

March - 31

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Stuti Pradhan from Sikkim has been selected to represent India at the World Youth Parliament.
- ❖ Jammu and Kashmir won its first Ranji Trophy, India's premier domestic cricket tournament, after nearly 70 years.
- ❖ Kailash Satyarthi released a new book titled "Karuna: The Power of Compassion".
- ❖ World Backup Day is observed every year on March 31 to remind people to protect digital data.

## NATIONAL NEWS

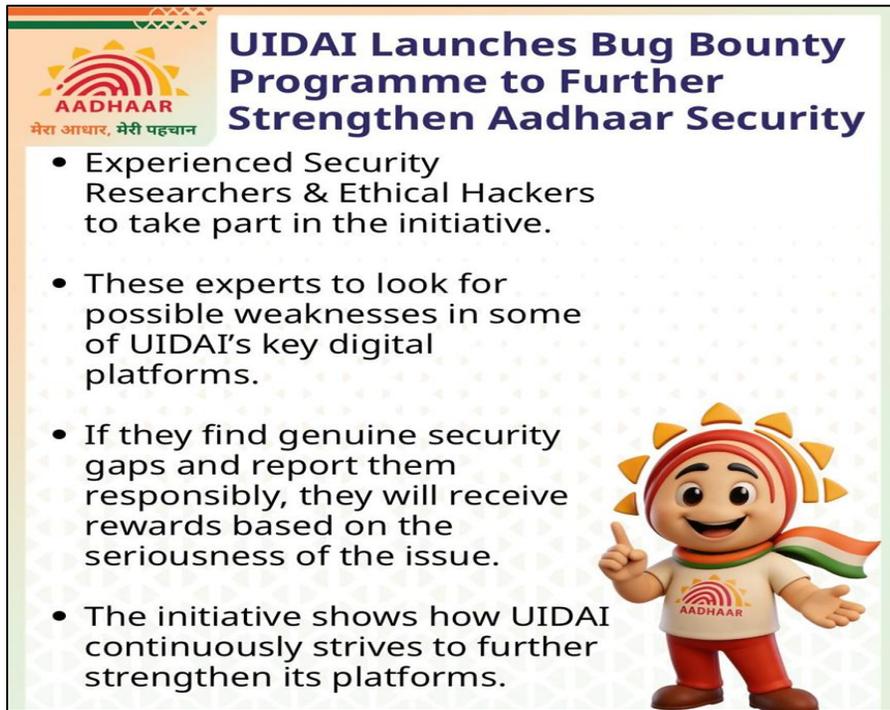
### Defence Forces Vision 2047



- ❖ Defence Minister unveiled the Defence Forces Vision 2047 roadmap for a future-ready Indian military.
- ❖ It aims to transform India's military into a modern, integrated and multi-domain force by 2047.
- ❖ The plan focuses on technologies like Artificial Intelligence, drones, cyber systems and space capabilities.

- ❖ It promotes joint operations among the Army, Navy and Air Force for better coordination and efficiency.
- ❖ It includes phases like transition, consolidation and excellence to achieve long-term defence goals.
- ❖ The vision also supports self-reliance by boosting domestic defence production and reducing imports.

### **UIDAI Bug Bounty Programme**



The graphic features the Aadhaar logo on the left with the text 'AADHAAR' and the slogan 'मेरा आधार, मेरी पहचान'. To the right, the title reads 'UIDAI Launches Bug Bounty Programme to Further Strengthen Aadhaar Security'. Below the title is a bulleted list of details about the programme. On the right side of the graphic is a cartoon mascot character wearing a white t-shirt with the Aadhaar logo and red pants, pointing upwards.

