



IB ACIO/SA Exam

Current

Affairs

COMPILATION OF
THE HINDU AND PIB

January



HEMANT SIR

Founder HeMantra

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1. Deported Foreigners



In News:

Between April 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024, a total of **2,331 foreigners were deported** from India by the **Foreigners Regional Registration Officers (FRROs)**.

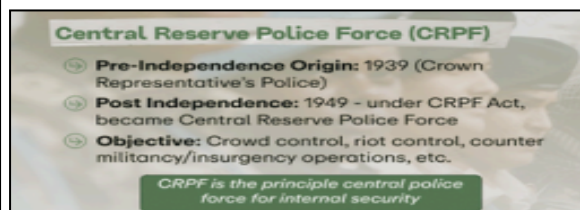
Top Countries of Origin for Deportees:

- **Nigeria:** 1,470 deportations
- **Bangladesh:** 411 deportations
- **Uganda:** 78 deportations

Foreign Visitors to India (2023-24):

- Total Visitors: 98 lakh foreigners visited India during this period.
- Top Countries of Origin for Visitors:
 - **Bangladesh: 21,08,734 visitors**
 - United States: 17,37,549 visitors
 - United Kingdom: 9,86,954 visitors

2. DG CRPF



- **New Appointment:** Gyanendra Pratap Singh appointed as **Director General (D-G)** of the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**, replacing Vitul Kumar.
- **Approval:** Appointment cleared by the **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet**.

3. Scorpion Class (Project 75)



In News:

- **Indian Navy** is set to commission **three major platforms**:
 - **Vagsheer** – Sixth and last Scorpene-class submarine.
 - **Surat** – Fourth and last Project-15B stealth destroyer.
 - **Nilgiri** – Lead ship of the Project-17A stealth frigates.

This commissioning marks a **historic milestone** in India's naval capability. It showcases **rapid progress** in indigenous warship design and construction. Reinforces **India's position as a global leader in defense manufacturing**.

Project 75 (P-75)

- One of two submarine construction lines under India's 1999 plan for **indigenous submarine building**; the other line is **P-75I**.
- Involves **technology transfer** from French company **Naval Group** (formerly DCNS) to **Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL)**.
- Aimed at building advanced submarines in India with overseas expertise.

Submarines under P-75:

- **Commissioned**: INS Kalvari, INS Khanderi, INS Karanj, INS Vela, INS Vagir.
- **Vagsheer**: Sixth and last submarine of the P-75 series.
 - Named after **sand fish**, a deep-sea predator of the Indian Ocean.

Features of Vagsheer:

- **Type**: Diesel-electric attack submarine.
- **Role**: Sea denial and access denial warfare against adversaries.

- Equipped with a C303 **anti-torpedo countermeasure system**.
- **Armament:**
Up to **18 torpedoes** or **Exocet anti-ship missiles**.
 - Option to carry **30 mines** in place of torpedoes.
- **Stealth capabilities:**
 - Advanced acoustic absorption techniques.
 - Low radiated noise levels.
Hydro-dynamically optimized shape.
 - Can launch **precision-guided weapons** for crippling attacks **underwater or on surface**.

4. Nitrate Contamination



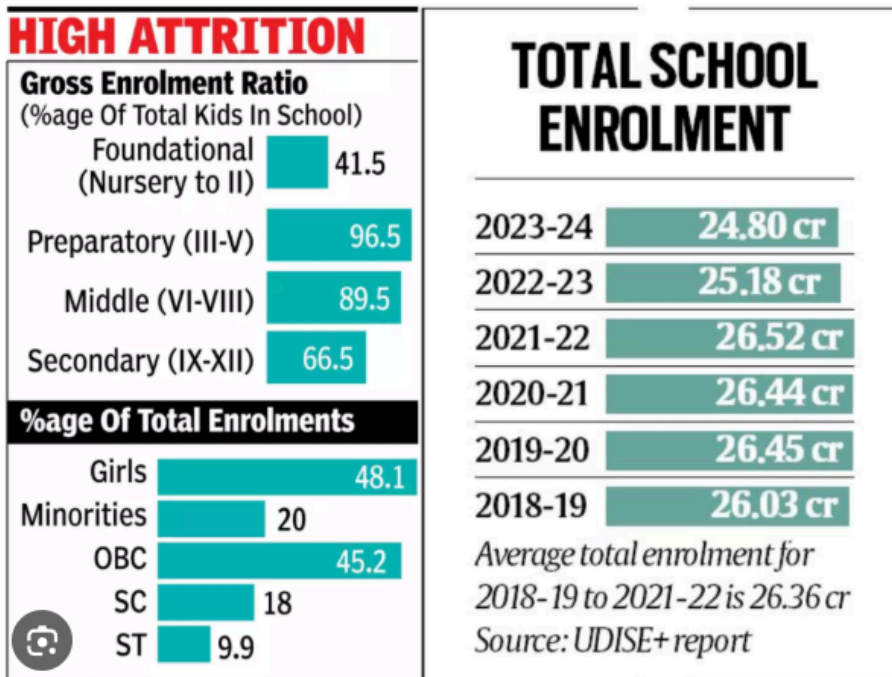
In News:

Excessive Nitrate in Groundwater (India, 2023):

- **440 districts** report excessive nitrate levels in groundwater (↑ from **359 districts** in 2017).
- **Health Hazard:** Particularly dangerous for **young children**; contributes to **environmental toxicity**.
- **Extent:** **56% of India's districts** have nitrate levels exceeding **45 mg/liter** (safe limit).
- **Regions:** **Rajasthan, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu** reported the highest levels of nitrate contamination, with 49%, 48%, and 37%, respectively, of their samples exceeding safe limits.

