

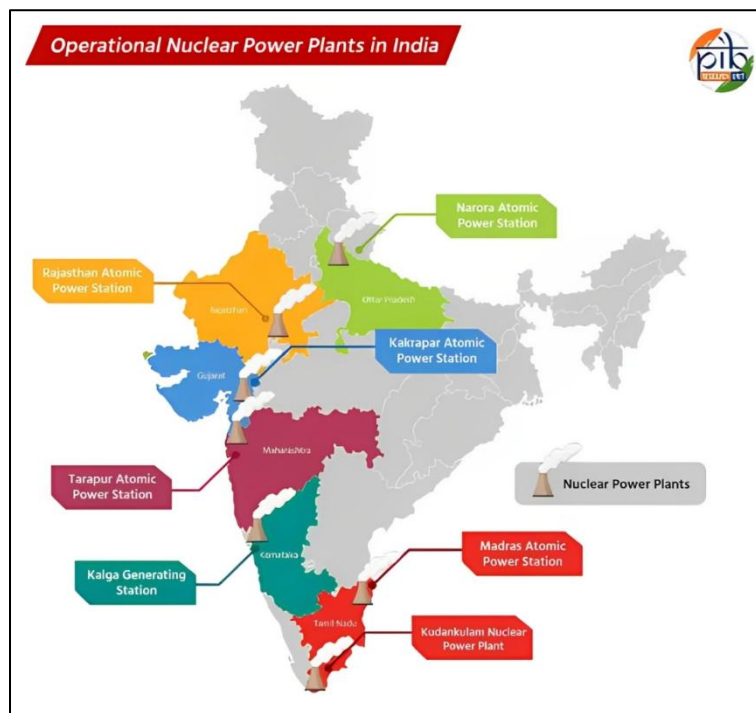
October - 01

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The UAE unveiled its first Sovereign Mobility Cloud at the Dubai World Congress for Self-Driving Transport.
- ❖ Senior journalist Amshi Prasannakumar from Mysuru has been selected for the Hombale Samhita Harinikumar Alumni Krishi Media Award 2025.
- ❖ The proposed 69-km Kokrajhar–Gelephu rail line between India and Bhutan, Bhutan's first-ever railway, has been designated as a Special Railway Project under the Railways Act, 1989.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government appointed Justice Aruna Jagadeesan to lead a one-member inquiry into the Karur stampede incident at TVK's rally that killed 40.
- ❖ Kanad Das has been appointed as the 13th director of the Botanical Survey of India (BSI).
 - He is the first mycologist to lead the premier research institute under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

NATIONAL NEWS

New Energy Projects 2025



- ❖ The foundation stone for the Mahi Banswara Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (MBRAPP) was laid by the Prime Minister.
- ❖ The project involves an investment of around ₹42,000 crore and will feature four indigenous 700 megawatt pressurised heavy water reactors (IPHWR-700).
- ❖ MBRAPP is being developed under India's fleet mode strategy to construct ten identical 700-megawatt nuclear reactors across the country.
- ❖ Prime Minister also inaugurated the RSDCL Nokh Solar Park in Phalodi, Rajasthan.
- ❖ It has a total capacity of 925 megawatt, including 735 megawatts developed by NTPC.
- ❖ The solar park will enhance renewable energy generation and contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions.

New member to the Rehabilitation Council of India



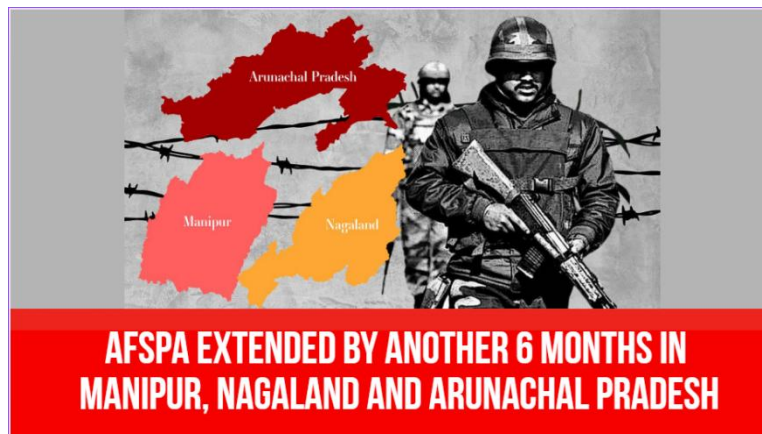
- ❖ The central government has appointed Lok Sabha MP Kanwar Singh Tanwar and Rajya Sabha MP Dr. Jashvantsinh Parmar as members of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI).
- ❖ Their appointments were made under the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992.
- ❖ They will serve a two-year term from the date of notification or until successors are appointed, whichever is longer.