**UIDAI Launches Bug Bounty Programme to Further Strengthen Aadhaar Security**

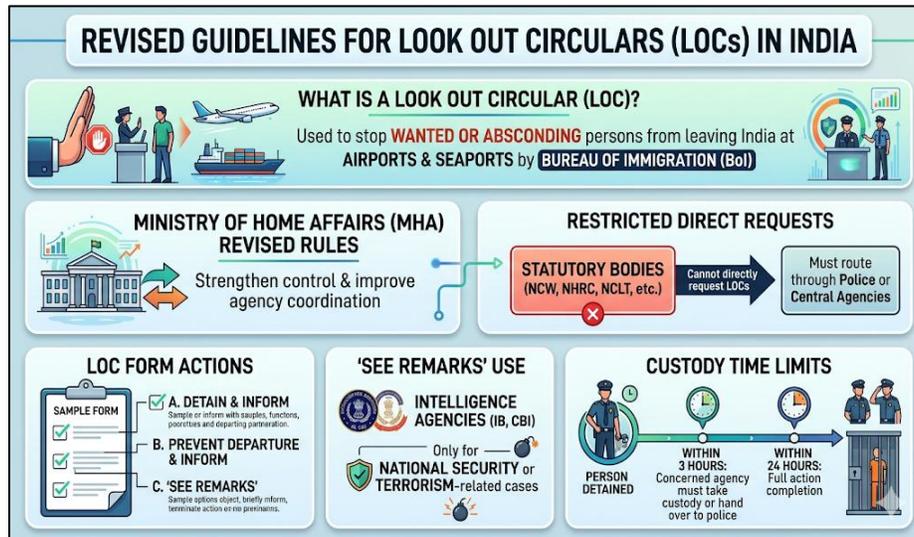
- Experienced Security Researchers & Ethical Hackers to take part in the initiative.
- These experts to look for possible weaknesses in some of UIDAI's key digital platforms.
- If they find genuine security gaps and report them responsibly, they will receive rewards based on the seriousness of the issue.
- The initiative shows how UIDAI continuously strives to further strengthen its platforms.

- ❖ Unique Identification Authority of India launched its first structured bug bounty programme to strengthen the security of the Aadhaar system.
- ❖ The programme invites cyber security experts and ethical hackers to identify vulnerabilities and hidden risks in UIDAI digital platforms.
- ❖ Around 20 selected security researchers will examine systems like the official website, the myAadhaar portal and the secure QR code application.
- ❖ It helps in early detection of security flaws, prevents data breaches and improves protection of personal identity data.

### **Look Out Circular Guidelines**

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs has revised rules for issuing Look Out Circulars (LOCs) to strengthen control and improve coordination among agencies.

- ❖ Statutory bodies like the National Commission for Women (NCW), National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), and National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) cannot directly request LOCs and must route through police or central agencies.
- ❖ LOC forms now have 3 clear actions: detain and inform, prevent departure and inform, or “see remarks” for special cases.
- ❖ Intelligence agencies like the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) can use “see remarks” only for national security or terrorism-related cases.
- ❖ If a person is detained, the concerned agency must take custody within 3 hours or hand over to the police, and within 24 hours for full action.
- ❖ LOC (Look Out Circular) is used to stop wanted or absconding persons from leaving India at airports and seaports by the Bureau of Immigration (BoI).



## BHAVYA Scheme

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana (BHAVYA) to boost industrial infrastructure in India.
- ❖ BHAVYA aims to develop 100 plug-and-play industrial parks with a total budget of ₹33,660 crore over 6 years (2026–2032).
- ❖ Industrial parks will be developed on 100–1000 acres (minimum 25 acres in North-East and hilly regions) with ready infrastructure.
- ❖ Financial support up to ₹1 crore per acre will be provided for core, value-added, and social infrastructure facilities.
- ❖ It will be implemented by the National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

# CABINET APPROVES **BHAVYA**



**Total outlay:  
Rs. 33,660 crore**

**100 plug-and-play industrial  
parks to be developed**

Industrial parks ranging from  
**100 to 1000 acres**

Support of up to **Rs. 1 crore**  
per acre

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### FATF Grey List Update

- ❖ The Financial Action Task Force added Kuwait and Papua New Guinea to its increased monitoring list after its recent plenary meeting.
- ❖ These countries were added due to strategic gaps in systems to control money laundering, terrorist financing and illegal fund flows.
- ❖ Countries in this list are called the grey list, and they must follow time-bound action plans to correct these weaknesses.
- ❖ Iran, North Korea and Myanmar remain in the high-risk list, which requires strict countermeasures and enhanced due diligence.

