




**28 October 2024**

**National and International News**

<p><b>Capital (Capex)</b></p> <p><b>Expenditure</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investments in the second quarter increased by 42.5%, and capital expenditures are showing signs of recovery, according to recent data.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital expenditure (Capex) is the <b>money spent by the government on the development of machinery, equipment, building, health facilities, education, etc.</b></li> <li><b>Capital expenditure includes money spent on the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquiring fixed and intangible assets</li> <li>Upgrading an existing asset</li> <li>Repairing an existing asset</li> <li>Repayment of loan</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Significance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Multiplier effect</b> - Capex has the maximum multiplier effect (change in rupee value of output with respect to a change in rupee value of expenditure).</li> <li><b>Labour productivity</b> - On the supply side, Capex can facilitate labor productivity.</li> <li><b>Macroeconomic stabilizer</b> - Capital expenditure is an effective tool for countercyclical fiscal policy and acts as a macroeconomic stabilizer.</li> <li><b>Liability reduction</b> - Along with the creation of assets, repayment of loan is also capital expenditure as it reduces liability.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Israel Palestine Conflict</b></p> <p>Israel's boundaries today Palestinian territories</p> 	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Israeli military strikes killed at least 45 Palestinians in Gaza, primarily in the north, while ceasefire negotiations resumed in Qatar amid the ongoing conflict.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Israel-Palestine conflict arises from <b>interconnected historical assertions, nationalist aspirations, and religious significance in the Middle East</b>, centered on territory and identity struggles.</li> <li>Started with the <b>rise of Zionism in the late 19th century and mirrored by the rise of Arab nationalism</b>, the conflict escalated in the 20th century, especially after Israel's establishment in 1948. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Zionism</b> is the national endeavor of the Jewish people, <b>supporting and advocating for the restoration of a Jewish homeland, traditionally identified with the area of Palestine or the Biblical land of Israel.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Conflict Regions:</b></li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>About Gaza Strip:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ - <b>Location:</b> The Gaza Strip is a coastal Palestinian region along the Mediterranean Sea, bordered by Israel and Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. Together with the West Bank, it forms the State of Palestine, with Israel situated between the two territories.</li> <li>■ - <b>Governance:</b> Hamas, a politico-military entity, has administered the Gaza Strip since its electoral victory in 2006.</li> <li>■ - <b>Control:</b> While Israel maintains authority over Gaza's airspace and coastline, it has also implemented limitations on goods entering the territory. Additionally, Egypt manages its border with Gaza.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>West Bank:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ - <b>Location:</b> This territory is landlocked and is bordered by Israel and Jordan, with the Dead Sea marking part of its boundary.</li> <li>■ - <b>Administration:</b> A section of Jerusalem is within the West Bank. The region is governed by Fatah, previously recognised as the Palestinian National Liberation Movement.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Jerusalem:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ - <b>Location:</b> Located on a plateau in the Judean Mountains between the Mediterranean Sea and the Dead Sea. It's roughly in the center of Israel and is bordered by several Palestinian territories.</li> <li>■ - <b>Administration:</b> Jerusalem is divided into several districts: Jewish-majority West Jerusalem and the predominantly Palestinian East Jerusalem, which includes the Old City.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
PM 2.5	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Particulate matter (2.5) in Delhi's air has surged over ten times the <b>WHO's safe limit and is expected to worsen soon.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The term <b>fine particles, or particulate matter 2.5 (PM2.5), refers to tiny particles or droplets in the air</b> that are two and half microns or less in width.</li> <li>● Particles in the PM5 size range are <b>able to travel deeply into the respiratory tract</b>, reaching the lungs.</li> <li>● Exposure to fine particles can cause short-term health effects such as eye, nose, throat and lung irritation, coughing, sneezing, runny nose and shortness of breath.</li> <li>● Long term exposure to fine particulate matter may be associated with increased rates of chronic bronchitis, reduced lung function and increased mortality from lung cancer and heart disease.</li> <li>● <b>Sources:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Outside, fine particles primarily come from <b>car, truck, bus</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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	<p>and off-road vehicle (e.g., construction equipment, snowmobile, locomotive) exhausts, other operations that involve the burning of fuels such as wood, heating oil or coal and natural sources such as forest and grass fires.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fine particles also form from the reaction of gasses or droplets in the atmosphere from sources such as power plants.</li> <li>○ PM2.5 is also produced by <b>common indoor activities like tobacco smoke, cooking (e.g., frying, sautéing, and broiling), burning candles or oil lamps, and operating fireplaces and fuel-burning space heaters (e.g., kerosene heaters).</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In September 2021, the <b>WHO tightened the global air quality norms and lowered the annual concentration of PM2.5 to five microgram (µg) from 10µg.</b></li> </ul>
CERT-In	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● India's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) released a list of online scams being carried out by fraudsters, including a method referred to as "<b>digital arrest.</b>"</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It is the <b>national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents</b> as and when they occur.</li> <li>● It is a functional organization of the <b>Ministry of Information &amp; Electronics Technology</b>, Government of India, with the objective of securing Indian cyberspace.</li> <li>● The constituency of CERT-In is the Indian cyber community and Indian cyberspace.</li> <li>● The <b>Information Technology (Amendment) Act 2008</b>, designated CERT-In to serve as the national agency to perform the following functions in the area of cybersecurity:</li> <li>● <b>Collection, analysis, and dissemination of information on cyber incidents.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Forecasts and alerts of cyber security incidents</li> <li>○ Emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents</li> <li>○ Coordination of cyber incident response activities.</li> <li>○ Issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes, and white papers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response, and reporting of cyber incidents.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Do you know?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Digital Arrest</b> is a new and innovative tactic employed by cybercriminals to defraud gullible victims and extort money.</li> </ul>
New Space Projects - ISRO	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Indian government recently approved several new projects, including the development of a new rocket and missions to the Moon and Venus.</li> <li>● Newly approved space projects include <b>Chandrayaan-4, Venus</b></li> </ul>