- **Influence of Monsoon on Nitrate(NO₃-) Levels:** Monsoon rain **increases nitrate levels** in groundwater, with 30.77% of samples being contaminated before the monsoon and 32.66% after the rainy season.
- **Concern:** High nitrate levels in drinking water are associated with **methemoglobinemia** or "**blue baby syndrome**," a condition that affects the ability of blood to carry oxygen.

5. UDISE+ Report



In News:

- **Total Student Enrollment (2023-24):** 24.8 crore.
- **Change from 2018-19:** Decrease of 1.22 crore students (**6% decline**). (both boys & Girls)
- States like **Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra** saw significant drops in enrollment:
- **Source:** Unified District Information System for Education Plus (**UDISE+**) report by the **Ministry of Education**.
- **System Coverage:** Records data from **60+ fields** for each student.
- **Aadhaar Numbers:** Collected **voluntarily** for identification purposes.

UDISE+ System Enhancements::

- **Unique Educational ID (EID):** Created for every student to track and verify student and teacher credentials.
- **Purpose:**
Prevent duplicate or **ghost entries**.
Ensure accurate identification for **government benefit transfers**.

6. Sangita Kalanidhi Award



In News:

- **Award:** **T.M. Krishna** conferred the title 'Sangita Kalanidhi 2024'.
- **Event:** 98th Conference and Concerts — *Sadas* of **The Music Academy**, Chennai.
- **Recognition:** Honored for attracting younger audiences to **Carnatic music**.

7. Khel Ratna Awards:



In News:

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2024 – Recipients:

- **Manu Bhaker** – Double Olympic medallist shooter.
- **D. Gukesh** – World Chess Champion.
- **Harmanpreet Singh** – Captain, Indian Men's Hockey Team.
- **Praveen Kumar** – Paralympic Gold Medallist.

Usually Khel Ratna conferred upon **only one sportsperson in a year**, a few exceptions have been made (1993–1994, 2002, 2009, 2012, 2016–2021 and 2024) when multiple recipients were awarded in a year.

Other Awards:

- **Arjuna Award 2024:** 32 athletes selected, including **16 Paralympians**.
- **Dronacharya Award (Coaching Excellence):** Recipients – **Deepali Deshpande, Sandeep Sangwan, Subhash Rana**.
- **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy:**
Winner: **Chandigarh University (Best University)**.
Runners-up: **Lovely Professional University and Guru Nanak Dev University**.

8. New Counties



In News:

- **China's Move:** Declared formation of **two new counties** – **He'an County and Hekang County** – in Hotan prefecture, Xinjiang, which includes parts of Aksai Chin.
- **India's Stand:** Considers **Aksai Chin** as its territory, **illegally occupied by China**.
- **Diplomatic Response:** India lodged a **"solemn protest"** with China through diplomatic channels.
- **Reaffirmation:** India reiterated its **sovereignty over the area**.

1. Aksai Chin Dispute (Ladakh)

- **Location:** Northern part of Ladakh, northwestern India.
- **India's Claim:** Part of Jammu & Kashmir (now split into Union Territories of **Jammu & Kashmir** and **Ladakh**).
- **Chinese Control:** Under China's control since the **1962 Sino-Indian War**; China considers it part of its Xinjiang region.
- **Strategic Importance:** Provides China a land link between **Tibet** and **Xinjiang**.
- **Dispute Origin:**
 - Boundaries between British India and China were not clearly demarcated in the early 20th century.
 - **McMahon Line**, recognized by India, does not extend into Aksai Chin, leading to conflicting claims.

