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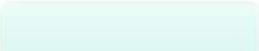


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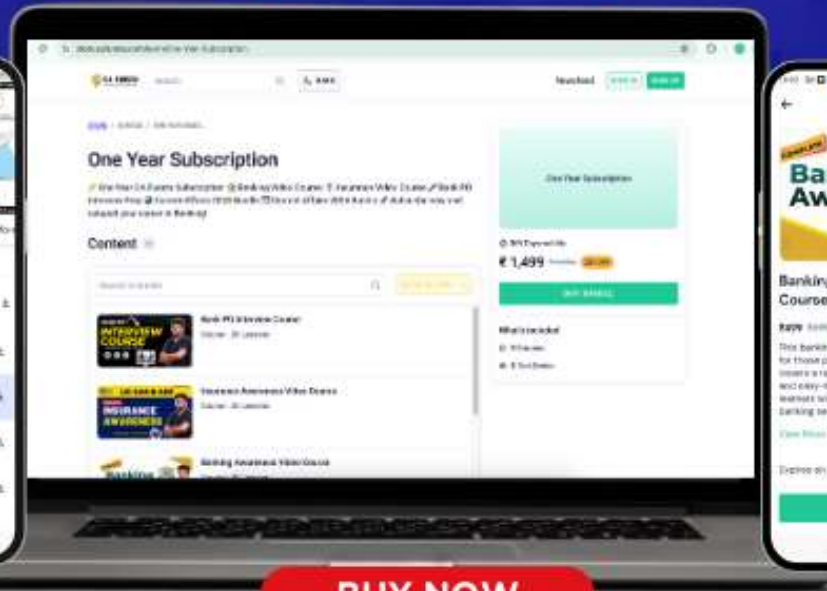
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➤ **Which team won the Men's Hockey India League (HIL) 2024-25 season?**

- A) Hyderabad Toofans
- B) Ranchi Rhinos
- C) Shraichi Rarh Bengal Tigers
- D) Punjab Warriors
- E) Delhi Waveriders

**Answer**

**C) Shraichi Rarh Bengal Tigers**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers won the Men's Hockey India League (HIL) 2024-25 by defeating Hyderabad Toofans 4-3.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium, Rourkela



## Match Summary:

- **Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers** secured a 4-3 victory over Hyderabad Toofans in the final.
- **Jugraj Singh** scored a hat trick (25', 32', 35') for the Tigers.
- **Sam Lane** netted the winning goal in the 54<sup>th</sup> minute.
- **Gonzalo Peillat** (9', 39') and **Amandeep Lakra** (26') scored for Hyderabad Toofans.
- **Jamie Carr** made crucial saves to deny Hyderabad an equalizer.



## Prize Money:

- **Winners (Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers): ₹3 crore**
- **Runners-up (Hyderabad Toofans): ₹2 crore**



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers won the Hockey India League 2024-25
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium, Rourkela
Match Winner	Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers (4-3)
Runner-Up	Hyderabad Toofans
Top Scorer	Jugraj Singh (3 goals)
Winning Goal	Sam Lane (54th minute)
Prize Money	₹3 crore (Winner), ₹2 crore (Runner-up)



➤ **Which country will host the ICC Champions Trophy 2025?**

- A) India
- B) England
- C) Australia
- D) Pakistan
- E) South Africa

**Answer**  
**D) Pakistan**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The ICC Champions Trophy 2025 will be hosted by Pakistan, marking the tournament's return after seven years.





## Tournament History:

- **First held in 1998**, the ICC Champions Trophy was initially called the ICC KnockOut Tournament.
- Designed to **generate funds for cricket development in non-Test-playing nations**.
- From 2009 onwards, the format was revised to include only the top eight ODI teams.
- After 2017, the tournament was discontinued but was reintroduced by ICC in 2021.



# SPORTS



## List of ICC Champions Trophy Winners (1998–2025):

Year	Host Nation	Winner	Runner-Up
1998	Bangladesh	South Africa	West Indies
2000	Kenya	New Zealand	India
2002	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka & India (Joint Winners)	None
2004	England	West Indies	England
2006	India	Australia	West Indies
2009	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand
2013	England & Wales	India	England
2017	England & Wales	Pakistan	India
2025	Pakistan	To Be Decided	To Be Decided



## Teams Qualified for ICC Champions Trophy 2025:

- **Pakistan** (Host Nation)
- **India**
- **Australia**
- **South Africa**
- **New Zealand**
- **Afghanistan**



## Important Terms Explained:

- **ICC Champions Trophy:**
  - A One Day International (ODI) cricket tournament organized by the International Cricket Council (ICC).
  - Features top-ranked ODI teams competing for the title.
- **ICC (International Cricket Council):**
  - Governing body for international cricket.
  - Organizes global tournaments such as the Cricket World Cup, T20 World Cup, and Champions Trophy.
- **Format of ICC Champions Trophy:**
  - Top 8 ODI teams based on ICC rankings qualify.
  - Single group-stage format, followed by semi-finals and a final.



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	ICC Champions Trophy 2025
Date	February 2025 (Tentative)
Host Nation	Pakistan
Tournament Format	Top 8 ODI teams, Knockout Stage, Semi-finals, Final
ICC Champions Trophy First Edition	1998 (Bangladesh)
Last Winner (2017)	Pakistan (defeated India in the final)
Qualified Teams for 2025	Pakistan, India, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, Afghanistan
ICC Headquarters	Dubai, UAE



➤ **What was the reason behind SEBI imposing a ₹25 lakh fine on DB Realty Ltd and associated individuals?**

- A) Tax evasion by the company
- B) Non-compliance with environmental regulations
- C) Financial misstatements and failure to disclose a corporate guarantee
- D) Insider trading and stock price manipulation
- E) Violation of labor laws



**Answer**

**C) Financial misstatements and failure to disclose a corporate guarantee**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** SEBI fined DB Realty Ltd (now Valor Estate Ltd) and seven individuals ₹25 lakh for financial misstatements and non-disclosure.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## **Mandates and Objectives of SEBI's Action:**

- Ensuring transparency and accountability in financial disclosures of listed companies
- Enforcing strict financial reporting norms to protect investors
- Preventing misrepresentation of financial statements to maintain market integrity





## Reasons for SEBI's Penalty:

- **DB Realty** failed to comply with accounting standards in its financial statements.
- The company did not disclose a corporate guarantee given to the Bank of India for a ₹516 crore loan taken by **Pune Buildtech Pvt Ltd (PBPL)**.
- Key events were not disclosed:
  - The loan became a non-performing asset (NPA).
  - Invocation of the guarantee by the bank.
  - Symbolic possession of properties by the bank.



## Individuals Penalized and Their Fines:

- **Vinod Kumar Goenka (Chairperson & Managing Director) – ₹5 lakh**
- **Shahid Balwa Usman (Managing Director) – ₹5 lakh**
- **Asif Yusuf Balwa – ₹2 lakh**
- **Jayvardhan Vinod Goenka – ₹2 lakh**
- **Salim Balwa Usman – ₹2 lakh**
- **Sunita Goenka – ₹2 lakh**
- **Nabil Yusuf Patel – ₹2 lakh**
- **DB Realty Ltd – ₹5 lakh**



## Important Terms Explained:

- **SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India):**
  - Regulatory authority for securities and capital markets in India
  - Ensures transparency, investor protection, and financial integrity in the stock market
- **Non-Performing Asset (NPA):**
  - A loan is classified as NPA when principal or interest payments are overdue for more than 90 days
  - The Bank of India classified PBPL's loan as an NPA, leading to the invocation of the corporate guarantee



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Corporate Guarantee:**
  - A pledge by one company to take responsibility for a loan taken by another company
  - DB Realty provided this guarantee for PBPL's ₹516 crore loan
- **National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA):**
  - A regulatory body overseeing the auditing and accounting standards in India
  - NFRA had fined two auditors of DB Realty ₹8 lakh in December 2024 for professional misconduct related to financial reporting