**FATF Adds Kuwait  
and Papua New  
Guinea to “Grey  
List” After Plenary  
Meeting**



## **Agreed Conclusions Framework**



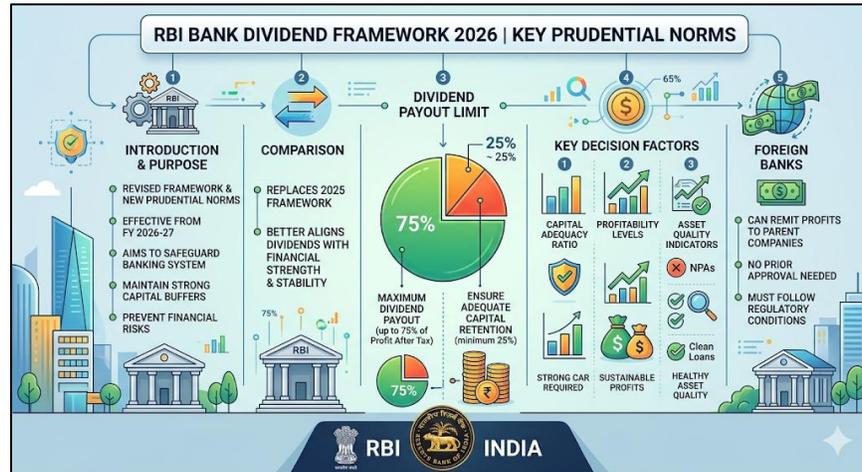
- ❖ The United Nations adopted the Agreed Conclusions framework to improve access to justice for women and girls across the world.
- ❖ It was adopted by consensus during the 70th session of the Commission on the Status of Women held in New York.
- ❖ The framework is not legally binding and acts as a guiding policy for member countries to improve justice systems.
- ❖ It focuses on removing discriminatory laws and ensuring equal legal rights for women and girls in all sectors.
- ❖ It also aims to strengthen protection against violence, both online and offline and improve support systems.

## **ECONOMY NEWS**

### **RBI Dividend Framework 2026**

- ❖ Reserve Bank of India revised the bank dividend framework and introduced new prudential norms effective from Financial Year 2026–27.
- ❖ The aim is to safeguard the banking system by maintaining strong capital buffers and preventing financial risks.
- ❖ The new rules replace the 2025 framework to better align dividend payouts with the financial strength and stability of banks.
- ❖ Banks cannot pay dividends above 75% of their profit after tax to ensure adequate capital retention.
- ❖ Dividend decisions will depend on factors like capital adequacy ratio, profitability levels and asset quality indicators.

- ❖ Foreign banks can remit profits to their parent companies without prior approval, but must follow regulatory conditions.



## India - US Cotton Trade



**India has overtaken China to become the largest exporter of cotton products to the United States in 2025, marking a significant shift in global textile trade.**

**According to global cotton market analysis by the US Department of Agriculture, India shipped around 0.6 million tonnes of cotton based products such as apparel and home textiles to the US, slightly ahead of China which exported about 0.5 million tonnes during the year.**