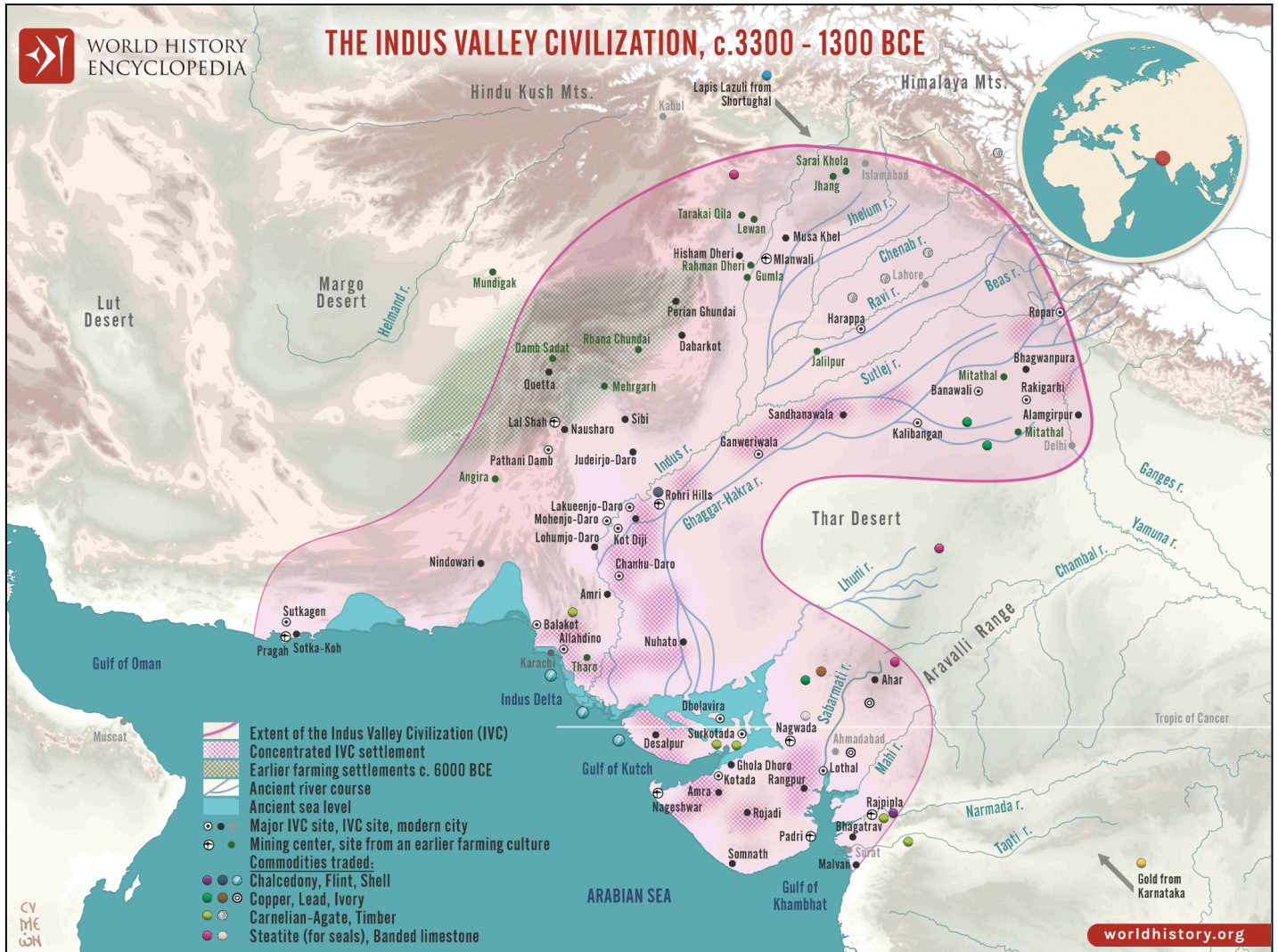
9. Appointment DGCA Chief



In News:

- **Faiz Ahmed Kidwai** (IAS, 1996 batch, MP cadre) appointed **Director-General of DGCA**, replacing **Vikram Dev Dutt**.
- Tasked with addressing airline–pilot disputes over new 2024 rules: **weekly rest increased from 36 to 48 hours** and **night flying restrictions** to tackle pilot fatigue.

10. Indus Valley Civilization



In News:

- **Announcement:** Tamil Nadu CM **M.K. Stalin** declared a **\$1-million prize** for experts or organizations that can successfully **decipher the Indus Valley Civilization scripts**.
- **Occasion:** Made during an event in **Chennai** marking the **centenary** of the Indus Valley Civilization's discovery by **Sir John Marshall**.

Key Features of the Indus Valley Civilization

- **Urban Planning:** Cities like Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro had a grid layout, advanced **drainage systems**, and **public baths**.
- **Architecture:** Standardized **baked bricks**; uniform **weights and measures** aided construction and trade.
- **Economy:** Agriculture-based (**wheat, barley, cotton**); evidence of long-distance trade with Mesopotamia and other regions.
- **Craftsmanship:** Skilled artisans produced **jewelry, pottery, and steatite seals**.
- **Writing System:** Script remains **undeciphered**; inscriptions mainly found on seals.
- **Religion:** **Polytheistic** beliefs with fertility symbols and possible **proto-Shiva worship**.

Archaeological Sites: Some of the prominent archaeological sites include

- Harappa - Punjab (Pakistan)
- Mohenjo - Daro - Sindh (Pakistan)
- Dholavira - Gujarat, India
- Lothal - Gujarat, India
- Chandraketugarh - West Bengal, India
- Rakhigarhi - Haryana, India
- Kot Diji - Sindh (Pakistan)
- KaliBanga - Rajasthan, India
- Alamgirpur - U.P., India
- Nageshwar - Gujarat, India

11. Cowpea seeds



In News:

- Cowpea seeds sent into orbit by an **ISRO** mission have successfully **germinated and produced their first leaves**.
- The achievement was made through **VSSC's CROPS** (Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies) aboard the **PSLV-C60 POEM-4** mission.
- It originated and domesticated in **southern Africa** and was later translocated to eastern and western Africa and Asia.
- It is also known as **black-eyed pea**, southern pea, etc.
- In the Indian context, it is a minor pulse grown mainly in the **arid and semi-arid regions** of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, and West UP, along with significant areas in Rajasthan, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, and Gujarat.