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	SEBI fined DB Realty (now Valor Estate Ltd) ₹25 lakh for financial misstatements and non-disclosures
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	India
Regulatory Body	Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
Company Involved	DB Realty Ltd (renamed as Valor Estate Ltd)
Penalty Amount	₹25 lakh
Key Individuals Penalized	Vinod Kumar Goenka (CMD), Shahid Balwa Usman (MD), and five others
Violation	Misrepresentation of financial statements and failure to disclose material financial information
Previous Regulatory Action	NFRA fined two auditors ₹8 lakh in 2024 for misconduct in DB Realty's 2015-16 audit
Loan and Guarantee Details	₹516 crore loan taken by PBPL from Bank of India; DB Realty failed to disclose the guarantee, its invocation, and property possession by the bank



➤ **What is the primary objective of the new Income Tax Bill 2025?**

- A) Increase tax rates for high-income individuals
- B) Introduce additional tax slabs for businesses
- C) Simplify, modernize, and streamline the tax system
- D) Impose stricter penalties for tax evasion
- E) Expand tax exemptions for specific industries



**Answer**

**C) Simplify, modernize, and streamline the tax system**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Union Cabinet approved the new Income Tax Bill 2025, replacing the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## Key Features of the New Income Tax Bill:

- **No Additional Tax Burden:** The bill focuses on ease of compliance without introducing new taxes.
- **Simplified Language & Structure:** The legal language will be clear and concise to improve taxpayer understanding.
- **Reduction in Tax Litigation:** The bill aims to minimize legal disputes by ensuring greater tax certainty.
- **Compliance Reduction:** The government is eliminating redundant documentation and streamlining tax return filing.
- **Public Consultation:** The bill incorporates over 6,500 suggestions from taxpayers and industry experts.





## Process of Implementation:

- **Cabinet Approval:** The bill has been approved by the Union Cabinet.
- **Parliament Introduction:** It will be introduced in Parliament for discussion.
- **Standing Committee Review:** The bill will be examined by the Standing Committee on Finance for further evaluation.
- **Final Approval & Implementation:** Once passed by both Houses of Parliament and signed by the President, it will be enacted.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Income Tax Act, 1961:**
  - The existing tax law governing direct taxation in India for over six decades.
  - Has undergone multiple amendments, making it complex and difficult to interpret.
- **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT):**
  - The apex body responsible for tax administration and policymaking under the Ministry of Finance.
  - Plays a crucial role in formulating and implementing direct tax laws.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Standing Committee on Finance:**
  - A parliamentary committee that reviews and analyzes financial legislation before final approval.
  - Examines tax laws, economic policies, and budgetary proposals.



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	The Union Cabinet approved the new Income Tax Bill 2025
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	India
Replaces	Income Tax Act, 1961
Objective	Simplify, modernize, and streamline the tax system
Key Features	Simplified language, reduced litigation, compliance ease, and public consultation
Implementation Process	Cabinet approval → Parliament introduction → Committee review → Final approval



➤ **What is the primary reason behind Tata Communications selling its payment arm TCPSL?**

- A) To expand its ATM network across India
- B) To focus on its core business areas and improve profitability
- C) To partner with new fintech firms in the payment sector
- D) To enter the digital banking industry with Findi
- E) To comply with new RBI regulations on foreign investments



**Answer**

**B) To focus on its core business areas and improve profitability**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** RBI approved Tata Communications' sale of Tata Communications Payment Solutions Ltd (TCPSSL) to Findi's subsidiary, Transaction Solutions International (TSI).
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## Key Details of the Deal:

- **Buyer:** Findi (Australia-based fintech) via Transaction Solutions International (TSI).
- **Seller:** Tata Communications.
- **Deal Value:** ₹330 crore + ₹75 crore contingent on interchange rate adjustments.
- **ATMs Acquired:** 4,600 Indicash ATMs, expanding TSI's network.
- **Total ATMs Post-Acquisition:** 12,000+ ATMs, making TSI one of the largest ATM operators in Asia.



## Why Did Tata Communications Sell TCPSL?

- The payment solutions sector does not align with Tata Communications' core business.
- The divestment helps focus on primary business areas and improve profitability.





## Impact on Findi and TSI:

- **TSI's ATM presence** expands from 7,500 to over 12,000 ATMs.
- Strengthens Findi's foothold in India's financial services sector, especially in underbanked regions.
- Brings TSI closer to becoming a full-fledged payments bank.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Tata Communications Payment Solutions Ltd (TCPSL):**
  - A wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Communications operating under the Indicash ATM brand.
  - Provides brown-label ATMs in partnership with banks.
- **Brown-Label ATMs:**
  - ATMs owned by private companies but operated under a bank's branding.
  - TSI operates brown-label ATMs for SBI, PNB, Central Bank of India, and HDFC Bank.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Interchange Rate Adjustments:**
  - The fee paid by one bank to another for ATM transactions.
  - The deal includes ₹75 crore additional payment based on interchange rate changes.



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	RBI approved Tata Communications' sale of TCPSL to Findi's subsidiary, TSI
Date	February 8, 2025
Buyer	Findi (via Transaction Solutions International - TSI)
Seller	Tata Communications
Deal Value	₹330 crore + ₹75 crore (subject to interchange rate adjustments)
ATMs Acquired	4,600 Indicash ATMs
Total ATMs Post-Acquisition	12,000+ ATMs
Reason for Sale	Tata Communications' strategic focus on core business areas
RBI's Role	Approved the transaction
Key Banks TSI Partners With	SBI, PNB, Central Bank of India, HDFC Bank



- **What is the significance of the world's first kangaroo embryos created via IVF?**
- A) It allows selective breeding of kangaroos for commercial purposes
  - B) It helps in developing artificial gestation chambers for marsupials
  - C) It introduces a new method for conserving endangered marsupial species
  - D) It ensures that kangaroos can reproduce at a faster rate in captivity
  - E) It enables cloning of extinct marsupial species



## Answer

**C) It introduces a new method for conserving endangered marsupial species**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Scientists at the University of Queensland, Australia, created the world's first kangaroo embryos using in vitro fertilization (IVF).
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** University of Queensland, Australia



## Significance of the Breakthrough:

- This is the first time IVF has been successfully used in kangaroos, marking a major advancement in marsupial conservation.
- Assisted reproductive technologies (ART) like IVF have been widely used in humans and domestic animals but were largely unexplored in marsupials.
- This achievement paves the way for using IVF in endangered marsupial species, potentially preventing their extinction.



## Key Research Findings:

- Scientists used **eastern grey kangaroos** as a model species.
- **Eggs and sperm** were collected, and 32 ovarian follicles were cultured.
- **Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)** was used to fertilize eggs, successfully forming kangaroo embryos.





## Potential Impact on Conservation:

- This technology can help preserve endangered marsupial species such as **koalas, Tasmanian devils, northern hairy-nosed wombats, and Leadbeater's possums.**
- **IVF allows genetic material to be stored**, ensuring long-term biodiversity conservation.
- Scientists hope that **the first kangaroo born through IVF could become a reality within a decade.**



## Important Terms Explained:

- **In Vitro Fertilization (IVF):**
  - A process in which an egg is fertilized outside the body and later implanted into the uterus.
  - Used widely in humans and domestic animals, now adapted for marsupials.
- **Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI):**
  - A method of IVF where a single sperm is directly injected into an egg to ensure fertilization.
  - Used in this study to successfully create kangaroo embryos.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART):**
  - Medical techniques used to aid reproduction, including IVF and embryo transfer.
  - Used for conservation efforts in endangered species like rhinos, elephants, and big cats.



