.
 - **Harmanpreet Singh** (Hockey) - Indian Men's Hockey Captain.
 - **Praveen Kumar** (Para-Athletics) - Paralympics **gold-winning high jumper**.
 - **Manu Bhaker** (Shooting) - **Double Olympic medalist**.
 - **Arjuna Award:** Conferred on **32 athletes**, including **17 para-athletes**.
 - **Lifetime Arjuna Award:** **Murlikant Petkar**, India's first **Paralympic gold medalist**, was honored at the age of **80**, receiving a **standing ovation**.

Financial Incentives

- **Khel Ratna Award:** ₹25 lakh cash prize.
- **Arjuna & Dronacharya Awards:** ₹15 lakh cash prize each.

Static Information

- The **National Sports Awards** are presented annually by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India**.
- The **Khel Ratna Award** was instituted in **1991–92** and is named after **hockey legend Dhyan Chand**.
- The **Arjuna Award** has been given since **1961** to recognize **outstanding sports performances**.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 132

2. THIRD LAUNCH PAD AT SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE

Overview

The Government of India has approved the construction of a Third Launch Pad (TLP) at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota, aimed at boosting India's space launch capacity, supporting Next Generation Launch Vehicles (NGLV) and human spaceflight missions.

Project Details

- **Location:** Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Total Project Cost:** ₹3984.86 Crore.
- **Expected Completion:** Within 48 months (4 years).
- **Purpose:**
 - Supports Next Generation Launch Vehicles (NGLV).
 - Serves as a **backup** for the Second Launch Pad (SLP).
 - Prepares for **increased launch frequency** due to upcoming **deep space missions**.

Current Space Infrastructure

- **First Launch Pad (FLP):** Operational for 30 years, used for PSLV and earlier GSLV missions.
- **Second Launch Pad (SLP):** Active for 20 years, used for GSLV Mk III and Chandrayaan missions.

Future Vision

- India aims to launch its **own space station, Bharatiya Antariksh Station, by 2035.**
- **Indian Crewed Lunar Landing** planned for 2040, utilizing advanced Gaganyaan missions.

Static Information

- **Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC)** is India's primary launch center, under **ISRO**.
- **Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV)** is a three-stage, partially reusable heavy-lift rocket, designed to replace PSLV and GSLV in 2030s.

3. WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM (WEF) 2025 - DAVOS

Overview

The World Economic Forum's (WEF) Annual Meeting 2025 took place in Davos, Switzerland, with leaders and policymakers engaging in discussions under the theme "Collaboration for the Intelligent Age". The forum focused on global economic resilience, artificial intelligence, and environmental sustainability.

Key Discussions

- **Geopolitical Landscape:**
 - US inauguration and the Middle East ceasefire shaped major discussions.
 - Europe faces economic stagnation, while emerging markets show resilience.
- **Technology & AI:**
 - AI investments surged, with a focus on governance and regulation.
 - AI in healthcare, fintech, and automation was emphasized.
- **India's Role:**
 - India's participation was significant, led by four Union Cabinet Ministers.
 - India's focus areas: Digital transformation, fintech, green energy, and infrastructure investments.

Static Information

- **World Economic Forum (WEF)** is a Swiss non-profit organization established in 1971.
- **Davos Meeting** is an annual summit, bringing together global leaders, economists, and business executives.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." **134**

4. INDIA-INDONESIA RELATIONS

Overview

During his visit to India, **Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto** emphasized strengthening ties in defense, trade, and infrastructure development. His visit also marked Indonesia's **formal accession to BRICS**.

Key Discussions

- Strategic Partnership:
 - Signed MoUs in **defense manufacturing, maritime security, and healthcare**.
 - **Indonesia to send a high-level defense delegation to India.**
- Economic Relations:
 - **India to invest in Indonesian infrastructure, particularly healthcare and industrial sectors.**
- Historical Connection:
 - India was **one of the first nations to support Indonesia's independence** from the Dutch.

Static Information

- **1955 Bandung Conference:** Birthplace of **South-South Cooperation**, where India and Indonesia played key roles.
- **BRICS Membership:** Indonesia joined BRICS in **January 2025**, following **India's strong support**.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 135

5. RAMSAR SITES IN TAMIL NADU

Overview

Tamil Nadu added two new **Ramsar sites, Sakkarakottai and Therthangal**, bringing its total to **20**, the highest in India.

Key Facts

- **India's Total Ramsar Sites: 89.**
- **Other New Additions (2024):**
 - **Khecheopalri Wetland (Sikkim).**
 - **Udhwa Lake (Jharkhand).**
- **First Ramsar Site in Tamil Nadu: Point Calimere (2002).**

Static Information

- **Ramsar Convention (1971)** is an international **treaty for wetland conservation**.
- **Administered by: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).**

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly. **136**

6. INDIA-US JOINT SONOBUOY PRODUCTION

Overview

India and the United States have announced a **landmark defense partnership** focused on the **co-production of sonobuoys**—advanced underwater devices used for **detecting submarines**. This initiative is a **first-of-its-kind** under the **India-US Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (ICET)**.

Key Details

- **Partners:**
 - Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL), India.
 - Ultra Maritime, USA.
- **Production Timeline:** Operational production line expected by **2027**.
- **Technology & Usage:**
 - Sonobuoys are crucial for **Undersea Domain Awareness**.
 - These will be deployed on **P-8, MH-60R, and MQ-9B Sea Guardian aircraft**.
 - **Final assembly to be conducted in India**, aligning with '**Make in India**' principles.