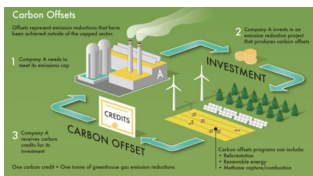
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**Orbiter Mission (VOM), Bhartiya Antriksh Station (BAS) and Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV).**

**Key Points:**

- **Chandrayaan-4:**
  - The mission is designed to land on the **lunar surface, collect samples, store them in a vacuum container, and bring them back to earth.**
  - It will involve spacecraft development, two different Launch Vehicle Mk III launches, deep space network support, and special tests.
- **Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM):**
  - It aims to **orbit Venus to study the planet's surface, subsurface, atmospheric processes, and the Sun's impact on its atmosphere** by probing its thick atmosphere.
  - The mission is scheduled to **launch in March 2028** when Earth and Venus are at their closest.
  - This will be **India's second interplanetary mission, after the Mars Orbiter Mission in 2014.**
- **Bhartiya Antriksh Station (BAS):**
  - BAS will be **India's own space station** for scientific research.
  - India will launch its own space station by 2028, plans to operationalise it by 2035 and achieve a crewed lunar mission by 2040.
  - Currently, the **only two functioning space stations are the International Space Station and China's Tiangong.**
- **Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV):**
  - NGLV will **offer three times the current payload capacity of the LVM3, at 1.5 times the cost.**
  - It is **designed to carry up to 30 tonnes to Low Earth Orbit (LEO).**
  - India's existing launch vehicles, including SSLV, PSLV, GSLV and LVM3 which have payload capacity ranging from 500 kg to 10,000 kg to LEO and 4,000 kg to Geo-Synchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

**Carbon Credit**



**Why in news?**

- Carbon credits are a significant new tool for climate finance.

**Key Points:**

- Carbon credit is a **financial instrument** issued to an entity, a company or municipal body, for undertaking an activity that **has the effect of either avoiding emission of CO2 into the atmosphere or absorbing back some of the already emitted CO2 (sequestration).**
- It is a permit that allows the company that holds it to **emit a certain amount of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases.**
- **One credit permits the emission of a mass equal to one ton of carbon dioxide.**



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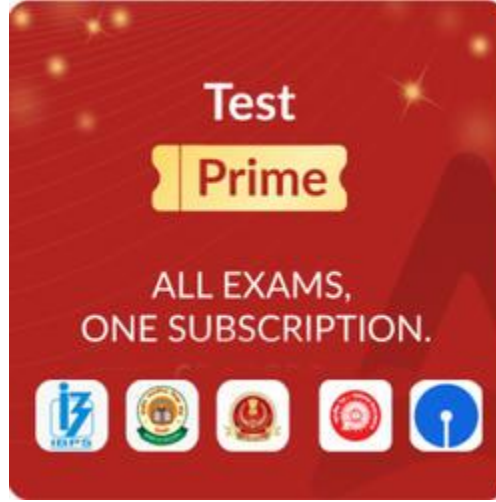
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- They were devised as a market-oriented mechanism to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



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