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	Scientists created the world's first kangaroo embryos using IVF
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	University of Queensland, Australia
Method Used	In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) and Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)
Model Species	Eastern grey kangaroos
Potential Impact	Conservation of endangered marsupials
Future Possibility	First kangaroo birth through IVF within a decade



➤ **What is Pakistan's contribution to China's Chang'e-8 lunar mission?**

- A) A communication satellite for Moon-to-Earth transmissions
- B) A lunar rover for exploring the Moon's south pole
- C) A space telescope for deep-space observations
- D) A crew module for future lunar missions
- E) A solar-powered lunar habitat prototype



**Answer**

**B) A lunar rover for exploring the Moon's south pole**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Pakistan has partnered with China for the Chang'e-8 lunar mission and will contribute a lunar rover.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** Pakistan and China



## Pakistan's Role in the Chang'e-8 Mission:

- Pakistan's space agency **SUPARCO** will provide a **35-kilogram lunar rover** for the mission.
- The rover will explore **the Moon's south pole**, an area of interest due to the possible presence of water ice.
- The rover will **conduct scientific experiments, terrain analysis, and resource assessments** to support future lunar colonization.



## Objectives of the Chang'e-8 Mission:

- **Testing technologies** for constructing a lunar science base.
- **Conducting experiments** to analyze lunar samples.
- Assessing **in-situ resource utilization (ISRU)** to determine if a terrestrial ecosystem can be sustained on the Moon.
- **Lunar surface surveys** to gather data for future missions.





## Pakistan's Expanding Space Aspirations:

- In **May 2024**, Pakistan successfully launched the **iCube Qamar CubeSat satellite** aboard China's Chang'e-6 mission.
- **The Chang'e-8 mission** represents **Pakistan's first direct lunar exploration effort**, allowing Pakistani scientists to gain experience in planetary sciences and rover technology.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **SUPARCO (Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission):**
  - Pakistan's national space agency, responsible for space research and satellite development.
  - Focuses on Earth observation, communication satellites, and now lunar exploration.
- **Chang'e-8 Mission:**
  - A part of China's International Lunar Research Station (ILRS) project, set to launch in 2028.
  - Aims to prepare for a permanent lunar base by 2035.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU):**
  - The process of extracting and using resources directly from the Moon.
  - Helps reduce reliance on Earth-based supply missions for lunar colonies.



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	Pakistan joins China's Chang'e-8 lunar mission
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	Pakistan and China
Mission Name	Chang'e-8
Launch Year	2028
Pakistan's Role	Providing a 35kg lunar rover
Mission Objective	Testing lunar base technologies and resource extraction
China's Long-Term Goal	Establishing a permanent lunar base by 2035



➤ **What is the primary objective of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron visit to Changi Naval Base, Singapore?**

- A) Conduct naval exercises with the United States Navy
- B) Strengthen maritime cooperation and mutual understanding with Singapore
- C) Deliver humanitarian aid to Southeast Asian nations
- D) Establish a permanent naval base in Singapore
- E) Participate in an international naval warfare competition



**Answer**

**B) Strengthen maritime cooperation and mutual understanding with Singapore**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS), consisting of INS Sujata, INS Shardul, and ICGS Veera, arrived at Changi Naval Base, Singapore, as part of a Long-Range Training Deployment to Southeast Asia.
- **Date:** February 6, 2025
- **Location:** Changi Naval Base, Singapore



## Objective of the Visit:

- Enhance maritime cooperation and mutual understanding between India and Singapore.
- Professional exchanges and cross-training visits with the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).
- Promote regional security under India's SAGAR policy (Security and Growth for All in the Region).



## Key Diplomatic and Naval Engagements:

- **Dr. Shilpak Ambule**, High Commissioner of India to Singapore, visited the Indian ships and interacted with Sea Trainees.
- Senior officers of 1TS met **Col Rinson Chua Hon Liat**, Commander of **Maritime Training and Doctrine (MTDC), RSN.**
- Discussions focused on maritime security and India-Singapore naval cooperation.





## Collaborative Activities with the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN):

- **Professional exchanges** between naval officers.
- **Cross-training** visits to enhance operational interoperability.
- **Friendly sports fixtures** to strengthen bilateral military relations.



## Strategic Importance of the Visit:

- **Reinforces the maritime partnership** between India and Singapore.
- **Supports regional security and stability** in the Indo-Pacific.
- **Strengthens India's SAGAR vision**, promoting maritime security and cooperation in Southeast Asia.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **First Training Squadron (1TS):**
  - A squadron under the Indian Navy, responsible for training cadets and sea trainees.
  - Comprises INS Sujata, INS Shardul, and ICGS Veera for international deployments.
- **SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region):**
  - India's maritime security policy, focusing on regional stability, cooperation, and growth in the Indo-Pacific.
- **Changi Naval Base:**
  - One of Singapore's largest naval bases, serving as a strategic hub for international naval cooperation.



# DEFENCE



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	Indian Navy's First Training Squadron docks at Changi Naval Base, Singapore
Date	February 6, 2025
Location	Changi Naval Base, Singapore
Squadron Name	First Training Squadron (1TS)
Ships Involved	INS Sujata, INS Shardul, ICGS Veera
Purpose	Long-Range Training Deployment, Maritime Cooperation
Key Dignitary Visit	Dr. Shilpak Ambule, Indian High Commissioner to Singapore
Host Country Official	Col Rinson Chua Hon Liat, Commander, MTDC, Republic of Singapore Navy
Key Activities	Professional exchanges, cross-training visits, friendly sports fixtures
Strategic Importance	Strengthening Indo-Pacific Security & India-Singapore Naval Cooperation
Policy Framework	SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region)



- **What is the primary objective of UNICEF's National Roadmap for Child Road Safety?**
- A) Promote the use of seat belts for all passengers
  - B) Reduce child road fatalities through awareness, regulations, and infrastructure development
  - C) Increase penalties for traffic violations by minors
  - D) Encourage children to use public transport instead of personal vehicles
  - E) Develop new vehicle safety standards for child passengers



**Answer**

**B) Reduce child road fatalities through awareness, regulations, and infrastructure development**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** UNICEF launched a National Roadmap for Child Road Safety to reduce road traffic fatalities among children.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** Global (with a specific focus on South Asia and India)



## Key Focus Areas of UNICEF's Roadmap:

- **Raising Awareness:** Highlighting the impact of road injuries on children and promoting urgent action.
- **Preventability of Accidents:** Emphasizing evidence-based interventions to protect children.
- **Implementation Strategy:** Providing clear guidelines for planning, execution, and monitoring child road safety programs.



## Actions Recommended for Safer Roads:

- **Speed Limits:** Traffic speeds should be below 30 km/h in school zones and residential areas.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Creation of dedicated pedestrian pathways and bicycle lanes.
- **Education and Training:** Integration of road safety education into school curriculums and practical training.





## India's Response to Child Road Safety:

- **National Road Safety Mission for Kids and Youth:** Aims to educate over 2 million students on road safety.
- **National Road Safety Olympiad:** Conducted during school vacations to raise awareness among children.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund):**
  - A global organization dedicated to child welfare, including health, education, and safety initiatives.
  - Works with governments to improve policies affecting children.
- **Road Safety Education:**
  - Teaching children about traffic rules, pedestrian safety, and responsible behavior on roads.
  - Helps reduce accidents and fatalities by increasing awareness.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Speed Regulation:**
  - Setting lower speed limits in child-dense areas to reduce accident severity.
  - Recommended limit: 30 km/h in school and residential zones.



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	UNICEF launched the National Roadmap for Child Road Safety
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	Global (focus on South Asia and India)
Annual Child Road Deaths	220,000 (600 preventable deaths per day)
South Asia Child Road Deaths (2019)	29,859
Speed Regulation Recommendation	Below 30 km/h in school zones and residential areas
Infrastructure Development	Dedicated pedestrian pathways and bicycle lanes
India's Initiative	National Road Safety Mission for Kids and Youth
Awareness Program	National Road Safety Olympiad



➤ **Why was India included in the UN Honour Roll for 2024?**

- A) For contributing the highest amount to the UN budget
- B) For paying its assessed contribution in full and on time
- C) For increasing its peacekeeping force contributions
- D) For leading UN climate action initiatives
- E) For securing a temporary seat on the UN Security Council



**Answer**

**B) For paying its assessed contribution in full and on time**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** India secured a place on the UN Honour Roll by paying USD 32.895 million to the UN Regular Budget on January 31, 2024.
- **Date:** January 31, 2024
- **Location:** United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA



## Key Highlights of India's Inclusion in the UN Honour Roll:

- **The UN Honour Roll** recognizes nations that pay their assessed contributions in full within 30 days of receiving the payment notice.
- India contributed **USD 32.895 million** to the UN's Regular Budget for 2024.
- Only **36 nations** met **the UN Honour Roll criteria**, including India.
- India had also secured a place on the 2023 Honour Roll by paying USD 30.54 million on time.



