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National and International News

<p>RapidX or Namoo Bharat</p>	<p>Context High-speed train, RapidX, all set to be inaugurated.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) has named India's first semi-high-speed regional rail services as 'RAPIDX'. • These trains will operate on the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridors, which are being constructed to link important urban nodes across the National Capital Region (NCR). • The brand aims to incorporate green energy into its operations by installing solar panels at stations and depots and gradually increasing the use of blended power in traction. <p>About NCRTC The NCRTC is a joint venture company between the Union government and the states of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.</p>
<p>Namoo Bharat</p>	<p>Context Prime Minister flagged off the country's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), Namoo Bharat train.</p> <p>About train</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RRTS is a new rail-based, semi-high-speed, high-frequency commuter transit system. • With a design speed of 180 kmph, it is a regional development initiative, which is designed to provide high-speed trains for intercity commuting every 15 minutes, going up to a frequency of every five minutes when required. • The train will allow a commuter to travel between Delhi and Meerut in less than an hour.
<p>'Tej'</p>	<p>Context A low-pressure area over the southeast and the adjoining southwest Arabian Sea that is about to develop into a depression. It has the potential to impact Mumbai, Pune, and other regions of Maharashtra and the Konkan area.</p> <p>About Cyclone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyclones are rapid inward air circulation around a low-pressure area.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The air circulates in an anticlockwise direction in the Northern hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern hemisphere. Cyclones are usually accompanied by violent storms and bad weather.
Mehrauli park structures	<p>Context Major restoration and conservation works have been done at Mehrauli Archaeological Park</p> <p>About Mehrauli</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is spread over 200 acres. Mehrauli Archaeological Park is adjacent to Qutub Minar It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is home to 55 historic structures built by various empires — including the Khaljis, Tughlaqs, Lodhis, Mughals, and the British These include the Jamali Kamali Mosque, Metcalfe House, Rajon ki Baoli, as well as the tombs of Mamluk king Ghiyas-ud-din Balban and Mughal governor Shah Quli Khan.
Dhordo in Gujarat	<p>Context Dhordo in Gujarat has made it to the United Nations World Tourism Organization's best villages list.</p> <p>About UNWTO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations. It promotes responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism. It is headquartered in Madrid, Spain. UNWTO promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability.
Star rating energy efficiency scheme for solar panels	<p>Context The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has expanded its scheme to solar panels. Starting January 2024, solar panel manufacturers can apply for getting their products rated for energy efficiency.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BEE manages the 'star rating' scheme and is a subsidiary of the Ministry of Power. A panel with efficiency of 17% to 18% will be rated 1-star, 18% to 20% 2-star and so on. Panels will be rated 5-star for efficiency greater than 22%.



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<p>China to curb graphite export</p>	<p>Context China will require export permits for some graphite products to protect national security</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China is the world's top graphite producer and exporter. • It also refines 90% of the world's graphite into the material that is used virtually in all EV battery anodes, which is the negatively charged portion of a battery.
<p>President launches fourth Krishi Road Map of Bihar</p>	<p>Context President launched the fourth Krishi Road Map (2023-28) of Bihar with an estimate of ₹1.62 lakh crore.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The map focuses on increasing agricultural production, while also increasing farmers' incomes in the five years. • The road map, the fourth of its kind, focuses on storage, processing, and expansion of seed and irrigation along with crop diversification and improved agriculture marketing.
<p>Ayodhya Ram temple trust receives FCRA licence to accept foreign donations</p>	<p>Context The Ayodhya Ram temple trust, known as the Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra, has received a licence to accept foreign donations under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA).</p> <p>About FCRA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) was enacted in 1976 to regulate foreign donations and ensure that such contributions do not adversely affect the internal security of the country. • The FCRA applies to all associations, groups, and NGOs which intend to receive foreign donations. • All such NGOs must register themselves under the FCRA. • This legal Provision is not only meant for NGOs but also for Political Organisations and Political Parties. • Moreover, the 2010 Amendment Act has also included electronic media companies and “organizations of a political nature” to the list.

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