“Prayas” Neuro Rehabilitation Centre

- ❖ The Ministry of Ayush launched “Prayas”, a first-of-its-kind Integrated Neuro Rehabilitation Centre at the All-India Institute of Ayurveda in Goa.
- ❖ The centre was inaugurated by a Union Minister on the occasion of the 10th Ayurveda Day.
- ❖ “Prayas” combines Ayurveda, Physiotherapy, Yoga, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and modern Paediatrics for paediatric neuro and developmental care.
- ❖ The centre aims to deliver holistic, integrative, and evidence-based neuro rehabilitation with a focus on children facing neurological challenges.



AFSPA Act Extension 2025



- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act in parts of Manipur, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh for six months from October 1, 2025.



- ❖ In Manipur, the Act is applicable across the State except in five valley districts.
- ❖ In Nagaland, AFSPA has been extended in nine districts.
- ❖ In Arunachal Pradesh, AFSPA remains in force in Tirap, Changlang, Longding, and parts of the Namsai district near the Assam border.
- ❖ The law grants armed forces powers to use force, arrest without warrant, and provides legal immunity in notified disturbed areas.
- ❖ AFSPA has been in force in Manipur since 1981, and its provisions were earlier withdrawn from several valley areas between 2022 and 2023.

Four-Pillar Strategy for the Maritime Sector

Comprehensive 4-Pillar Approach to Strengthen Shipbuilding, Maritime Financing, and Domestic Capacity

- Cabinet approves **₹69,725 crore comprehensive package** to revitalize India's shipbuilding and maritime sector
- **Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme (SBFAS)** extended until **31 March 2036** with a total corpus of **₹24,736 crore**
- The scheme aims to incentivize ship building in India and includes a **Shipbreaking Credit Note** with an allocation of **₹4,001 crore**
- **Maritime Development Fund (MDF)** approved with a corpus of **₹25,000 crore** to provide long-term financing for the sector

- ❖ The Cabinet has approved a comprehensive four-pillar strategy to revitalize India's shipbuilding and maritime sector.
- ❖ The first pillar focuses on extending the Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme (SBFAS) until 2036 with a corpus of Rs.24,736 crore to incentivize shipbuilding activities.
- ❖ The second pillar introduces the Maritime Development Fund (MDF) worth Rs.25,000 crore, to provide long-term financing and reduce borrowing costs.
- ❖ The third pillar is the Shipbuilding Development Scheme with an outlay of Rs.19,989 crore.
- ❖ It aimed at expanding domestic shipbuilding capacity to 4.5 million gross tonnages annually and supporting infrastructure growth.
- ❖ The fourth pillar involves policy reforms, skill development, and the establishment of a National Shipbuilding Mission to oversee and coordinate these initiatives.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

USA's tariffs on pharmaceutical drug



- ❖ US President announced a 100% tariff on imported "branded and patented pharmaceutical products.
- ❖ India, Belgium, Italy, and China also export drugs to the US but largely in the generic space.
- ❖ India, often called Pharmacy of the World, is one of the largest pharma exporters in the world with a global market share of 5.71%.
- ❖ The US is India's largest pharma market, accounting for around 35% of exports worth \$10 billion (FY25).
- ❖ India also has the highest number of US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) compliant companies with plants outside of the USA.
- ❖ India ranks 3rd worldwide by volume and 11th by value in pharmaceutical production and India contributes to 60% of global vaccines.

Türkiye and U.S. Nuclear Energy Deal

- ❖ Türkiye signed a MoU on Strategic Civil Nuclear Cooperation with the United States.
- ❖ The agreement includes plans for large-scale nuclear power plants and small modular reactors (SMRs).
- ❖ It aims to expand Türkiye's nuclear capacity and strengthen bilateral energy ties.

