

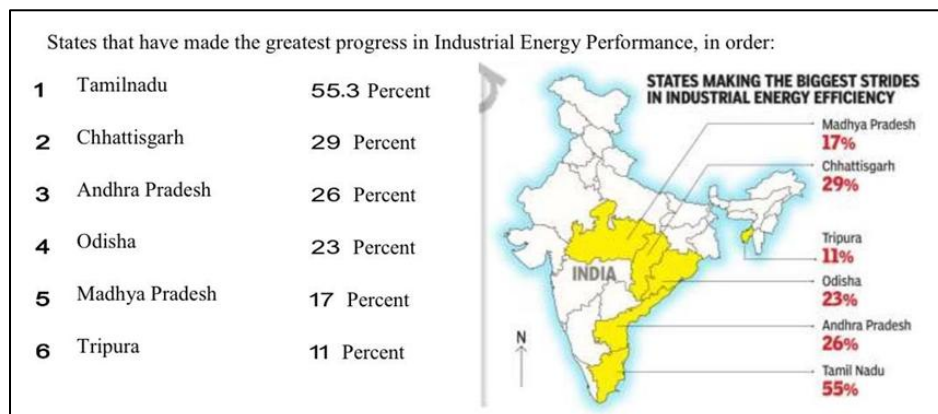
December - 06

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India has been re-elected to the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) Executive Board for the term 2025–2029.
- ❖ INS Aridhaman, India's third indigenously built nuclear-powered submarine, is set to be commissioned soon.
- ❖ India has granted a land in Varanasi for the construction of a Bhutanese monastery and guesthouse.
- ❖ The CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) of Bengaluru has launched a “production version” of the indigenous Hansa-3(NG) trainer aircraft.
- ❖ A rare rustic bunting was spotted for the first time in Delhi NCR at Najafgarh Jheel.
  - This species is listed as Near Threatened in the 2025 IUCN update.
- ❖ Goa Shipyard Limited handed over ICGS Amulya, the third of eight Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs), to the Indian Coast Guard.
  - ICGS Amulya is designed for fisheries protection, Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surveillance, anti-smuggling, anti-piracy, and Search and Rescue (SAR) missions.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### Energy Efficiency Achievement - Tamil Nadu



- ❖ Tamil Nadu scored 55.3% in the State Energy Efficiency Index 2024, the highest in India.
- ❖ The State is ranked above Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha.

- ❖ Under the PEACE (Promotion of Energy Audit and Conservation of Energy) scheme, Tamil Nadu invested Rs 2.6 crore in 2023–24.
- ❖ The funds supported awareness programmes, training, and subsidies for energy audits in MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) units.
- ❖ A total of 25 states received Energy Conservation Awards.
- ❖ Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Odisha received the highest number of awards among all the states.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Lakshadweep Strategic Military Upgrade

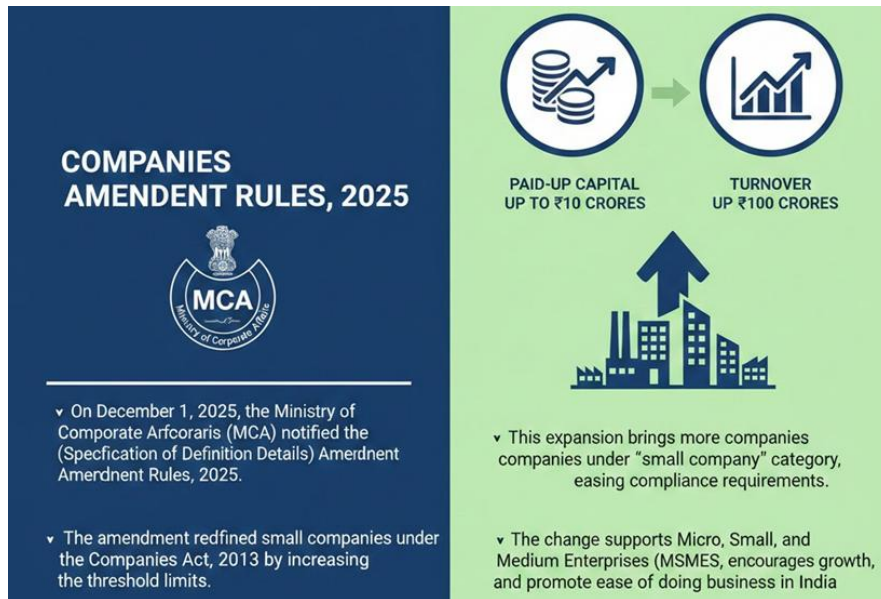
- ❖ The Indian Navy will establish a new naval detachment on Bitra Island, expected to be fully operational by 2026.
- ❖ The Air Force is expanding its Agatti airfield and building a new air base on Minicoy.
- ❖ The Lakshadweep Islands have strategic importance due to shipping traffic, piracy threats, and Chinese interest in the Indian Ocean Region.
- ❖ The Indian Navy already operates INS Jatayu on Minicoy and INS Dweeprakshak on Kavaratti.