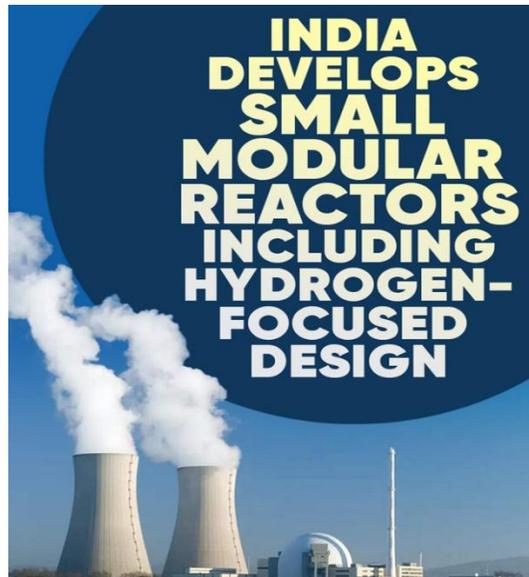
- ❖ India has overtaken China to become the largest supplier of cotton products to the United States in 2025.
- ❖ India exported around 0.6 million tonnes of cotton products, while China's exports declined to about 0.5 million tonnes due to high tariffs (10%–125%) and regulatory restrictions.
- ❖ US laws like the Uyghur Forced Labour Prevention Act (UFLPA) reduced dependence on Chinese imports and increased sourcing from India and other countries.

- ❖ The United States remains the world's largest importer of cotton-based products like apparel and home textiles.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### Small Modular Reactors in India

- ❖ India is developing three types of Small Modular Reactors to increase nuclear energy capacity and support clean energy goals.
- ❖ These are small and advanced nuclear reactors producing up to 300-megawatt electric power per module.
- ❖ Types include Bharat Small Modular Reactor, SMR-55 and high temperature gas cooled reactor for power and hydrogen generation.
- ❖ They use advanced technologies like pressurised water reactors and slightly enriched uranium fuel.
- ❖ SMRs are safer, modular, cost-effective, and reducing carbon emissions.



## REPORTS AND INDICES

### Textile Waste Report 2026

- ❖ The Ministry of Textiles released a report on mapping the textile waste value chain in India to improve recycling and sustainability.
- ❖ India generates about 70.73 lakh tonnes of textile waste every year from manufacturing processes and post-consumer disposal.

- ❖ Around 95% of pre-consumer waste is recovered due to strong collection and recycling systems in the industry.
- ❖ The spinning sector achieves nearly 100% reuse of waste within production through closed-loop processes.
- ❖ About 70% of total textile waste is recycled, reused, upcycled or downcycled instead of going to landfills.
- ❖ The textile recycling market may reach 3.5 billion US dollars by 2030 and can create nearly one lakh green jobs.



## STATE NEWS

### Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0 - Meghalaya

- ❖ Meghalaya became the 12th state to sign reform-based MoU under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) 2.0.
- ❖ JJM aims to provide functional household tap water connections in rural areas.
- ❖ JJM 2.0 focuses on service delivery, sustainability, and decentralised water management.
- ❖ The MoU promotes the role of Gram Panchayats and Village Water and Sanitation Committees in managing water supply.
- ❖ Meghalaya has achieved over 83% rural tap water coverage under the mission.

## **HCM ATTENDS MOU SIGNING BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA AND NATIONAL JAL JEEVAN MISSION**

A step forward in expanding access and  
improving the reliability of water supply across the state



### **Lake and Air Watch Initiative**

- ❖ Gujarat launched the Lake and Air Watch initiative to monitor and improve lake health and air quality across cities.
- ❖ It uses satellite technology to track lake area changes, algae growth, waste and water quality indicators.
- ❖ Real-time Air Quality Index monitoring will be set up in 17 municipal corporations and 152 municipal areas.
- ❖ The system gives automatic alerts when air pollution rises or lake conditions worsen.



## **Microalgae Air Tower in Delhi**

- ❖ India's first microalgae-based air tower was installed in New Delhi to reduce air pollution from vehicles.
- ❖ The tower is set up near the Aerocity highway as a pilot project to test new pollution control technology.
- ❖ It uses microalgae and photosynthesis to absorb pollutants like carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter.
- ❖ Polluted air is taken into the tower and converted into oxygen and algal biomass naturally.
- ❖ It is a nature-based and sustainable method for improving urban air quality.