- ❖ This follows Türkiye's broader strategy to diversify energy sources, including the ongoing \$20 billion Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant project with Russia and recent LNG deals totalling 75.8 billion cubic meters.



Iran-Russia Nuclear Deal



- ❖ Iran and Russia signed a \$25 billion deal to build four nuclear reactors with a total capacity of 5 GW in Hormozgan province, southern Iran.
- ❖ The project is aimed at addressing Iran's electricity shortages, especially during peak demand.
- ❖ Russia's Rosatom will lead the construction; Iran currently has one 1 GW nuclear plant in Bushehr, built by Russia.

- ❖ The deal comes amid a UN Security Council vote on delaying sanctions related to Iran's nuclear program.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

MiG-21 Final Flight ceremony

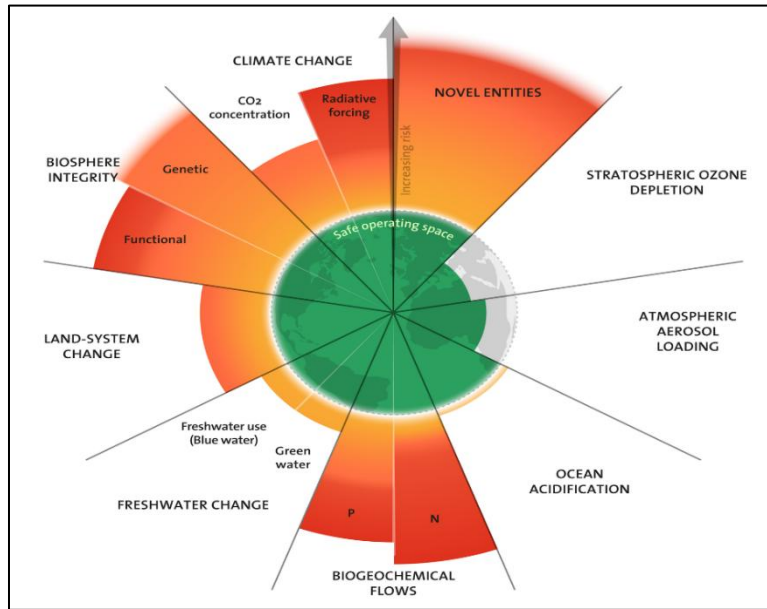
- ❖ The MiG-21 fighter jets flew for the last time during a decommissioning ceremony at Chandigarh Air Force Station.
- ❖ The MiG-21 was India's first supersonic fighter and interceptor aircraft, inducted into service in the 1960s.
- ❖ Over 870 MiG-21 aircraft were inducted by the Indian Air Force to enhance combat capability.
- ❖ The jets played key roles in the 1965 and 1971 wars with Pakistan, the 1999 Kargil conflict, and the 2019 Balakot airstrikes.



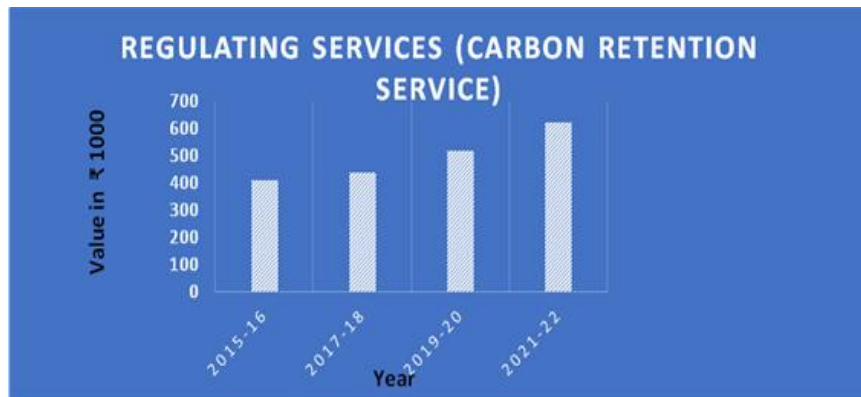
REPORTS AND INDICES

“Planetary Health Check 2025”

- ❖ “Planetary Health Check 2025” reveals seven of nine planetary boundaries have now been breached, including ocean acidification for the first time.
- ❖ The breached boundaries are: Climate Change, Biosphere Integrity, Land System Change, Freshwater Use, Biogeochemical Flows, Novel Entities, and newly added Ocean Acidification.
- ❖ Only Ozone Depletion and Aerosol Loading remain within safe limits.
- ❖ Ocean acidification has increased by 30-40% since the industrial era.