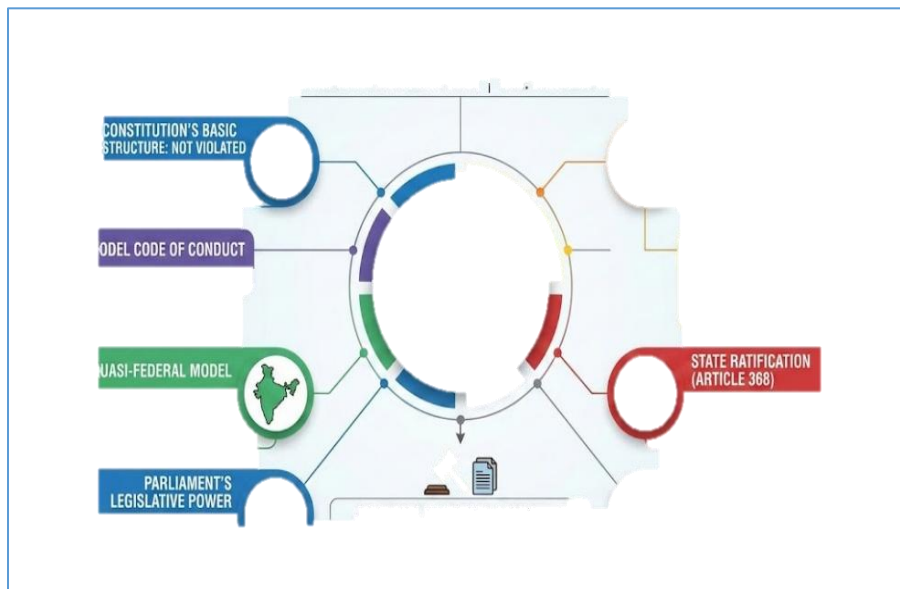
### Companies Amendment Rules, 2025

- ❖ On December 1, 2025, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) notified the Companies (Specification of Definition Details) Amendment Rules, 2025.
- ❖ The amendment redefined small companies under the Companies Act, 2013 by increasing the threshold limits.

- ❖ Paid-up capital limit is now up to ₹10 crores and turnover limit up to ₹100 crores.
- ❖ This expansion brings more companies under the “small company” category, easing compliance requirements.
- ❖ The change supports Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), encourages growth, and promotes ease of doing business in India.