12. Bharatpol portal



In News:

- **Launch:** Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** launched the **Bharatpol portal**.
- **Purpose:** To provide Indian police and security agencies with **seamless connectivity to Interpol** for tracking international criminals.
- **Developer:** **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**.

13. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas



In News:

- **Event:** 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) being held in **Odisha**.
- **Participation:** Over **3,000 delegates** from **70 countries** attending.
- **Duration:** Three-day event.
- **Theme:** ***"Diaspora's contribution to a Viksit Bharat"***.

Key Personalities and Guests – 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

- **Inauguration:** Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** to inaugurate the event on its **second day**.
- **Chief Guest:** **Christine Carla Kangaloo**, President of Trinidad and Tobago, to address the convention virtually.
- **Guest of Honor (Youth PBD – Jan 8):** **Dr. Dev Pragad**, CEO and co-owner of *Newsweek*.
- **Sessions:** Union Ministers will chair **plenary sessions**; eminent Indians will **moderate** the discussions.

14. GEAPP - Battery



In News:

- **Launch:** India's first commercial utility-scale Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to go live in Delhi by March 2025.
- **Location:** BSES Rajdhani Power sub-station, Kilokri village, South Delhi.
- **Funding:** Primarily supported by the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP).

Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP)

- About: GEAPP is an alliance of philanthropy, governments, technology, policy, and financing partners.

15. MoFarah



In News:

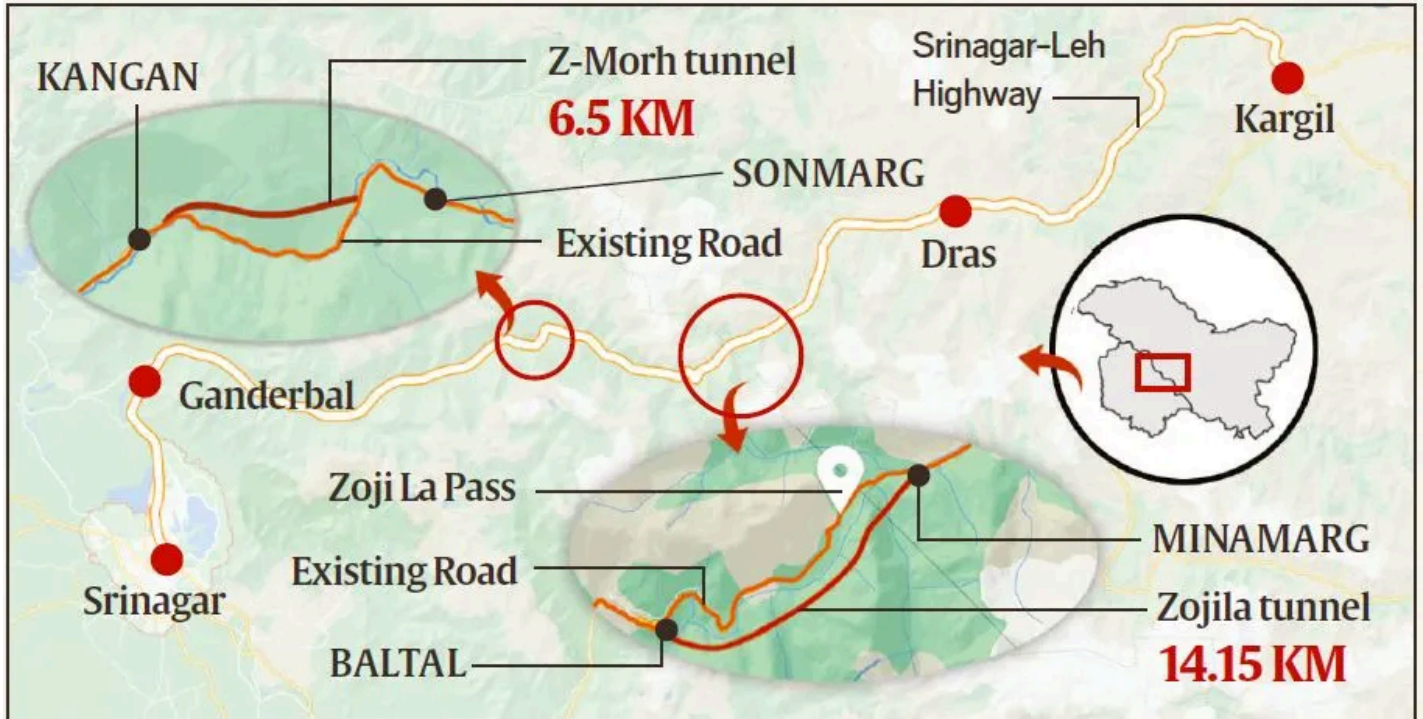
- **Appointment:** Mo Farah named **International Event Ambassador** for the 20th Tata Mumbai Marathon.