## Purpose of the UN Regular Budget:

- Funds **peacekeeping operations** in conflict zones.
- Supports **humanitarian aid** for crisis-affected regions.
- Aids **sustainable development programs** focused on poverty reduction and global health.





## India's Role in the United Nations:

- **Active contributor to peacekeeping missions** with one of the largest troop deployments.
- **Advocates for climate action and sustainable development.**
- Pushing for permanent membership in **the UN Security Council (UNSC).**



## Important Terms Explained:

- **UN Honour Roll:**
  - A list of nations that pay their UN budget contributions in full and within the deadline.
  - Ensures smooth functioning of the UN's global operations.
- **United Nations Regular Budget:**
  - The core funding mechanism for UN programs and initiatives.
  - Covers peacekeeping, development, and humanitarian assistance.
- **UN Security Council (UNSC) Reforms:**
  - India has been advocating for a permanent seat in the UNSC, citing its contributions to global peace and security.



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	India secured a place on the UN Honour Roll for timely budget payment
Date	January 31, 2024
Location	United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA
India's Contribution	USD 32.895 million to the UN Regular Budget
Total Countries on Honour Roll	36, including India
UN Secretary-General's Spokesperson	Stephane Dujarric
Purpose of UN Budget	Peacekeeping, humanitarian aid, sustainable development
India's Role in UN	Peacekeeping, climate action, UNSC reforms



➤ **What is the main objective of the Lord Buddha Trination Triservices Expedition?**

- A) To strengthen military ties between India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka
- B) To promote peace, harmony, tourism, and environmental awareness through Buddhist heritage
- C) To train soldiers in long-distance motorcycle expeditions
- D) To establish a new Buddhist learning center in South Asia
- E) To conduct research on Buddhist monasteries along the route



**Answer**

**B) To promote peace, harmony, tourism, and environmental awareness through Buddhist heritage**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) announced the Lord Buddha Trination Triservices Expedition, bringing together the armed forces of India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka for a motorcycle journey across key Buddhist heritage sites.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** India, Nepal, Sri Lanka



## Key Features of the Expedition:

- **Organized by:** International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) with support from the armed forces of India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.
- **Expedition Route:** Starts from Lumbini, Nepal, and concludes in Galle, Sri Lanka, covering major Buddhist heritage sites.
- **Objectives:**
  - Promoting peace, harmony, and cultural ties among the three nations.
  - Boosting tourism in Buddhist pilgrimage sites.
  - Raising environmental awareness through responsible travel.



## Key Buddhist Landmarks Covered in India:

- **Sarnath (Uttar Pradesh):** Place of Buddha's first sermon.
- **Bodhgaya (Bihar):** Site of Buddha's enlightenment.
- **Nalanda (Bihar):** Ancient Buddhist learning center.
- **Nagarjuna Sagar (Andhra Pradesh):** A significant Buddhist archaeological site.
- **Udayagiri (Odisha):** A historic Buddhist monastery.



## Important Flag-Off Events:

- **India Flag-Off:** Bodhgaya, Bihar on February 19, 2025, by former President Shri Ram Nath Kovind.
- **Sri Lanka Flag-Off:** Jaffna, Sri Lanka on March 5, 2025, by Sri Lankan PM Harini Amarasuriya.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **International Buddhist Confederation (IBC):**
  - A global Buddhist organization working to preserve and promote Buddhist heritage and teachings.
  - Collaborates with governments and religious institutions for cultural and peace initiatives.
- **Lumbini, Nepal:**
  - Birthplace of Lord Buddha, recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- **Bodhgaya, Bihar:**
  - Site where Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment under the Bodhi tree.



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	International Buddhist Confederation launches Lord Buddha Trination Triservices Expedition
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	India, Nepal, Sri Lanka
Participating Nations	India, Nepal, Sri Lanka
Mode of Travel	Motorcycle Expedition
Starting Point	Lumbini, Nepal
Ending Point	Galle, Sri Lanka
Key Buddhist Sites Covered	Sarnath, Bodhgaya, Nalanda, Nagarjuna Sagar, Udayagiri
Objectives	Promote peace, harmony, tourism, and environmental awareness
Indian Flag-Off	Bodhgaya, Bihar (February 19, 2025) by Shri Ram Nath Kovind
Sri Lanka Flag-Off	Jaffna, Sri Lanka (March 5, 2025) by PM Harini Amarasuriya



➤ **What is the primary objective of Odisha's 'Bikashita Gaon Bikashita Odisha' scheme?**

- A) Urban infrastructure development in Odisha
- B) Strengthening industries and manufacturing sectors
- C) Accelerating rural infrastructure development across Odisha
- D) Promoting large-scale industrial investments in villages
- E) Establishing new smart cities in Odisha



**Answer**

**C) Accelerating rural infrastructure development across Odisha**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi launched the 'Bikashita Gaon Bikashita Odisha' (BGBO) scheme to enhance rural development.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** Jankia, Khordha district, Odisha



## Key Features of 'Bikashita Gaon Bikashita Odisha' Scheme:

- **Infrastructure Development:** Improving road connectivity, civic amenities, and educational facilities.
- **Micro Tourism Promotion:** Encouraging local tourism for rural economic growth.
- **Financial Allocation:** ₹5,000 crore allocated over five years, with ₹1,000 crore for 2024-25.
- **Holistic Growth Approach:** Ensuring village development is independent of political influence.



## Comparison with Past Schemes:

- **Ama Gaon Ama Bikash (2018):** Faced audit issues and lack of local involvement.
- **Ama Odisha Naveen Odisha (2023):** Suffered funding shortages and implementation flaws.
- **BGBO Scheme:** Aims for structured execution with dedicated long-term funding.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Bikashita Gaon Bikashita Odisha (BGBO) Scheme:**
  - A rural development scheme launched by Odisha government in 2025.
  - Focuses on infrastructure, education, and micro-tourism with a ₹5,000 crore budget.
- **Micro Tourism:**
  - Encouraging small-scale tourism projects in villages to boost local economy and employment.
  - Includes heritage conservation, homestays, and eco-tourism initiatives.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **CAG Audit Issues (Past Schemes):**
  - Ama Gaon Ama Bikash faced scrutiny over mismanagement and lack of local participation.
  - BGBO aims to address these concerns with better financial oversight.





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	Odisha CM launched 'Bikashita Gaon Bikashita Odisha' scheme
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	Jankia, Khordha district, Odisha
Scheme Objective	Rural infrastructure development
Budget Allocation	₹5,000 crore (5 years), ₹1,000 crore (2024-25)
Key Focus Areas	Roads, civic amenities, education, micro tourism
Comparison with Past Schemes	Addresses funding and execution issues of previous programs
Government Vision	Ensuring structured rural growth without political influence



- **What is the main purpose of the AI-enabled National Consumer Helpline (NCH) upgrade?**
- A) To introduce a new toll-free number for consumer complaints
  - B) To provide sector-wise analysis and faster grievance redressal
  - C) To expand the reach of consumer rights awareness campaigns
  - D) To allow only digital complaints and discontinue phone support
  - E) To impose penalties on companies with high consumer complaints



**Answer**

**B) To provide sector-wise analysis and faster grievance redressal**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Department of Consumer Affairs upgraded the National Consumer Helpline (NCH) with AI technology to improve grievance redressal efficiency.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## Key Features of AI-Enabled National Consumer Helpline (NCH 2.0):

- **AI-Driven Analysis:** Categorizes consumer complaints sector-wise for improved resolution speed.
- **Higher Call Volume:** Calls received increased from 12,553 (2015) to 1,55,138 (2024).
- **More Complaint Registrations:** Monthly complaints rose from 37,062 (2017) to 1,12,468 (2024).
- **Faster Resolution:** Grievance resolution time reduced from 66.26 days (2023) to 48 days (2024).
- **Consumer Access:** Complaints can be registered via Toll-free number (1915) or NCH Web Portal.