## 23rd Law commission on One Nation One Election



- ❖ The Law Commission informed the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) that the bills and the wider proposal for synchronised elections do not violate the basic structure of the Constitution



- ❖ It also said that the Model Code of Conduct does not require statutory backing.
- ❖ It emphasised that simultaneous polls only modify the timing and frequency, not the democratic right to vote.
- ❖ The Commission emphasised that the right to vote is a statutory right, not a fundamental one, as consistently held by the Supreme Court.
- ❖ For this reason, the synchronisation of election schedules or frequency would not affect the citizens' right to vote.
- ❖ The Commission told the JPC that India follows a quasi-federal model with a clear predominance of the Union.
- ❖ The proposed framework, according to the Commission, does not disturb this essential federal character.
- ❖ The Constitution explicitly empowers Parliament to legislate on elections, including those to state Assemblies, thereby reinforcing the validity of the proposal.
- ❖ On the question of whether the Bills require ratification by States under Article 368 of the Constitution, the Commission clarified that no constitutional provision touching the federal structure is being amended, and therefore state ratification is not required.
- ❖ The Commission has also commented extensively on the powers proposed to be granted to the Election Commission of India under clauses 82A(3) and 82A(5).
- ❖ The Law Commission informed the JPC that Article 324 already functions as a reservoir of power for the poll body, and Supreme Court judgments have repeatedly affirmed the Commission's broad authority
- ❖ Joint Parliamentary Committee is examining two Bills—the Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill, 2024, and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
- ❖ The 23rd Law Commission of India is headed by Justice Dinesh Maheshwari (retd.).
- ❖ It was established in September 2024 for a three-year term to review laws and suggest reforms.

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **US Autopen-Signed Papers**

- ❖ US President Donald Trump declared all documents signed by former President Joe Biden using an autopen device as invalid.
- ❖ Autopen is a machine that replicates a handwritten signature for the official documents.

- ❖ Autopen has been used by US presidents since the mid-20th century for routine paperwork.
- ❖ The declaration includes executive orders, contracts, and official memorandums signed by Biden with an autopen.
- ❖ Pre-emptive pardons issued by Biden in his final hours were also included in the declaration.
- ❖ The Courts have previously accepted autopen-signed documents as legally valid presidential authorization.



## **ECONOMY NEWS**

### **Credit Assessment Model**

- ❖ The Union government of India has launched the New Credit Assessment Model (CAM).
- ❖ It aims to support digital and automated loan appraisal for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- ❖ CAM uses verified digital data for assessing loan applications of Existing to Bank (ETB) and New to Bank (NTB) MSME borrowers.
- ❖ The Government, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) are taking steps to promote digital payments.



- ❖ These steps include RuPay incentives, BHIM-UPI (Person-to-Merchant) support and the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF).

## Government Launches New Digital Credit Assessment Model for MSMEs

The Ministry of Finance has introduced a **new Credit Assessment Model (CAM)** to streamline and modernize loan evaluation for MSMEs. The system uses **verified digital data to make loan approvals faster, transparent, and objective** for both existing and new borrowers.

The government has also extended support for **digital payments, including incentives for RuPay debit cards, BHIM-UPI transactions, and POS/QR expansion** in remote areas. Additionally, the **PM SVANidhi Scheme** for street vendors has been extended till March 2030 to strengthen financial inclusion.

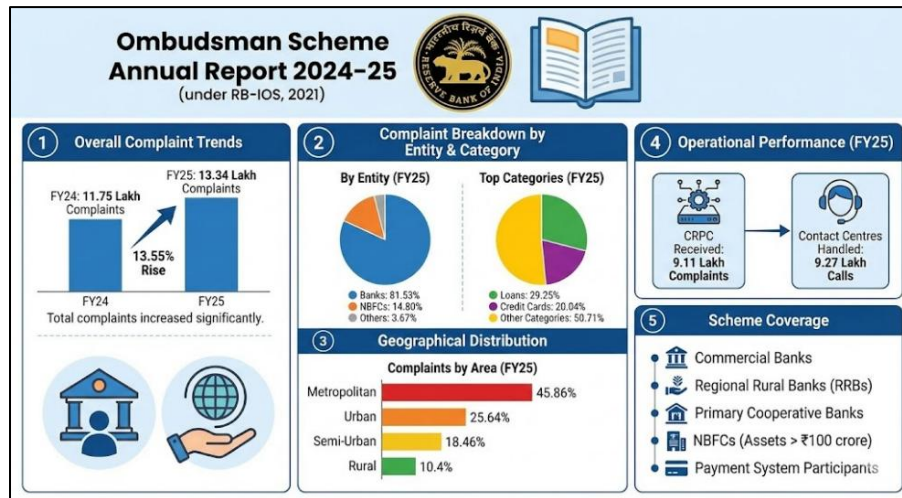
### Domestic Systemically Important Banks



- ❖ The RBI has listed SBI, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) for 2025.
- ❖ The three banks continue in the same D-SIB buckets as in the previous year.