About Mo Farah: Somalia-born British athlete; winner of 10 global championship gold medals, including four Olympic golds (5,000m & 10,000m).

Event: Marathon to be flagged off at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus.

16. Z-Morh tunnel

In News – Z-Morh Tunnel



- **Inauguration:** Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** to inaugurate the **Z-Morh Tunnel** on **January 13**.
- **Purpose:** Part of a **year-round strategic corridor** connecting **Kashmir and Ladakh**.

Location & Strategic Importance:

- Situated in **Ganderbal district**, Jammu & Kashmir.
- Ensures **all-weather access** to the tourist destination **Sonamarg**.
- Prevents disruptions from **snowfall** and **avalanches** during winter.

17. 106th Amendment

In News:

- **Case:** Supreme Court dismissed petitions (filed in 2023) challenging provisions of the **Women's Reservation Law**.
- **Law's Provision:** Mandates **33% reservation** for women in the **Lok Sabha**, **State Legislatures**, and **Delhi Legislative Assembly**.

- **Reason for Dismissal:** Petitions deemed **infructuous** as the **Women's Reservation Bill** was already enacted under the **Constitution (106th Amendment) Act** in **September 2023**.

18. NBWL



In News:

- **Approval:** The **Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** cleared **Vedanta Group's Cairn Oil and Gas** proposal for oil and gas exploration.
- **Location:** Near **Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary**, Jorhat district, **Assam**.
- **Recommendation:** Clearance supported by Assam's **Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)** and **Chief Wildlife Warden**, citing "**national interest**."

Basics:

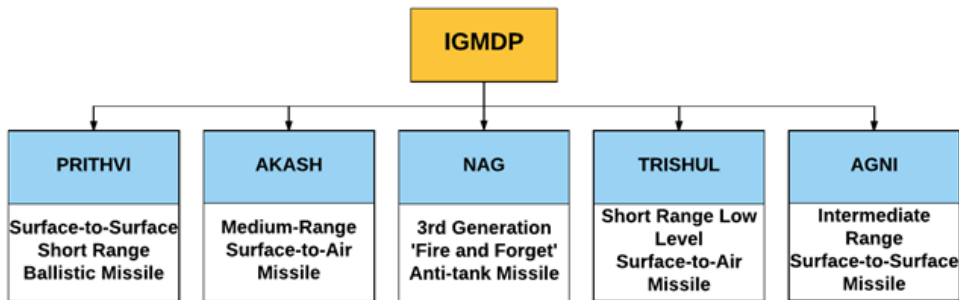
The National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) is a **statutory body** in India that advises the government on wildlife conservation and protection efforts under the **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**.

Composition:

- **Prime Minister:** Chairperson.
- **Union Environment Minister:** Vice-Chairperson.
- **Ex-Officio Members:** Includes senior officials from government ministries, states, and union territories.

- **Non-Official Members:** Includes wildlife experts, ecologists, environmentalists, and representatives from NGOs.

19. Integrated Guided Missile Development Program



In News:

- **Developer:** Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- **Weapon:** **Nag Mk-2** – indigenously developed, third-generation, **fire-and-forget** anti-tank guided missile.
- **Trials:** Recently conducted at **Pokhran Field Range**.
- **Result:** Successfully destroyed all targets with precision at both **maximum** and **minimum** ranges.
- **Status:** Ready for **induction into the Indian Army**.

The 5 missiles (P-A-T-N-A) developed under this program are:

- **Prithvi:** Short range **surface to surface** ballistic missile.
- **Agni:** Ballistic missiles with different ranges, i.e. Agni (1,2,3,4,5)
- **Trishul:** Short range low level **surface to air** missile.
- **Nag:** 3rd generation **anti-tank** missile.
- **Akash:** Medium range **surface to air** missile.

20. SpaDex (PIB & TH)



In News:

- **ISRO Achievement:** Successfully conducted a satellite docking experiment on Thursday.
- **Global Ranking:** India became the **fourth country** to achieve this milestone, after the U.S., Russia, and China.
- **Satellites Involved:** SDX01 (*Chaser*) and SDX02 (*Target*).
- **Launch Details:** Both satellites were launched by **PSLV C60** on **December 30**.
- **Post-Docking Control:** ISRO operated the two docked satellites as a **single object**.

Key Information:

- **Future Readiness:** The docking experiment showcases ISRO's preparation for upcoming projects, especially the **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)** planned for later this decade.
- **Technological Significance:** Docking technology supports **cost-effective** and **modular** space exploration, aligning with global trends.
- **Leadership:** Under new chairman **V. Narayanan**, ISRO is focusing on a coherent vision, particularly for BAS.
- **Need for Clarity:** BAS's specific role and utility should be clearly defined to match **global space exploration goals**.

21. Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan app



In News:

- **App Launch:** *Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan* app introduced to let **civilians visit battlefield** locations along India's borders.
- **Launch Date & Occasion:** Released on **January 15** by Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** during **Army Day** celebrations.
- **Historic Sites Covered:** Battlefields from the **1962, 1971, and 1999 (Kargil)** wars.
- **Special Access:** Includes **Siachen Base Camp** and the **Galwan clash site (2020)** for tourists.

22. Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 (PIB)



In News:

- **Event:** *Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025* held in **New Delhi, India**.
- **PM's Message:** Narendra Modi stressed “**Make in India, Make for the World**” for the automobile industry.
- **Vision:** Highlighted **Asia** and **India** as the **future of mobility**.

Key Government Initiatives:

- **Infrastructure Spending:** ₹11 lakh crore allocated in the previous budget.
- **Connectivity:** PM Gati Shakti program for multi-modal connectivity.
- **Logistics:** **National Logistics Policy** aimed at reducing global logistics costs.
- **Clean Mobility:** Initiatives for **electric mobility**, **hydrogen fuel**, and **biofuels** under the **National Electric Mobility Mission** and **Green Hydrogen Mission**.
- **Battery Storage Incentives:** ₹18,000 crore in **production-linked incentives (PLI)** for **advanced chemistry cell battery storage**.

23. Locations in Indian Ocean Regions

Figure 5. Choke Points in the Indian Ocean



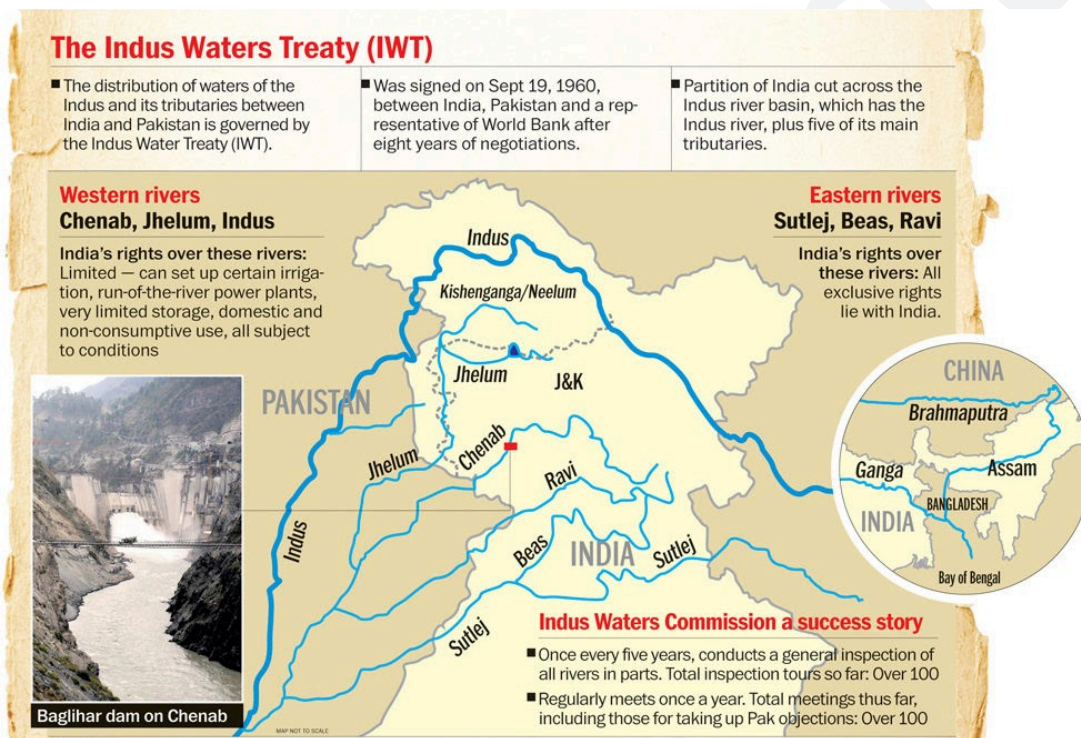
In News:

- **Threat Areas:** Rising security threats in the **Gulf of Aden, Red Sea**, and waters near **East African nations**.
- **Economic Link:** India's prosperity depends on **maritime security**, including protecting territorial waters, ensuring **freedom of navigation**, and keeping **maritime highways safe**.
- **Recognition: 2024** marked as the '**Year of Naval Civilians**' to honor their vital support for Navy operations.

Key Connectors:

- **Suez Canal** = Mediterranean Sea + Red Sea
- **Bab al Mandab Strait** = Red sea + Gulf of Aden
- **Strait of Hormuz** = Persian Gulf + Gulf of Oman
- **Strait of Malacca** = Andaman sea + South China Sea
- **Sunda Strait** = Jawav + Sumatra
- **Lombok Strait** = Indian Ocean + Bali sea
- **Mozambique Channel** = Indian Ocean + Southern Atlantic Ocean.

24. Indus Water Treaty



In News:

- **Michel Lino**, appointed as the **Neutral Expert**
- (NE) under the Indus Water Treaty (IWT), decided that he is competent to address the differences between **India and Pakistan** regarding the design of hydroelectric projects on Indus Treaty rivers.

25. National Investigation Agency



In News:

The NIA raided multiple locations linked to the banned Babbar Khalsa International in connection with the Chandigarh grenade attack case.

