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National and International News

<p>Market Intervention Scheme (MIS)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government has revised the guidelines for the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), increasing the procurement limit for crops from 20 percent to 25 percent. Under the revised scheme, procurement of major crops will be carried out by Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), state-nominated agencies, and central nodal agencies. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIS is a component of the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA). It is implemented to support farmers when market prices of perishable agricultural/horticultural commodities fall below a certain level. The scheme is applicable to crops that do not have a Minimum Support Price (MSP), such as tomato, onion, and potato (TOP crops). MIS is implemented on the request of State/UT Governments when the market price reduces by at least 10% compared to the previous normal season. Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect farmers from distress sales in case of price crashes. To ensure farmers receive a fair price for perishable crops not covered under MSP. To stabilize market prices and ensure sufficient supply of essential commodities. To support farmers through direct benefit transfers or procurement mechanisms. To improve coordination between producing and consuming States for better price realization. <p>Learn more about Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)</p>
<p>Paris AI Summit</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AI Action Summit will be held in Paris on February 10-11, 2025. India is co-chairing the event with France. The Paris summit will discuss AI safety, innovation, governance, and the future of work. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> About Paris AI Summit:



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The third global AI safety summit, following UK (2023) and South Korea (2024) meetings. ○ Organized by France, focusing on AI safety, ethics, governance, innovation, and economic impact. ○ Attended by world leaders (US, EU, China, Germany), tech CEOs (OpenAI, Google), and policymakers. ● Significance of the Summit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AI Safety & Governance: Establishes norms and risk management frameworks for AI development. ○ Equitable AI Access: Addresses global AI divide, advocating for open-source AI and cross-border collaboration. ○ Economic & Strategic Impact: Shapes future of AI-driven industries, trade policies, and international regulations. ○ Geopolitical Balancing: Counterbalances US-China AI dominance, promoting multilateral cooperation. ● Opportunities for India at the AI Summit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advocacy for Global South: Push for AI democratization, equitable data access, and AI infrastructure support. ○ Building AI Partnerships: Expand tech collaboration with EU, France, and emerging AI economies. ○ Strategic Leadership: Strengthen India's role as a bridge between AI superpowers (US-China) and developing nations. ○ AI Research & Innovation: Promote India's AI Safety Institute, indigenous AI models, and public-interest AI.
<p>Seva Bhoj Yojna</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recently, the State-wise details of the charitable and religious institutions that have been benefited under the Seva Bhoj Yojana as of January, 2025 are Annexed. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Union Ministry of Culture, Government of India has introduced 'Seva Bhoj Yojna' that seeks to reimburse Central share of Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) and Integrated Goods and Service Tax (IGST) on food/prasad/langar/bhandara offered by charitable religious institutions. ● It aims to lessens the financial burden of such charitable religious institutions (such as Temples, Gurudwara, Mosque, Church, Dharmik Ashram,



	<p>Dargah, Matth, Monasteries etc) that provide food/prasad/langar (community kitchen)/bhandara free of cost without any discrimination to public/devotees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligibility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Charitable religious institutions which have been in existence for at least three years before applying for financial assistance/grant. ○ Charitable religious institutions who serve free food to at least 5000 people in a month. ○ Institutions need to be covered under Section 10 of the Income Tax Act or are registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act or as a Public Trust under any law for the time being in force of statutory religious bodies constituted under any Act or institutions registered under Section 12AA of Income Tax Act. <p>Learn more about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CGST : Central Goods and Services Tax will be levied (on intra-state supply of goods or services) by the central government and proceeds of the tax will be divided between the state and the centre. • IGST: Integrated Goods and Service Tax has replaced the previously levied central sales tax and is levied on all inter-state supply of goods or services within India along with export and import of goods or services. • SGST: State Goods and Services tax will be levied on intra state supply of goods or services by the respective state governments.
<p>Important Days: World Epilepsy Day</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the occasion of World Epilepsy Day, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, organized various awareness programmes across the country. • The objective of these initiatives was to dispel myths surrounding epilepsy, promote effective management, and enhance awareness about available treatment options. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epilepsy, also known as a seizure disorder is a chronic brain disorder where nerve cells don't signal properly, causing recurring seizures. • What happens during seizures? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ During a seizure, many neurons send signals at the same time, much faster than normal. ○ This surge of excessive electrical activity may



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cause involuntary movements, sensations, emotions, and/or behaviors.

- Some people recover immediately after a seizure, while others may take minutes to hours to feel like themselves again.

- **Causes:**
 - Epilepsy has many possible causes, but about half of people living with epilepsy do not know the cause.
 - It is linked to genetic factors, developmental brain abnormalities, infection, traumatic brain injury (TBI), stroke, brain tumors, or other identifiable problems.
- **Symptoms:**
 - Some people may lose awareness during a seizure while others don't.
 - Some people stare blankly for a few seconds during a seizure.
 - Others may repeatedly twitch their arms or legs, movements known as convulsions.
- **Treatment:**
 - Treatment with medicines or sometimes surgery can control seizures for most people with epilepsy.
 - Some people require lifelong treatment. For others, seizures go away.
 - Some children with epilepsy may outgrow the condition with age.



Why in news?

- Rosoboronexport, Russia's state-owned defense exports company and a participant in Aero India 2025, has proposed a partnership with India on the Su-57, Russia's fifth-generation fighter aircraft (FGFA).

Key Points:

- The Sukhoi Su-57E is a fifth-generation fighter jet that Russia has offered to India for joint production.
- The Sukhoi Su-57 is a twin-engine stealth multirole fighter aircraft developed by Sukhoi.
- **Features:**
 - **Stealth:** The Su-57E has a serrated exhaust nozzle that reduces its radar and infrared signature.
 - **Weapon payload:** The Su-57E can carry up to 7.4 tons of weapons, including air-to-air and air-to-ground missiles.
 - **Maximum speed:** The Su-57E has a maximum speed of approximately Mach 1.8.
 - **Maximum operating altitude:** The Su-57E has a



	<p>maximum operating altitude of 54,100 feet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Combat range: The Su-57E has a combat range of 1,864 miles.
<p>Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP) was launched in 2019, offering 100% central assistance to states and Union Territories for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) vaccination. ● In 2021, NADCP was incorporated as a component of the Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP) scheme. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is a severe, highly contagious viral disease of livestock that has a significant economic impact. ● The disease affects cattle, swine, sheep, goats, and other cloven-hoofed ruminants. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It does not affect horses, dogs, or cats. ○ Intensively reared animals are more susceptible to the disease than traditional breeds. ● It is a transboundary animal disease (TAD) that deeply affects the production of livestock and disrupts regional and international trade in animals and animal products. ● The organism which causes FMD is an aphthovirus of the family Picornaviridae. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are seven strains (A, O, C, SAT1, SAT2, SAT3, and Asia1) which are endemic in different countries worldwide. ○ Immunity to one type does not protect an animal against other types or subtypes. ● Treatment: Vaccines for FMD are available but must be matched to the specific type and subtype of virus causing the outbreak.



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