- ❖ The D-SIB framework requires RBI to publish the list every year starting from 2015.
- ❖ SBI and ICICI Bank were first named D-SIBs in 2015–2016, and HDFC Bank was added in 2017.

## Ombudsman Scheme Annual Report 2024-25



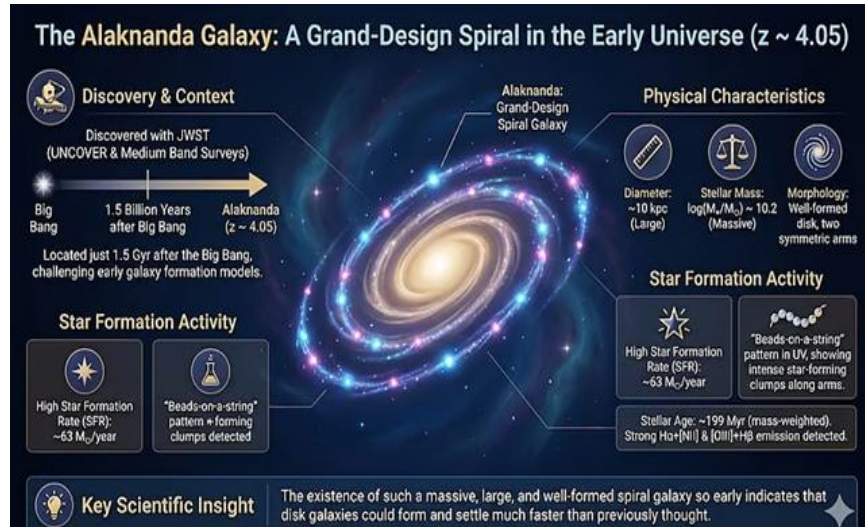
- ❖ The RBI released the Annual Report of the Ombudsman Scheme 2024-25 under the Reserve Bank Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (RB-IOS), 2021.
- ❖ Total complaints rose 13.55% from 11.75 lakh in FY24 to 13.34 lakh in FY25.
- ❖ Banks accounted for 81.53% of complaints, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) 14.80%, with loans (29.25%) and credit cards (20.04%) as top categories.
- ❖ Metropolitan centres contributed 45.86% of complaints, followed by urban 25.64%, semi-urban 18.46%, and rural 10.4%.
- ❖ The Centralised Receipt and Processing Centre (CRPC) received 9.11 lakh complaints, while Contact Centres (CC) handled 9.27 lakh calls in FY25.
- ❖ The scheme covers commercial banks, regional rural banks, primary cooperative banks, NBFCs with assets above ₹100 crore, and payment system participants.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### Alaknanda Galaxy

- ❖ The Researchers at NCRA-TIFR (National Centre for Radio Astrophysics – Tata Institute of Fundamental Research) found a new spiral galaxy named Alaknanda.
- ❖ It is located 12 billion light-years away and formed when the universe was 1.5 billion years old.

- ❖ The galaxy has two spiral arms and a bright central bulge, similar to the Milky Way.
- ❖ Earlier scientific models stated that early galaxies were expected to be chaotic and unstructured, but Alaknanda shows a well-formed spiral structure.
- ❖ The presence of a mature spiral pattern in Alaknanda indicates that complex galactic structures existed earlier in the universe than those models predicted.



## Electrical Activity on Mars



- ❖ The Perseverance rover of NASA has detected tiny electrical discharges called mini lightning in Mars atmosphere during whirlwinds and dust storms.
- ❖ Scientists documented 55 such discharges over two Martian years.