## Convergence Partner Initiative:

- Companies with the highest grievances are onboarded as convergence partners to ensure faster dispute resolution.
- The number of convergence partners increased from **263 (2017) to 1,038 (2024)**.
- **Key benefiting sectors:** Education, E-commerce, Banking, Broadband, Real Estate, Petroleum.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **National Consumer Helpline (NCH):**
  - A government-operated grievance redressal mechanism under the Department of Consumer Affairs.
  - Provides consumers a platform to file complaints against businesses and service providers.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Convergence Partners:**
  - Businesses and service providers integrated into NCH for direct consumer grievance handling.
  - Helps reduce dispute resolution time and enhances accountability.
- **Sector-Wise Analysis:**
  - AI enables complaints to be categorized into sectors like E-commerce, Telecom, Banking, etc.
  - Ensures targeted action and better monitoring.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	AI-enabled National Consumer Helpline launched for faster grievance redressal
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	India
Technology Used	AI for sector-wise grievance analysis
Call Volume Increase	12,553 (2015) → 1,55,138 (2024)
Complaint Registrations	37,062 (2017) → 1,12,468 (2024)
Grievance Resolution Time	66.26 days (2023) → 48 days (2024)
Convergence Partners	263 (2017) → 1,038 (2024)
Key Sectors Benefiting	E-commerce, Telecom, Banking, Real Estate, Petroleum





➤ **Where is North India's first Green Hydrogen Plant being set up?**

- A) Shimla
- B) Manali
- C) Dabhota, Nalagarh
- D) Ludhiana
- E) Dehradun

**Answer**

**C) Dabhota, Nalagarh**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Himachal Pradesh initiated North India's first Green Hydrogen Plant at Dabhota, Nalagarh to promote clean energy.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** Dabhota, Nalagarh, Himachal Pradesh



## Key Features of the Green Hydrogen Plant:

- **Capacity:** 1 MW plant producing 423 kg of green hydrogen per day.
- **Technology Used:** Electrolysis with an alkaline potassium hydroxide solution.
- **Energy Source:** Powered by hydropower and solar energy.
- **Water Requirement:** 13 liters per kg of hydrogen, sourced from underground reserves.



## Project Implementation & Cost:

- **Developed by:** Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL) & Oil India Limited.
- **Project Cost:** ₹9.04 crore.
- **Expected Completion:** Within one year.



## Himachal's Green Energy Vision:

- The project aligns with Himachal Pradesh's goal of becoming **India's first green state by March 31, 2026.**
- Himachal has a hydropower potential of **27,000 MW** and is adding **150 MW** of solar capacity.
- The project is part of an **April 26, 2023 MoU** between **the state and Oil India Limited for green hydrogen, solar energy, geothermal energy, and compressed biogas.**



## Environmental Benefits:

- **Zero carbon emissions**, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Supports **India's green energy transition** by promoting **renewable hydrogen production**.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Green Hydrogen:**
  - Hydrogen produced using renewable energy sources like solar, wind, or hydropower.
  - Emits zero carbon emissions, making it environmentally friendly.
- **Electrolysis:**
  - A process where electricity splits water molecules ( $H_2O$ ) into hydrogen ( $H_2$ ) and oxygen ( $O_2$ ).
  - The plant will use alkaline potassium hydroxide as an electrolyte.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL):**
  - A state-owned power company responsible for hydro and renewable energy projects.





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	Himachal Pradesh launched North India's first Green Hydrogen Plant
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	Dabhota, Nalagarh, Himachal Pradesh
Implementing Agencies	HPPCL & Oil India Limited
Project Cost	₹9.04 crore
Production Capacity	423 kg of green hydrogen per day
Technology Used	Electrolysis with alkaline potassium hydroxide
Water Requirement	13 liters per kg of hydrogen
Green Energy Goal	Himachal to become India's first green state by March 31, 2026
Environmental Impact	Zero carbon emissions, reduced greenhouse gases



➤ **What is the primary objective of the 'Swavalambini' initiative launched by MSDE and NITI Aayog?**

- A) To promote large-scale manufacturing industries in the Northeast
- B) To provide women entrepreneurs in Northeast India with training, mentorship, and financial support
- C) To establish new higher education institutions in Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram
- D) To offer employment opportunities in government sectors for women in the Northeast
- E) To provide tax exemptions exclusively for women-led start-ups

**Answer**

**B) To provide women entrepreneurs in Northeast India with training, mentorship, and financial support**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and NITI Aayog launched 'Swavalambini' to support women entrepreneurs in Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.
- **Date:** February 7, 2025
- **Location:** Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram



## Key Features of Swavalambini:

- **Entrepreneurial Training:**
  - **Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP):** 2-day session for 600 female students.
  - **Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP):** 40-hour training for 300 selected students covering business skills, market access, and financial support.
  - **Mentorship Support:** 6-month mentorship post-training to assist participants in launching businesses.



## Key Features of Swavalambini:

- **Faculty Development:**
  - **Five-day Faculty Development Programme (FDP)** to train educators in guiding women entrepreneurs.
  - Enhancing coaching and industry knowledge among faculty members in participating institutions.
- **Recognition & Rewards:**
  - 'Award to Rewards' Initiative to recognize successful women entrepreneurs and inspire others.



## Government Support & Policy Linkage:

- **Aligned with:** Start-Up India, Stand-Up India, PM Mudra Yojana, Women Entrepreneurship Platform.
- **Union Budget 2025 Support:**
  - ₹10,000 crore fund for start-ups.
  - 100% tax exemption on start-up profits for 5 years.
- **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020:** Focuses on skill integration & industry collaboration.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE):**
  - Central government ministry responsible for promoting skill development and entrepreneurship in India.
- **NITI Aayog:**
  - National Institution for Transforming India, acts as a policy think tank for economic and social development initiatives.
- **Start-Up India:**
  - A government initiative to promote entrepreneurship and innovation by providing funding, tax exemptions, and mentorship.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	MSDE & NITI Aayog launched 'Swavalambini' to support women entrepreneurs
Date	February 7, 2025
Location	Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram
Objective	Training, mentorship, and financial support for women entrepreneurs
Key Training Programs	2-day EAP, 40-hour EDP, 6-month mentorship
Faculty Training	Five-day Faculty Development Programme (FDP)
Institutions Involved	Gauhati University, NEHU, Mizoram University, etc.
Recognition Initiative	'Award to Rewards' for successful women entrepreneurs
Government Schemes Linked	Start-Up India, Stand-Up India, PM Mudra Yojana
Budget Support	₹10,000 crore fund, 100% tax exemption for start-ups
Policy Linked	National Education Policy (NEP) 2020





➤ **What milestone has India recently achieved in the solar energy sector?**

- A) Installed 200 GW of total renewable energy capacity
- B) Achieved 100 GW of installed solar power capacity
- C) Became the world's largest solar panel exporter
- D) Launched the world's largest floating solar power plant
- E) Signed an agreement to import solar panels from China



**Answer**

**B) Achieved 100 GW of installed solar power capacity**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** India has achieved 100 GW of installed solar power capacity, marking a significant milestone in its renewable energy journey.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** India



## How Did India Achieve 100 GW Solar Capacity?

- **India initially set a target** of 100 GW of solar power by 2022, but delays occurred due to land acquisition issues, financing difficulties, and supply chain disruptions.
- As of June 2023, India had 70.10 GW installed, with **55.90 GW in various stages of implementation.**
- **In 2024, India added 15 GW of solar power capacity,** marking a 282% increase in installations.
- **Government policies, private sector investment, and large-scale solar projects** contributed to this achievement.