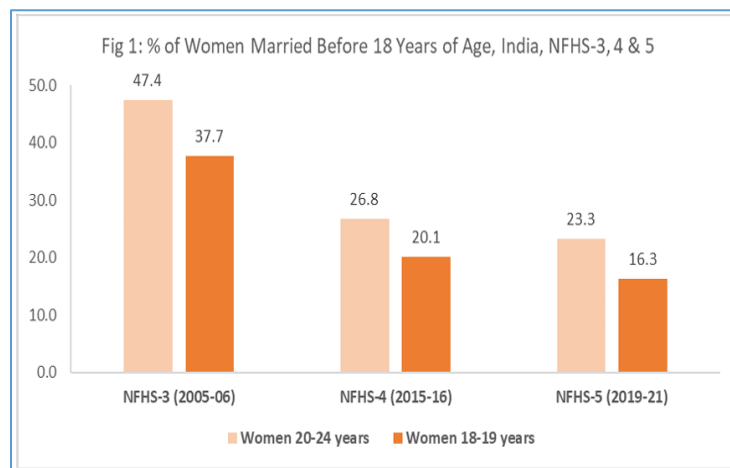
Environmental Accounting on Forest 2025 Report



- ❖ The “Environmental Accounting on Forest – 2025” report was compiled and released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- ❖ India's forest cover increased by 17,444.61 square kilometres from 2010–11 to 2021–22.
- ❖ It was reaching 7.15 lakh square kilometres or 21.76% of the total geographical area.
- ❖ Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu recorded the highest increases in forest cover with 4,137, 3,122, and 2,606 square kilometres respectively.
- ❖ Uttarakhand, Odisha, and Jharkhand showed notable increases in Recorded Forest Area share with 6.3%, 1.97%, and 1.9% respectively.
- ❖ India's growing stock, indicating usable wood volume, rose by 305.53 million cubic metres between 2013 and 2023, a 7.32% increase.

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana contributed 136, 51, and 28 million cubic metres, respectively, to the growing stock increase.
- ❖ Provisioning services from forests rose from ₹30.72 thousand crore in 2011–12 to ₹37.93 thousand crore in 2021–22, about 0.16% of GDP at current prices.
- ❖ Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Kerala were the top contributors to provisioning services with ₹23.78, ₹14.15, and ₹8.55 thousand crore, respectively.
- ❖ Carbon retention regulating services increased by 51.82% from ₹409.1 thousand crore in 2015–16 to ₹620.97 thousand crore in 2021–22.
- ❖ The value of regulating services in 2021–22 equalled 2.63% of GDP at current prices, with Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Assam as top contributors.

UNICEF Report on Child Marriages in India



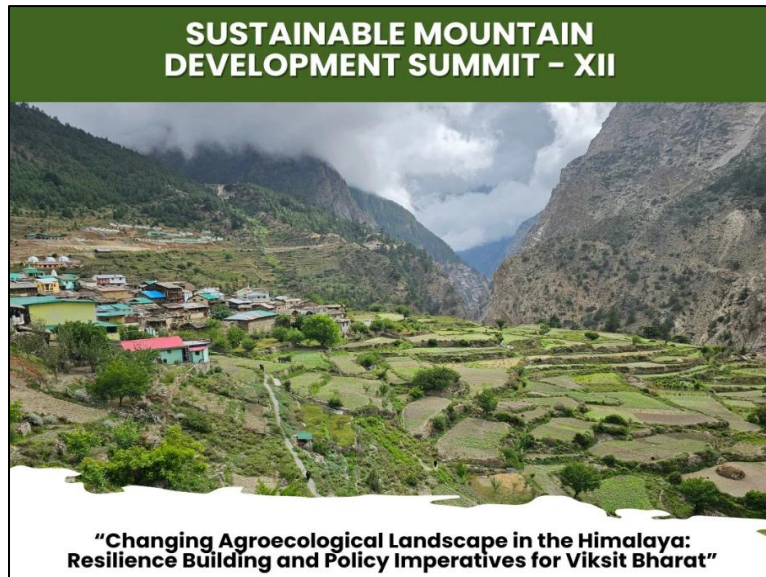
- ❖ The prevalence of child marriage in Andhra Pradesh declined from 33% (NFHS-4) to 29.3% (NFHS-5), and in Rajasthan from 35.4% to 25.4%.
- ❖ Odisha scaled up its "Child Marriage Free Village" initiative, with over 12,400 villages declared child marriage-free by January 2022.
- ❖ Despite progress, about 1.5 million girls under 18 still marry yearly in India; 16% of girls aged 15–19 is currently married.
- ❖ The UNICEF–UNFPA Global Programme integrates education, health, child protection, and sanitation to address root causes at scale.