- ❖ The discharges are believed to arise from the triboelectric effect when dust or sand particles rub together, build up static charge, and then release it as electrical sparks.
- ❖ The sparks cause static noise and sometimes faint shock waves called mini sonic booms when dust whirlwinds pass close to the rover.

### **MH-60R Seahawk Helicopters**



- ❖ India signed a \$946 million sustainment agreement with the US for 24 MH-60R Seahawk naval helicopters.
- ❖ The agreement covers five years of spare parts, technical support, training, and repair facilities within India.
- ❖ The MH-60R is a multi-role maritime helicopter for anti-submarine and anti-surface operations.
- ❖ The helicopters carry AN/AQS-22 dipping sonar, sonobuoys, multi-mode radar, and Mk-54 torpedoes.

### **Heron Mk II UAV**

- ❖ The Indian armed forces signed with Israel for additional satellite-linked Heron Mk II UAVs under emergency procurement after Operation Sindoor.
- ❖ Heron Mk II is a medium-altitude long-endurance (MALE) unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) developed by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI).

- ❖ The UAV can fly up to 35,000 ft, has a top speed of 150 knots, and an operating range of over 1,000 km.
- ❖ Heron Mk II carries electro-optical/infra-red (EO/IR) sensors, long-range radars, and ELINT/COMINT systems for intelligence gathering and target tracking.



### **Fighter Aircraft Escape System**

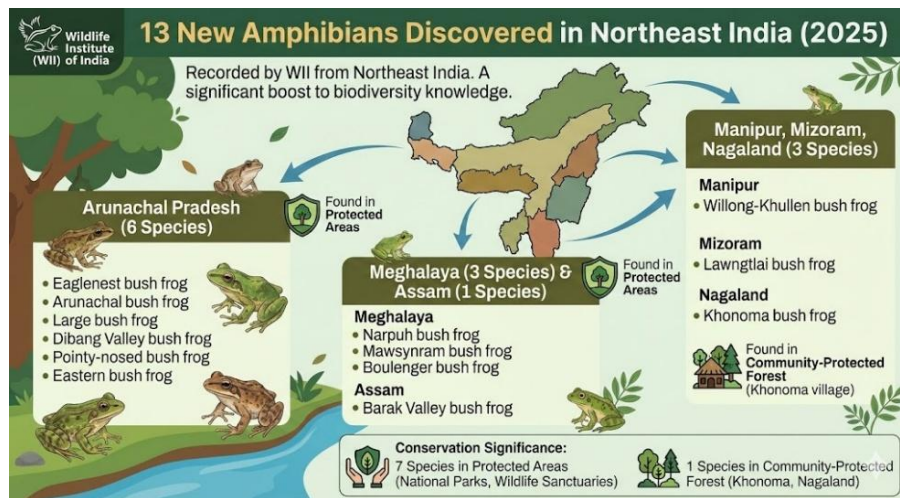


- ❖ The DRDO has conducted a high-speed rocket-sled test of a fighter aircraft escape system.
- ❖ The test was carried out at the Rail Track Rocket Sled facility of the Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory, Chandigarh.

- ❖ The test validated canopy severance, ejection sequencing, and complete aircrew recovery.
- ❖ It was conducted with the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