## Key Government Policies Driving Solar Growth:

- **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme:** ₹24,000 crore allocated to develop 48 GW of solar equipment manufacturing capacity by 2026 to reduce import dependency.
- **Solar Parks & Large-Scale Projects:** Government-approved projects attracted foreign and domestic investment.
- **Renewable Energy Auctions:** Competitive bidding helped in cost reduction and efficiency improvements.
- **Grid Integration & Storage Solutions:** Strengthened grid infrastructure for better solar energy distribution.



## India's Future Renewable Energy Goals:

- **India targets 500 GW** of total renewable energy capacity by 2030, with solar playing a crucial role.
- **47.49 GW** of additional solar capacity is under tendering, ensuring further growth.
- Innovation in **battery storage and grid modernization** will be essential for meeting future goals.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme:**
  - A government initiative providing financial incentives to promote domestic manufacturing.
  - ₹24,000 crore allocated to boost solar panel production and reduce import dependency.
- **Renewable Energy Auctions:**
  - A system where companies bid for solar energy projects, ensuring competitive pricing and efficiency.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Grid Integration & Storage Solutions:**
  - Improving electricity transmission networks to stabilize renewable energy supply.
  - Investments in battery storage help manage fluctuations in solar energy production.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	India achieved 100 GW of installed solar power capacity
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	India
Initial Solar Target (2015)	100 GW by 2022 (delayed due to challenges)
Solar Installed (June 2023)	70.10 GW
Capacity Added in 2024	15 GW, marking a 282% increase
PLI Scheme Budget	₹24,000 crore for 48 GW of solar manufacturing by 2026
India's Renewable Target (2030)	500 GW total renewable capacity, with solar as a key contributor
Key Government Policies	Solar Parks, Energy Auctions, Grid Modernization





➤ **What was the primary objective of the 75<sup>th</sup>-anniversary celebration of the National Sample Survey (NSS)?**

- A) To introduce a new statistical survey system in India
- B) To commemorate NSS's contributions to data-driven policymaking and statistical advancements
- C) To announce a new economic policy based on survey results
- D) To merge the National Statistical Office (NSO) with international data organizations
- E) To launch a new AI-driven census system for real-time data collection



**Answer**

**B) To commemorate NSS's contributions to data-driven policymaking and statistical advancements**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) celebrated the 75th anniversary of the National Sample Survey (NSS) at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- **Date:** February 7, 2025
- **Location:** Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi



## Key Objectives of the Event:

- **Highlighting the role of NSS** in evidence-based policymaking across employment, consumption, health, and education.
- Promoting **innovation and technology adoption** in statistical data collection.
- Honoring **NSS and NSO officials** for their contributions.
- **Engaging policymakers, researchers, and international organizations** in discussions on India's statistical future.



## Key Highlights of the Event:

- **Inauguration by Rao Inderjit Singh**, Minister of State (MoS) for Statistics & Programme Implementation.
- **Keynote Address by Shri Amitabh Kant**, India's G20 Sherpa, emphasizing data-driven policymaking and technological advancements.
- **Unveiling of Diamond Jubilee Publications:**
  - Journey of NSS 75 Years for Household Surveys.
  - Journey of NSS 75 Years for Enterprise Surveys.
- **Karmayogi Awards** presented to outstanding NSO performers.
- **Nukkad Natak (Street Play)** showcased NSS's fieldwork contributions.



## Expert Panel Discussions:

### 1. Future Ready Indian Statistical System for Viksit Bharat @ 2047

- **Topics:** Bridging data gaps, AI & Machine Learning in surveys, real-time data generation, public-private partnerships.

### 2. The Importance of Alternative Data Sources in Shaping Economic Policies

- **Topics:** Use of alternative data, strengthening India's statistical framework, integrating AI-driven analytics.



## Participation & Impact:

- **Over 1,200 attendees**, including policymakers, researchers, NSS and NSO field officials, and international representatives.
- **Discussions on leveraging AI**, real-time data collection, and alternative data sources for future policymaking.
- **Strengthening NSS's role** in guiding India towards Viksit Bharat 2047.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **National Sample Survey (NSS):**
  - Established in 1950, it is India's largest source of socio-economic data for policy formulation.
  - Conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO), MoSPI.
- **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI):**
  - The nodal ministry for statistical data collection in India.
  - Oversees economic surveys, census activities, and data-driven governance.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Karmayogi Awards:**
  - Recognizes outstanding field officials of the NSO for their contributions to data collection and survey accuracy.
- **Viksit Bharat @ 2047:**
  - A government vision aiming for India's economic and social transformation by 2047, the 100th year of independence.





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	75th Anniversary of the National Sample Survey (NSS)
Date	February 7, 2025
Location	Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
Organized by	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
Chief Guest	Rao Inderjit Singh, MoS for Statistics & PI
Keynote Speaker	Shri Amitabh Kant, India's G20 Sherpa
Major Highlights	Diamond Jubilee Publications, Karmayogi Awards, Nukkad Natak
Key Panel Discussions	1. Future Ready Indian Statistical System for Viksit Bharat @ 2047, 2. Alternative Data in Policymaking
Key Topics Discussed	AI & Machine Learning in surveys, real-time data collection, public-private partnerships
Participants	1,200+ (policymakers, researchers, NSS officers, international representatives)
Key Outcomes	Strengthening NSS, leveraging technology for data collection, building robust statistical frameworks



➤ **What is the primary objective of Odisha's initiatives under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme?**

- A) Establish new schools for girls in rural areas
- B) Provide financial aid for higher education to female students
- C) Prevent child marriage and empower adolescent girls through education and skill training
- D) Offer employment opportunities exclusively for women
- E) Implement strict laws against gender discrimination in workplaces



**Answer**

**C) Prevent child marriage and empower adolescent girls through education and skill training**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Odisha Government introduced district-specific initiatives under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme to prevent child marriage and empower adolescent girls.
- **Date:** February 8, 2025
- **Location:** Odisha



## Key BBBP Initiatives in Odisha:

### 1. “Nirbhaya Kadhi” & “Mo Gelha Jiya” – Ganjam District

- **Objective:** Prevent child marriage, sex selection, and female foeticide.
- **Coverage:** 1,83,933 adolescent girls across 3,309 villages.
- **Achievements:**
  - Ganjam declared child marriage-free (2022).
  - 450,000 students pledged against child marriage.
  - ₹5,000 reward for reporting child marriages.



## Key BBBP Initiatives in Odisha:

### 2. “Kalpana Avijan” – Dhenkanal District

- **Objective:** Track adolescent girls (10-19 years) and prevent child marriages.
- **Coverage:** 1,13,515 adolescent girls enrolled.
- **Achievements:**
  - 343 child marriages prevented (2019-2024).
  - Community engagement strengthened through awareness programs.



## Key BBBP Initiatives in Odisha:

### 3. “Swarna Kalika” – Keonjhar District

- **Objective:** Raise awareness on child marriage’s negative impact.
- **Achievements:**
  - 50% reduction in child marriages (by 2024).
  - 2,000 stakeholders engaged in awareness campaigns.
  - ADVIKA app introduced for tracking and intervention.



## Key BBBP Initiatives in Odisha:

### 4. “Veerangana Yojana” – Deogarh District

- **Objective:** Train adolescent girls in martial arts and self-defense.
- **Coverage:** 500 girls trained in a 30-day camp.
- **Achievements:**
  - 6,000 girls trained across 300 schools.
  - Recognized with the prestigious SKOCH Award.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme:**
  - Launched on January 22, 2015, to address gender imbalance and declining child sex ratio.
  - Focuses on girl child survival, education, and empowerment.
- **ADVIKA App:**
  - A mobile application designed for tracking adolescent girls and preventing child marriage.
- **SKOCH Award:**
  - One of India's highest independent honors for governance and public service excellence.