National Investigation Agency (NIA):

- **Establishment:** Formed under the **NIA Act, 2008** after the **26/11 Mumbai attacks**.
- **Type:** Central counter-terrorism law enforcement agency.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi.
- **Zonal Offices:** Guwahati and Jammu.
- **Mandate:** Investigates offences affecting:
 - **Sovereignty, security, and integrity** of India.
 - **Friendly relations** with foreign states.
 - Other offences specified in the **Schedule to the NIA Act, 2008**.

26. Anuja at OSCARs 2025



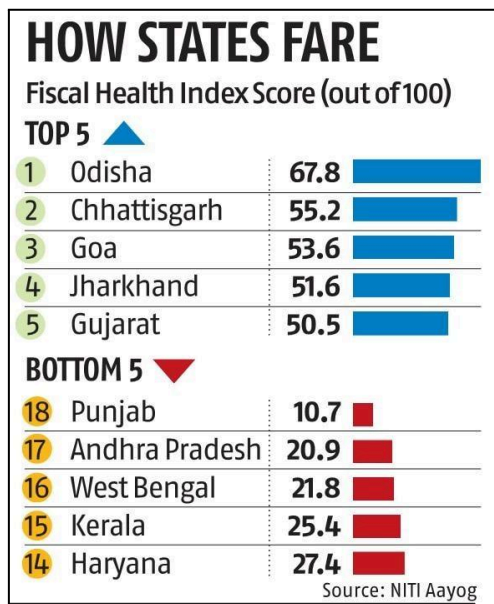
In News:

The short film *Anuja*, set in **New Delhi**, has been nominated in the **Live Action Short Film** category at the **97th Academy Awards**.

Anuja's Oscar Nomination:

- **Nomination:** *Anuja*, a short film set in **New Delhi**, nominated in the **Live Action Short Film** category at the **97th Academy Awards**.
- **Directors:** **Adam J. Graves** and **Suchitra Mattai**.
- **Competition:** Competing against films such as *A Lien* and *The Last Ranger*.
- **Storyline:** Follows **Anuja**, a gifted nine-year-old girl, who must choose between pursuing **education** or working in a **factory** with her sister — a decision shaping their futures.

27. NITI Fiscal Health Index



In News:

NITI Aayog – Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025:

- **Top Performers:** Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Goa, and Jharkhand.
- **Worst Performers:** Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and Kerala were Classified as “aspirational” states due to significant fiscal challenges.

Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025 – Overview:

- **Scope:** Ranked **18 major States** in India based on:
 - **GDP contribution**
 - **Public expenditure**
 - **Revenues**
 - **Fiscal stability**

- **Coverage Period:** Fiscal year **2022–23**.

Fiscal Health and Performance:

- **Top Achievers:** Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, and others — noted for:
 - High capital outlays (up to **4% of GSDP**)
 - Strong non-tax revenue mobilisation
 - Low interest payments (up to **7% of revenue receipts**)
- **Front-Runners:** Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, and Karnataka — recognised for:
 - High developmental expenditure
 - Steady tax revenue growth
 - Improved debt sustainability (**debt-to-GSDP ratio of 24%**)
- **Performers:** Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Rajasthan, and Haryana.

Data Source: Information compiled from the **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)**.

28. Parlay



In News:

The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** will feature **Pralay**, an indigenous short-range

quasi-ballistic missile, in the **Republic Day parade** in New Delhi. Designed for use by the **Army** and **Air Force**, Pralay is **India's first ballistic missile intended for conventional strikes**.

Key Features of Pralay:

- Range: **400 kilometers**.
- Adds to the existing missile systems like BrahMos and Parahar, providing India with options for **stand-off missile strikes** across the border.
- Designed for deployment along the **Line of Control (LoC)** and the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)**.

Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) Approval:

- In 2023, the **DAC approved** the procurement of Pralay missiles (range: 400 km) and Nirbhay long-range subsonic cruise missiles (range: 1,000 km).
- A few hundred missiles were approved for procurement, enhancing India's long-range conventional strike capability.

29. 26th January (Republic Day)



In News:

Celebration Highlights:

- **Focus:** 75 years of the Constitution's enactment and **Jan Bhagidari** (people's participation).
- **Theme:** "**Swarnim Bharat: Virasat aur Vikas**" (Golden India: Heritage and Development).
- **Led by:** President Droupadi Murmu.
- **Chief Guest:** Indonesian President **Prabowo Subianto**.

Cultural and Historical Highlights:

- Tableaux marking:
 - **150 years** of tribal activist **Birsa Munda**.
 - **75 years** of the Constitution, highlighting **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**.
- **Performance:** 300 cultural artists presented “*Sare Jahan Se Achha*” using traditional instruments such as **shehnai, nadaswaram, been, and ransingha**.

Military Display:

- Parade led by **Lieutenant-General Bhavnish Kumar**, General Officer Commanding, Delhi Area.
- Participation from regiments including:
 - **Brigade of the Guards**
 - **Jat Regiment**
 - **Garhwal Rifles**
 - **Mahar Regiment**
 - **Jammu and Kashmir Rifles Regiment**
 - **Corps of Signals**
- **Tri-services tableau:** First-ever display of jointness and integration, themed “***Shashakt aur Surakshit Bharat***”.