### 13 New Amphibians Discovery

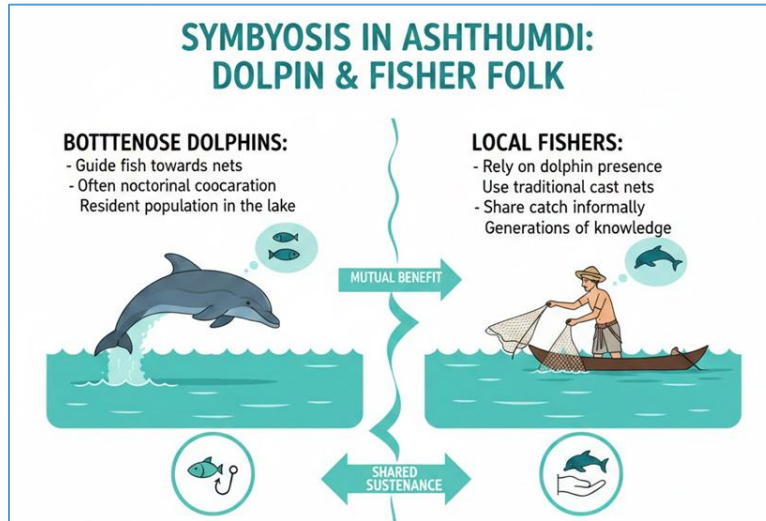


- ❖ The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) recorded 13 new-to-science amphibian species from northeast India.
- ❖ Six species recorded from Arunachal Pradesh: Eaglenest bush frog, Arunachal bush frog, large bush frog, Dibang Valley bush frog, Pointy-nosed bush frog, Eastern bush frog.
- ❖ Three species recorded from Meghalaya: Narpuh bush frog, Mawsynram bush frog, Boulenger bush frog;
- ❖ And Barak Valley bush frog (Assam), Willong-Khullen bush frog (Manipur), Lawngtlai bush frog (Mizoram), Khonoma bush frog (Nagaland).
- ❖ Seven species were found in protected areas, one in a community-protected forest in Nagaland's Khonoma village.

### Dolphin-Fisher Mutualism

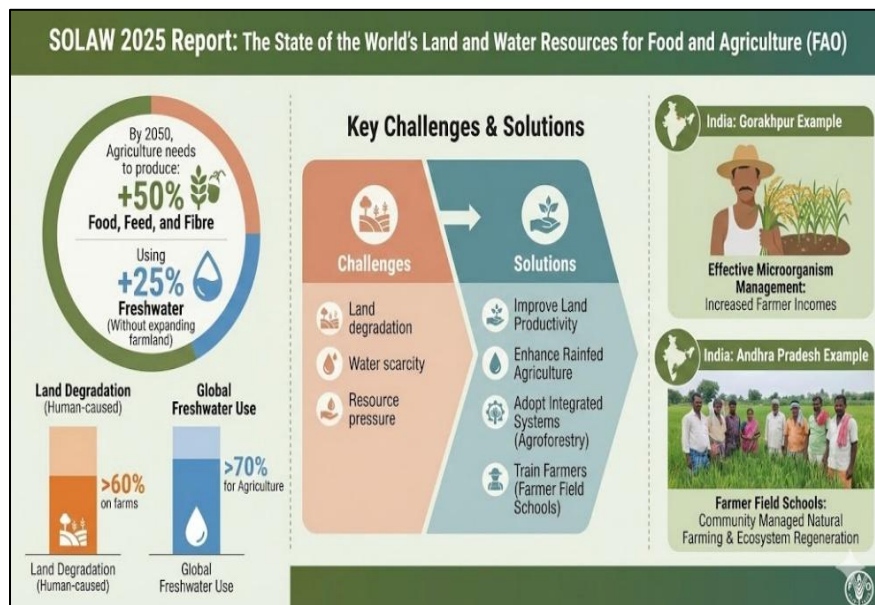
- ❖ University of Kerala have launched an international collaborative research project titled "The Ecology and Evolution of Cultural and Cooperative Behavior among Dolphins and Humans".

- ❖ The study aims to study the cooperative fishing behaviour (mutualism) between Indo-Pacific humpback dolphins and fishers in Ashtamudi Lake, Kerala.
- ❖ It will, for the first time, compare dolphin–fisher cooperation across three continents, including those observed in Brazil and Myanmar.



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### SOLAW 2025 Report



- ❖ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) released “The State of the World’s Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW) 2025”.