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	Odisha implemented key initiatives under BBBP scheme
Date	February 8, 2025
Location	Odisha
Scheme Launched	January 22, 2015
Main Objective	Prevent child marriage and empower adolescent girls
District-Specific Initiatives	Ganjam, Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Deogarh
Key Achievements	450,000 students pledged against child marriage, 6,000 girls trained in self-defense
Recognitions	Ganjam declared child marriage-free (2022), SKOCH Award for Veerangana Yojana
Technology Use	ADVIKA App for tracking adolescent girls



➤ **What was the primary focus of the Viksit Bharat@2047 NITI Aayog Conclave?**

- A) Reviewing past economic policies of India
- B) Discussing India's strategy for becoming a developed nation by 2047
- C) Announcing new defence procurement deals
- D) Promoting tourism as the key driver of economic growth
- E) Launching a new digital banking system for financial inclusion



**Answer**

**B) Discussing India's strategy for becoming a developed nation by 2047**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** NITI Aayog hosted the Viksit Bharat@2047 conclave at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi, focusing on India's long-term development goals.
- **Date:** February 6, 2025
- **Location:** Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi



## Key Objectives of the Conclave:

- Defining strategies for **India's transformation into a developed nation by 2047.**
- Strengthening **economic growth, national security, and global partnerships.**
- Enhancing **supply chain resilience, digital infrastructure, and legal reforms.**



## Key Discussion Points:

### 1. Economic Growth & Global Competitiveness

- Regulatory reforms, private sector investment, and global trade integration.
- Infrastructure development, education, and skill enhancement for demographic advantage.
- Sovereign credit ratings, energy security, and R&D investments.



## Key Discussion Points:

### 2. Strategic Partnerships for Development

- Balancing diplomatic ties with the Global South & Global North.
- Trade liberalization, tariff reductions, and securing access to critical raw materials.
- Technological collaborations and digital public infrastructure expansion.



## Key Discussion Points:

### 3. Supply Chain Resilience & National Defence

- Ensuring efficient defence procurement and cybersecurity for national security.
- Comparing Just in Time (JIT) vs. Just in Case (JIC) models for supply chain management.
- Enhancing logistics for both military and civilian operations.

#### Overall Impact:

- Policy recommendations for India's journey towards becoming a developed economy by 2047.
- Strengthening national security frameworks and global trade participation.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Viksit Bharat@2047:**
  - India's vision to become a fully developed nation by 2047, the 100th year of independence.
  - Focuses on economic, social, and infrastructural advancements.
- **NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India):**
  - India's premier policy think tank, responsible for long-term planning and policy reforms.
  - Replaced the Planning Commission in 2015.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **Just in Time (JIT) vs. Just in Case (JIC) Models:**
  - **JIT Model:** Supplies arrive only when needed, reducing storage costs but increasing risk.
  - **JIC Model:** Stock is maintained in advance, ensuring availability during emergencies.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	Viksit Bharat@2047 NITI Aayog Conclave
Date	February 6, 2025
Location	Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi
Objective	Discussing strategies for India's transformation into a developed nation by 2047
Key Focus Areas	Economic growth, global partnerships, national security, supply chain resilience
Economic Reforms	Infrastructure expansion, private investment, regulatory framework improvements
Strategic Partnerships	Diplomatic ties, trade liberalization, securing critical resources
National Security	Enhancing defence logistics, cybersecurity, and procurement efficiency
Overall Impact	Strengthening India's economic, diplomatic, and security policies for 2047



- **What is the primary objective of DRDO's restructuring of its Research Verticals?**
- A) Expanding DRDO's workforce by recruiting more scientists
  - B) Increasing the number of defense manufacturing units in India
  - C) Streamlining research, reducing redundancy, and enhancing innovation in defense technologies
  - D) Replacing outdated military equipment with newly developed prototypes
  - E) Shifting focus from defense R&D to space exploration initiatives



**Answer**

- C) Streamlining research, reducing redundancy, and enhancing innovation in defense technologies**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) expanded its Research Verticals from 65 to 82 across DIA-CoEs (Industry-Academia Centres of Excellence) to enhance defense R&D and innovation.
- **Date:** February 7, 2025
- **Location:** DRDO Headquarters, New Delhi



## Key Features of DRDO's Research Overhaul:

- Expansion from **65 to 82 Research Verticals** to focus on future defense technologies.
- **Objective:**
  - Reduce redundancy and optimize resource utilization.
  - Enhance collaboration with academia and industry for faster innovation.
  - Strengthen India's defense preparedness in advanced warfare technologies.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Key Research Areas Added:

New Research Domain	Academic Partner	Focus
Compound Semiconductor Technologies	IIT Bombay	Advanced materials for electronic and photonic devices
Laser Beam Combining-Based Communication & Power Transmission	IIT Hyderabad	Laser applications in defense, communication, and energy transfer
Software Defined Radios (SDR)	IIT Kanpur	Reprogrammable radio systems for adaptive military communication
Emerging RF Technologies	IIT Roorkee	Advancements in radio frequency systems for enhanced communication
Cryptography & Information Security	IIT Kharagpur	Strengthening cybersecurity and protecting sensitive defense data



## Strategic Importance of the Restructuring:

- Aligns with recommendations from **the Vijay Raghavan Committee (Aug 2023)** to revamp DRDO.
- Enhances deep-tech research in critical defense areas.
- Ensures India's self-reliance in cutting-edge military technology.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO):**
  - India's premier defense research agency under the Ministry of Defence.
  - Focuses on developing advanced weapon systems, aerospace technologies, and strategic defense solutions.
- **DIA-CoEs (Defence Industry-Academia Centres of Excellence):**
  - Collaboration between DRDO, IITs, and defense industries for joint research in critical defense technologies.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **Software Defined Radios (SDR):**
  - Reprogrammable radio systems that adapt to different communication frequencies and security standards.
- **Cryptography & Information Security:**
  - Developing secure communication protocols to prevent cyber threats in defense networks.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	DRDO expanded Research Verticals from 65 to 82
Date	February 7, 2025
Location	DRDO Headquarters, New Delhi
Key Objective	Streamlining research, reducing redundancy, and fostering defense innovation
Committee Recommendations	Vijay Raghavan Committee (2023) suggested revamping DRDO operations
Key Research Additions	Semiconductors, Laser Communication, RF Tech, Cybersecurity
Academic Partners	IIT Bombay, IIT Hyderabad, IIT Kanpur, IIT Roorkee, IIT Kharagpur
Strategic Importance	Strengthening India's defense R&D, future warfare technologies



➤ **What is the primary objective of the BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025?**

- A) To introduce a new toll-free number for consumer complaints
- B) To provide sector-wise analysis and faster grievance redressal
- C) To expand the reach of consumer rights awareness campaigns
- D) To allow only digital complaints and discontinue phone support
- E) To impose penalties on companies with high consumer complaints



**Answer**

**B) To promote regional youth collaboration and leadership development**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** The BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025 is being held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, bringing together young leaders from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.
- **Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- **Location:** Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- **Organizer:** Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India



## Key Objectives of the Summit:

- Foster youth collaboration and leadership development among **BIMSTEC nations**.
- Align youth-driven initiatives with **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030**.
- Encourage **innovation, cultural exchange, and regional integration**.
- **Support India's vision of Viksit Bharat 2047** through youth-led growth strategies.



## Theme of the Summit:

- “Youth as a Bridge for Intra-BIMSTEC Exchange”



## Key Sessions & Initiatives:

- **“Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue X BIMSTEC”**  
– Young leaders will present youth-driven initiatives from their countries.
- **Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) Discussion** – A government program focusing on youth development, technology, and leadership opportunities.



## Cultural & Technological Visits for Delegates:

- **Dandi Kutir** – India's largest museum on Mahatma Gandhi and self-reliance.
- **Sabarmati Ashram** – Symbol of non-violence and nation-building.
- **Sabarmati Riverfront** – Example of sustainable urban planning.
- **GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City)** – India's first operational smart city and global financial hub.