Best Marching Contingents:

- **Army: J&K Rifles Regiment** — Best marching contingent among the three services.
- **Central Armed Police & Auxiliary Forces: Delhi Police** — Best marching contingent.

Best Tableaux (States/UTs):

- **1st Place: Uttar Pradesh** — *Maha Kumbh* tableau, theme “***Swarnim Bharat: Virasat aur Vikas***”.
- **2nd Place: Tripura** — Theme “***Eternal Reverence: the Worship of 14 Deities in Tripura – Kharchi Puja***”.
- **3rd Place: Andhra Pradesh** — Theme “***Etikoppaka Bommalu – Eco-friendly Wooden Toys***”.

Best Tableau (Central Ministries/Departments):

- **Winner: Ministry of Tribal Affairs** — Theme “***Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh***”.

30. Uniform Civil Code (UCC)



In News:

Uttarakhand – Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Implementation:

- **First in India:** Uttarakhand became the **first state** to implement the UCC after Independence.
- **Applicability:** Applies to all residents **except**:
 - **Scheduled Tribes**
 - Natives who have **migrated out of the state**
- **Banned Practices:** Prohibits **halala**, **iddat**, and **talaq** from Muslim Personal Law.
- **Women's Rights:** Grants **equal property and inheritance rights** to women.
- **Registration Requirement:** Mandates **online registration** of marriages, divorces, and live-in relationships via the government portal **ucc.uk.gov.in**.

Deadlines for Registrations (Uttarakhand UCC):

- **Marriages since March 26, 2010:** Must be registered within **6 months**.
- **Marriages post-UCC implementation:** Must be registered within **60 days**.
- **Live-in relationships (past or present):** Must be registered within **1 month** of UCC implementation.
- **Emergency Registrations:** *Tatkal* facility available with a **nominal fee**.

Live-in Relationship Provisions:

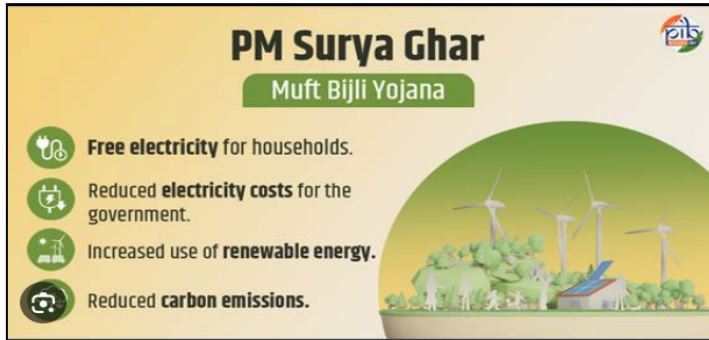
- Either partner can end the relationship **online or offline**.
- If only one partner applies, **confirmation** from the other is required.
- **Pregnancy Clause:** Government must be notified within **30 days** of childbirth if pregnancy occurs during the live-in relationship.
- **Housing Rights:** Landlords cannot deny housing to **registered live-in couples**.

Uniform Civil Code (UCC) – Overview:

- **Definition:** A single set of laws governing personal matters — marriage, divorce, adoption, inheritance, and succession — for **all citizens**.

- **Constitutional Reference:** Mentioned in **Article 44** of the Indian Constitution as a **Directive Principle of State Policy**.
- **Nature:** **Not legally enforceable**; serves as a **guiding principle** for the state.

31. PM Surya Ghar – Muft Bijli Yojana:



In News:

- The union cabinet approved the Rs 75,000 crore PM Surya Ghar—Muft Bijli Yojana to benefit 1 crore families in February 2024.
- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- Implementing Agency : National level (NPIA) and State level (SIAs)

Two Models for Solar Installation:

- **RESCO (Renewable Energy Service Company) Model:**
 - Third-party investors install rooftop solar systems.
 - Consumers pay only for the electricity used, with no upfront cost.
 - Surplus power can be sold to DISCOMs.
- **Utility Led Aggregation (ULA) Model:**
 - DISCOMs or state-designated agencies set up rooftop solar systems for residential homes.

Subsidy Details:

- **Up to 2 kW:** 60% of the unit cost covered.
- **2–3 kW:** 40% of the unit cost covered.
- **Capacity Cap:** Subsidy available for a maximum of 3 kW.
- **Subsidy Amounts:**
 - ₹30,000 for 1 kW systems
 - ₹60,000 for 2 kW systems
 - ₹78,000 for 3 kW or higher systems

32. World Busiest Airport Report



In News:

World's Busiest Airports (2024):

- **Dubai International Airport:**
 - Recorded 92.3 million passengers.
 - Ranked world's busiest for international travel.
- **Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport (ATL):**
 - Second place with 4.6 million seats.
- **Tokyo International Airport (HND):**
 - Third place with 4.2 million seats.

Delhi Airport (DEL) recorded the **largest capacity growth** in February 2025 compared to February 2024, with seats rising 3.4% to 3.6 million.

It climbed to **eighth place globally** — up one position from January 2025 and up two positions from February 2024.

-End-