- ❖ The report highlights the need for agriculture to produce 50% more food, feed, and fibre by 2050 using 25% more freshwater, without expanding farmland.
- ❖ Over 60% of human-caused land degradation occurs on farms, and agriculture accounts for more than 70% of global freshwater use.
- ❖ In India, effective microorganism management in Gorakhpur increased farmer incomes, while Andhra Pradesh used Farmer Field Schools to support Community Managed Natural Farming and ecosystem regeneration.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### Global Forum on Tax Information Exchange



- ❖ The 18th Plenary Meeting of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The theme of the meeting was “Tax Transparency: Delivering a Shared Vision Through International Cooperation.”
- ❖ The Global Forum has 172 member jurisdictions and works to prevent the tax evasion and improve financial transparency.
- ❖ The plenary reviews two main standards: Exchange of Information on Request (EOIR) and Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI).
- ❖ India has been a member of the Global Forum since 2009 and holds positions in the Steering Group and Peer Review Groups.

### World Summit on Disaster Management 2025

- ❖ The summit was held in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.
- ❖ The main theme was “Strengthening International Cooperation for Building Resilient Communities.”

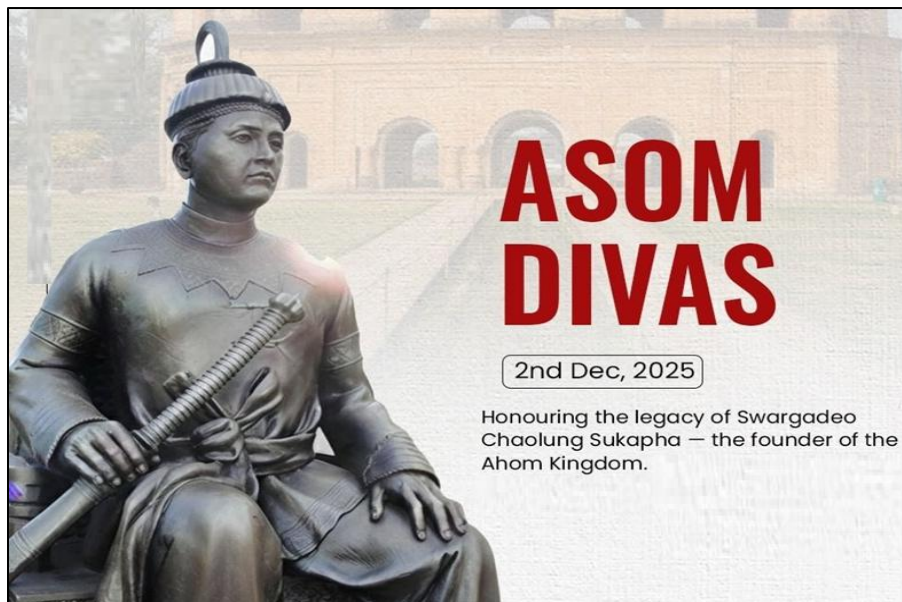


- ❖ The summit aims to promote the cooperation, share knowledge, and develop solutions for reducing disaster risks.
- ❖ Uttarakhand will receive three new weather radars at Haridwar, Pantnagar, and Auli.
- ❖ The new radars will add to the existing systems at Surkanda Devi, Mukteshwar, and Lansdowne for real-time weather forecasting.
- ❖ The event also marked the anniversary of the Silkyara Tunnel rescue mission.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Asom Divas 2025 - December 02



- ❖ The day is observed to mark the arrival of Chaolung Sukapha in Assam in 1228.



- ❖ Sukapha, a Tai prince from Mong Mao (present-day Dehong Dai and Jingpo Prefecture, China), founded the Ahom Kingdom.
- ❖ The Ahom rule lasted for nearly 600 years until 1826 and protected Assam from several Mughal invasions.
- ❖ Ahom society was organised into khels (clans), each controlling multiple villages.

### **International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025 - December 03**



- ❖ The day aims to support the dignity, rights, and well-being of persons with disabilities.
- ❖ In 2006, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was adopted, with 193 countries ratifying it.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Fostering disability inclusive societies for advancing social progress.”