Strategic Importance

- Enhances **India's naval defense capabilities** in the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**.
- Strengthens **India-US military ties** within the **Quad framework** (with Australia & Japan).

Static Information

- **Sonobuoys:** Acoustic sensors used to **detect and track submarines** in deep waters.
- **ICET (India-US Initiative on Critical & Emerging Technologies):** Launched in **May 2022** to promote **cooperation in high-tech defense technologies**.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." **137**

7. ISRO ASTRONAUT SHUBHANSU SHUKLA – AXIOM MISSION 4 (AX-4)

Overview

Shubhanshu Shukla, an Indian Air Force (IAF) officer and ISRO astronaut, is set to make history as the **first Indian astronaut to visit the International Space Station (ISS)** under the **Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4)**.

Key Mission Details

- **Mission Name:** Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4).
- **Launch Window:** Spring 2025.
- **Launch Site:** NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Florida.
- **Spacecraft:** SpaceX Crew Dragon.
- **Mission Crew:**
 - **Commander:** Former NASA astronaut **Peggy Whitson**.
 - **Pilot:** **Shubhanshu Shukla (India)**.
 - **Mission Specialists:** **Slawosz Uznanski-Wisniewski (Poland)** and **Tibor Kapu (Hungary)**.

India's Spaceflight Milestone

- Shukla is also selected for India's **Gaganyaan Mission**, making him part of both **Indian and international space programs**.
- Strengthens India's collaboration in **human spaceflight** and aligns with **India-US space agreements** signed during **PM Modi's US visit**.

Static Information

- **Axiom Space:** A US-based **private spaceflight company**, developing a **commercial space station**.
- **International Space Station (ISS):** Jointly operated by **NASA, Roscosmos, ESA, JAXA, and CSA**.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 138

8. MATSYA 6000 – INDIA’S DEEP OCEAN MISSION

Overview

India is preparing to launch its **first deep-sea submersible**, ‘Matsya 6000’, under the **Deep Ocean Mission**, aimed at exploring the ocean depths for **minerals, marine biodiversity, and strategic resources**.

Key Features of ‘Matsya 6000’

- **Initial Dive: 500 meters deep**, increasing to **6,000 meters** in 2026.
- **Designed Crew: Three-member team** in a **specially designed titanium sphere**.
- **Capabilities:**
 - **Six-way movement using propellers.**
 - **Windows for real-time underwater observation.**
 - **Life-support system ensuring oxygen circulation.**

Strategic Importance

- Supports **India’s Blue Economy** initiative for **marine resource exploration**.
- Strengthens **India’s deep-sea mining capabilities** for **rare earth minerals**.

Static Information

- **Deep Ocean Mission (DOM)**: Approved in **2021** with a budget of **₹4,077 crore**.
- **Led by: National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai.**

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 139

9. MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE (MSP) 2024

Overview

The Indian government announced a **hike in the Minimum Support Price (MSP)** for **wheat** and **five other Rabi crops** for the **2024-25 season**, based on recommendations of the **Swaminathan Commission**.

Key MSP Changes

- **Wheat MSP increased by ₹150 per quintal**, the highest since 2007-08.
- The **MSP ensures guaranteed prices for farmers**, reducing market volatility.

MSP Calculation Methods

- **A2**: Covers **paid-out costs** (seeds, fertilizers, labor).
- **A2+FL**: Includes **imputed value of unpaid family labor**.
- **C2**: Includes **land rent, capital costs, and family labor**.

Swaminathan Commission's Recommendation

- Suggested **MSP = C2 + 50% profit margin** for better farmer protection.

Static Information

- **MSP is set by:** Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP).
- **Final approval by:** Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 140

10. INDIA'S DIGITAL ECONOMY GROWTH

Overview

India's **digital economy** is projected to account for **20% of GDP by 2030**, growing twice as fast as the rest of the economy, as per a report by **ICRIER** and the **Ministry of Electronics & IT**.

Key Statistics

- **Digital economy share in 2022–23: 11.74% of GDP.**
- **Projected in 2024–25: 13.42% of GDP.**
- **By 2030: Estimated to reach 20% of GDP.**

Sectors Driving Digital Growth

- **IT & ICT Sector:** Fastest-growing digital sector.
- **Digital Banking & Fintech:** UPI, Aadhaar-based transactions.
- **E-commerce & Online Services:** Expansion of ONDC & AI-driven platforms.

Static Information

- **ICRIER:** Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, leading economic policy think tank.
- **OECD & ADB:** Used to define digital economy measurement methods.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." **141**

11. HIGH SEAS TREATY (BBNJ AGREEMENT)

Overview

India has formally endorsed the High Seas Treaty, also known as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement, aimed at protecting marine biodiversity in international waters.

Key Features of the Treaty

- Applies to ocean areas beyond 200 nautical miles (EEZs).
- Aims to prevent overfishing, deep-sea mining, and ocean acidification.
- Establishes marine protected areas (MPAs).

Significance for India

- Enhances marine environmental protection efforts.
- Strengthens India's maritime diplomacy within UNCLOS framework.

Static Information

- UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea): Governs maritime laws.
- Adopted in 1982, enforced since 1994.

"This compendium isn't just a collection of facts—it's a roadmap for your CLAT journey. GK isn't about cramming; it's about understanding patterns and making connections. The CC Master Compendium guides you to think critically and predict what matters. If you're holding this, you're preparing smartly." 142

CLAT COMMUNITY

*EVERY SETBACK IS JUST A SETUP FOR A
GREATER COMEBACK. KEEP PUSHING
FORWARD – YOUR BREAKTHROUGH IS
CLOSER THAN YOU THINK.*