## Strategic Importance for BIMSTEC:

- Strengthens **regional cooperation among South and Southeast Asian nations.**
- Encourages **youth participation in policymaking and innovation.**
- Provides a foundation for **future BIMSTEC youth summits and collaborations.**



## Important Terms Explained:

- **BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation):**
  - Founded on **6<sup>th</sup> June 1997** (Bangkok Declaration).
  - **Member Countries:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand.
  - Focuses on **economic, technological, and cultural cooperation.**



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Viksit Bharat 2047:**
  - India's vision to become a developed nation by 2047, its 100<sup>th</sup> year of independence.
- **Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat):**
  - Government initiative for youth development, promoting skill-building, leadership, and digital inclusion.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Key Aspect	Details
Event	BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025
Date	7th – 11th February 2025
Location	Gandhinagar, Gujarat
Organizer	Department of Youth Affairs, Government of India
Chief Guest	Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
BIMSTEC Formation Date	6th June 1997 (Bangkok Declaration)
BIMSTEC Member Countries	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand
Summit Theme	“Youth as a Bridge for Intra-BIMSTEC Exchange”
Key Sessions	Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue X BIMSTEC, Mera Yuva Bharat Discussion
Key Locations to Visit	Dandi Kutir, Sabarmati Ashram, Sabarmati Riverfront, GIFT City
Purpose	Regional youth collaboration, alignment with SDGs 2030 & Viksit Bharat 2047
India’s Smart City Highlight	GIFT City – India’s first smart city and financial hub



# QUICK RECALL



- **Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers won the Hockey India League 2024-25 by defeating Hyderabad Toofans 4-3.**
- **The ICC Champions Trophy 2025 will be hosted by Pakistan after a seven-year gap.**
- **SEBI fined DB Realty and seven individuals ₹25 lakh for financial misstatements.**
- **The Union Cabinet approved the new Income Tax Bill 2025, replacing the Income Tax Act, 1961.**
- **RBI approved Tata Communications' sale of TCPSL to Australian fintech Findi's subsidiary, TSI.**
- **Scientists at the University of Queensland created the world's first kangaroo embryos via IVF.**
- **Pakistan will contribute a 35kg lunar rover for China's Chang'e-8 Moon mission.**
- **The Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (INS Sujata, INS Shardul, ICGS Veera) docked at Changi Naval Base, Singapore.**



# QUICK RECALL



- **UNICEF launched a National Roadmap for Child Road Safety to reduce child road fatalities.**
- **India paid USD 32.895 million to the UN Regular Budget on January 31, 2024.**
- **The Lord Buddha Trination Triservices Expedition will unite the armed forces of India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.**
- **Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi launched the 'Bikashita Gaon Bikashita Odisha' scheme for rural development.**
- **The Department of Consumer Affairs upgraded the National Consumer Helpline (NCH) with AI for faster grievance resolution.**
- **Himachal Pradesh launched North India's first Green Hydrogen Plant at Dabhota, Nalagarh.**
- **MSDE and NITI Aayog launched Swavalambini to empower women entrepreneurs in Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.**



# QUICK RECALL



- India achieved 100 GW of installed solar power capacity, strengthening its renewable energy sector.
- The 75th Anniversary of the National Sample Survey (NSS) was celebrated at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The Odisha Government launched district-specific initiatives under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme.
- The Viksit Bharat@2047 conclave discussed India's strategy for becoming a developed nation by 2047.
- DRDO expanded Research Verticals from 65 to 82 to strengthen India's defense R&D.
- The BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025 is being held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, from 7th – 11th February 2025.



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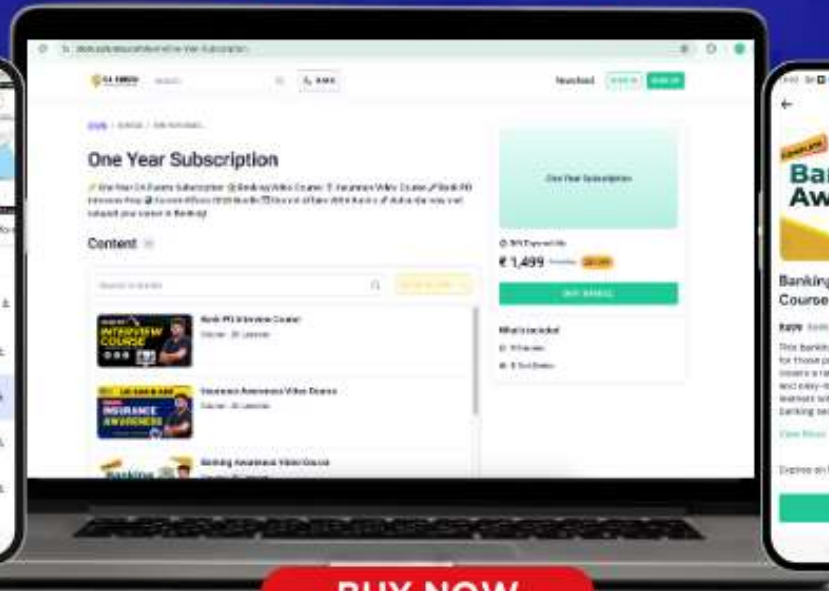


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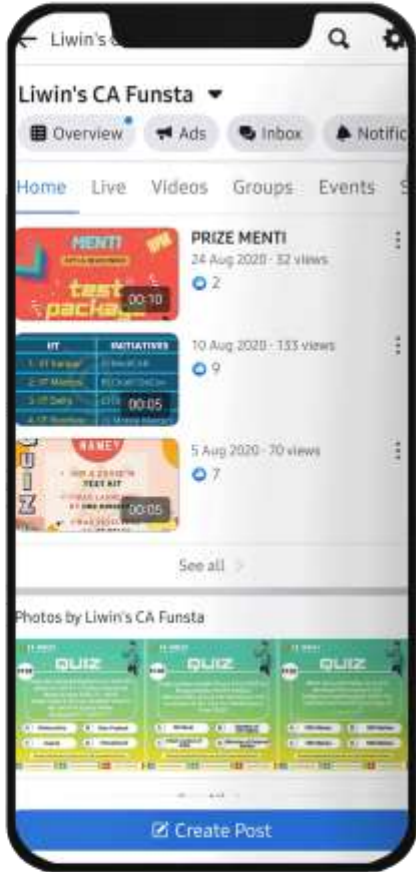
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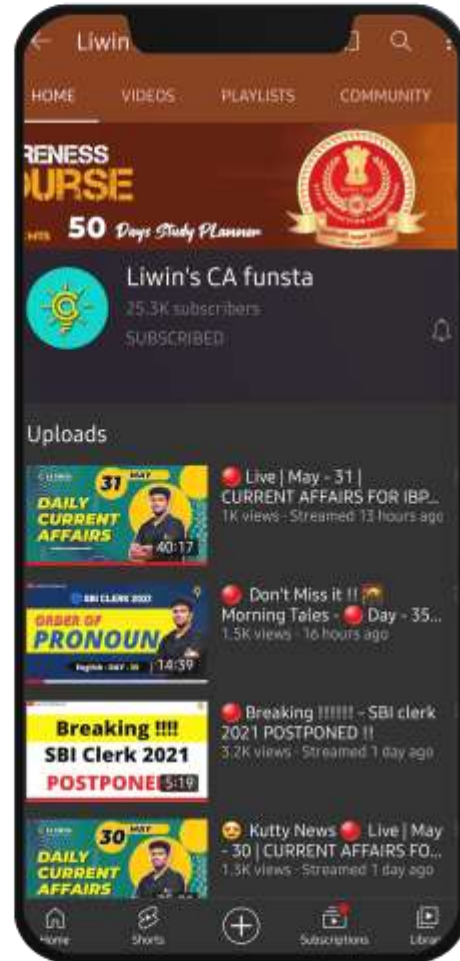


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