STATES' NEWS

Sustainable Mountain Development Summit

- ❖ The 12th Sustainable Mountain Development Summit was held in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

- ❖ The summit was organised by Integrated Mountain Initiative.
- ❖ It focused on climate change, disaster risks, and sustainable development in the Himalayan region.
- ❖ Key recommendations included forming national-level mountain policy bodies, risk-sensitive planning, and participatory governance models.
- ❖ The summit concluded with the adoption of the “Dehradun Declaration” reaffirming commitment to inclusive and sustainable mountain development.



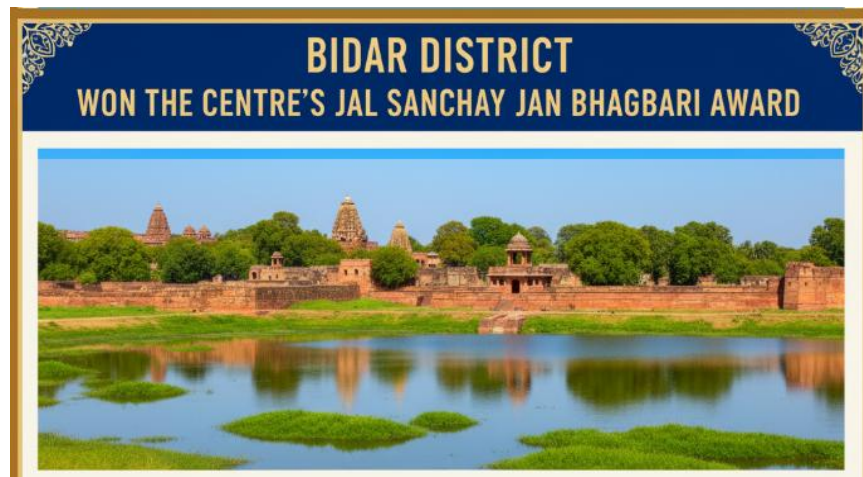
PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

National Geoscience Awards 2024

- ❖ The President of India conferred the National Geoscience Awards 2024 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre in New Delhi.
- ❖ The awards were instituted in 1966 by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, to recognize exceptional achievements in the field of geosciences.
- ❖ A total of 20 geoscientists received 12 awards under three categories, including one Lifetime Achievement Award and one Young Geoscientist Award.
- ❖ The Lifetime Achievement Award 2024 was given to Shyam Sundar Rai for his contributions in seismology and exploration geophysics.
- ❖ The Young Geoscientist Award 2024 was presented to Susobhan Neogi, senior geologist at the Geological Survey of India, for his work on tectonic evolution in regions such as Meghalaya, Jharkhand, and Bundelkhand.



Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Award



- ❖ Bidar district of Karnataka has won the Centre's Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Award under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign for outstanding water conservation efforts.
- ❖ Bidar is among the top 80 districts selected under category 3 of the campaign and is the only district from the Kalyana Karnataka region to win.
- ❖ A total of six districts from Karnataka received the award.
- ❖ The campaign promotes community-driven water conservation and groundwater recharge across India.
- ❖ Bidar's initiatives include:

- Construction of small check dams, gabion structures, gully plugs, percolation ponds, and soak pits.
- Use of traditional rain harvesting methods such as taankas and stepwells.
- Desilting works under MGNREGA and trenches in agricultural fields.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste 2025 - September 29



- ❖ It aims to raise global awareness and drive action to reduce food loss and waste across the supply chain.
- ❖ It supports SDG Target 12.3 to halve food waste and cut losses by 2030.
- ❖ The 2025 theme is: “Stop food loss and waste. For the people. For our planet.”

