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National and International News

<p>Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Prime Minister celebrates the 10th anniversary of the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao movement. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was launched in January 2015 with the aim to address sex selective abortion and the declining child sex ratio which was at 918 girls for every 1,000 boys in 2011. This is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Human Resource Development. The programme is being implemented across 405 districts in the country. Main Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of gender-biased sex-selective elimination. Ensuring survival & protection of the girl child. Ensuring education and participation of the girl child. Protecting rights of Girl children.
<p>Parakram Diwas</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> India observes Parakram Diwas 2025 to commemorate the 128th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and honor his enduring legacy. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is celebrated on January 23 to commemorate the birth anniversary of freedom fighter Subhas Chandra Bose. Parakram Diwas aims to instill fearlessness and patriotism, especially among the youth, inspiring them to stand strong in the face of challenges. About Subhas Chandra Bose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He was born on January 23, 1897, in Cuttack, Orissa. He was an Indian nationalist leader who was a key figure in the Indian independence movement against British colonial rule. Bose then joined the Indian National Congress and actively participated in the Indian independence movement. President of Indian National Congress: Bose was elected president of the Indian National Congress for two consecutive terms but resigned from the post following ideological conflicts with



	<p>Mahatma Gandhi.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In 1939, he formed the Forward Bloc, an organization aimed at unifying all the anti-British forces in India. ○ At the outset of the Second World War, he fled from India and traveled to the Soviet Union, Germany and Japan, seeking an alliance with the aim of attacking the British in India. ○ With Japanese assistance, he reorganized and later led the Indian National Army, formed from Indian prisoners-of-war and plantation workers from Malaya, Singapore, and other parts of Southeast Asia, against British forces.
<p>Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT)</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) in Mumbai is poised to become India's first port to handle 10 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) by 2027, placing it among the world's top global ports. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) or JLN Port, also known as Nhava Sheva Port, is the second largest container port in India after Mundra Port. ● Located in Navi Mumbai's Raigad district, this port on the Arabian Sea is accessed via Thane Creek. It's a nodal city of Navi Mumbai. Its common name derives from the names of Nhava and Sheva villages that are situated here. This port is also the terminal of Western Dedicated Freight Corridor. ● It is the premier container handling port in India accounting for around 50% of the total containerized cargo volume across the major ports of India.
<p>Indus Water Treaty (IWT)</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Neutral Expert (NE) appointed Michel Lino, under the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) of 1960 has determined that he is "competent" to resolve the differences between India and Pakistan regarding the design of hydroelectric projects on the rivers governed by the treaty. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is a treaty signed between India and Pakistan regulating the use and distribution of the Indus River system. ● It was signed by then-Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and former Pakistan President Ayub Khan in 1960. ● The treaty was brokered by the World Bank, which too is a signatory to the treaty. ● The pact sought to divide the water of the Indus River



	<p>and its tributaries (Sutlej, Beas, Ravi, Jhelum, and Chenab) equitably among the two countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the treaty, water from three eastern rivers, Beas, Ravi, and Sutlej, was allocated to India, and water from the three western rivers – Chenab, Indus, and Jhelum were allocated to Pakistan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Pakistan roughly got 80% of the water in the Indus drainage system. • The treaty also permits both countries to use the other's rivers for certain purposes, such as small hydroelectric projects that require little or no water storage. • The treaty is overseen by the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC), a bilateral body with commissioners from both countries tasked with implementing and managing treaty provisions, and resolving any questions, differences, or disputes that may arise.
PM internship scheme	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the PM Internship Scheme, companies are required to absorb 10% of the interns. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PM Internship Scheme is a remarkable initiative launched by the Indian government, designed to provide valuable internship opportunities for the youth of India. • It aims to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world experience by offering internships across the top 500 companies. • The pilot phase targets 1.25 lakh youth, with a five-year goal to facilitate internships for one crore young individuals. • Through this Scheme, youth will gain exposure to real-life business environments, across varied professions and employment opportunities. • Under this scheme, interns will be provided a monthly financial assistance of Rs 5,000 for 12 months and a one-time grant of Rs 6,000. • Eligibility criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Candidates aged between 21 and 24 years and who are not engaged in full-time employment. ◦ Internships are available to those who have passed class 10 or higher. ◦ Individuals from families with government jobs are excluded. ◦ It is not open to post-graduates. ◦ A candidate who graduated from premier institutes such as IIT, IIM, or IISER, and those who have CA, or CMA qualification would not be eligible to apply for this internship. ◦ Anyone from a household that includes a person




	<p>who earned an income of Rs.8 lakh or more in 2023-24, will not be eligible.</p>
<p>Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Union Home Ministry cautioned non-governmental organizations (NGOs) about the possibility of penal action if they accept foreign funds without being registered under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010. FCRA registration is a mandatory requirement for receiving foreign donations. • The Ministry clarified that every FCRA-registered NGO or association must utilize foreign contributions (FC) solely for the purpose for which they were registered or granted prior permission under the Act. • It also stated that no individual or entity can accept FC without obtaining a certificate of registration or prior approval from the Union government. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a law enacted by Parliament to regulate foreign contributions (especially monetary donations) provided by certain individuals or associations to NGOs and others within India. • The Act, in its consolidating form, was originally passed in 1976 and majorly modified in 2010. • The Act aims to prevent foreign organisations from influencing electoral politics, social, political, economic, or religious discussions in India for wrong purposes and activities detrimental to the public interest. • The Act falls under the purview of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 'Foreign Contribution' means the donation, delivery or transfer made by any foreign source of any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ article (not being an article given to a person as a gift for his/her personal use, the market value of which is not more than one lakh rupees); ■ currency (whether Indian or foreign); ■ security. • Contributions made by a citizen of India living in another country (e.g. a Non-Resident Indian (NRI)) from his/her personal savings through the normal banking channels, will not be treated as foreign contributions. • The foreign contribution received has to be utilised only for the purpose for which it has been received, and not more than 20% of the foreign contribution received in a financial year can be utilised to defray administrative expenses.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FCRA requires every person or NGO seeking to receive foreign donations to open a bank account for the receipt of foreign funds in the State Bank of India, Delhi. • Any person can receive foreign contribution provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The person has a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious, or social programme; ○ The person must have obtained FCRA registration/prior permission from the Central Government and ○ Person includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an individual; ○ a Hindu Undivided Family; ○ an association; ○ a company registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013;
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<p>India France Relations</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India and France have agreed to enhance cooperation in "high-end technology sectors" during Foreign Office consultations held in Paris. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India and France have been strategic partners in the Indo-Pacific for a long time. They established diplomatic relations in 1947 and upgraded their partnership to the strategic level in 1998. • Partnership for Security and Sovereignty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Defense: Continued collaboration on fighter jets and submarines, with 36 Rafale jets delivered and the completion of the P75 Scorpene submarine program. ○ Space: Strengthened partnership between ISRO and CNES on reusable launchers, Earth observation satellites, maritime surveillance, and satellite collision protection. ○ Civil Nuclear Energy: Progress on the 6-EPR power plant in Jaitapur and cooperation on small modular reactors. ○ Indo-Pacific: Joint actions and a development fund for sustainable projects in the region. ○ Counter-terrorism: Enhanced collaboration between France's GIGN and India's NSG. ○ Critical Technology: Partnerships in supercomputing, AI, cloud computing, and quantum computing. ○ Civil Aviation: New agreements to expand air routes and support India's aviation growth.
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