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National and International News

<p>Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Supreme Court seeks Uttarakhand's response on the alleged 'misuse' of afforestation funds. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority serves as a mechanism to manage and utilise funds generated from compensatory afforestation, a process aimed at offsetting the environmental impact of deforestation due to industrial and developmental activities. It plays a crucial role in ensuring that the loss of forest cover is compensated through afforestation and other conservation efforts. Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Funds are meant to promote afforestation and regeneration activities as a way of compensating for forest land diverted to non-forest uses. National CAMPA Advisory Council has been established with the following mandate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lay down broad guidelines for State CAMPA. Facilitate scientific, technological and other assistance that may be required by State CAMPA. Make recommendations to State CAMPA based on a review of their plans and programmes. Provide a mechanism to State CAMPA to resolve issues of an inter-state or Centre-State character.
<p>India-US Relations</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. President Donald Trump criticized the high tariffs imposed by India and other countries, calling them "very unfair," and announced that reciprocal tariffs would be applied from April 2 on nations that levy taxes on American goods. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relationship between India and the United States has evolved into one of the most significant partnerships in the 21st century. It spans economic, strategic, and cultural dimensions, reflecting the shared values and mutual interests of the world's largest democracies The two nations are motivated by common interests: India aims to become the world's third-largest economy, while the US seeks reliable allies to counterbalance China's growing influence. Defense Ties:



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In 2018, India was elevated to Strategic Trade Authorization tier 1 status, which allowed India to receive license-free access to a wide range of military and dual-use technologies regulated by the US's department of commerce. ○ The signing of foundational agreements like LEMOA (2016), COMCASA (2018), and BECA (2020) has enabled deeper military cooperation. ○ Joint exercises like Malabar and the establishment of the 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in 2018 have further strengthened strategic ties. ● Recent initiatives like the US-India Artificial Intelligence Initiative and the Critical and Emerging Technology Initiative (iCET) launched in 2022 underscore the strategic importance of tech cooperation in bilateral ties.
<p>Sixteenth Commission</p> <p>Finance</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recently, Comptroller and Auditor General K. Sanjay Murthy held a meeting with the 16th Finance Commission, chaired by Arvind Panagariya. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government of India, in adherence to Article 280(1) of the Constitution, has established the Sixteenth Finance Commission, appointing Dr. Arvind Panagariya, former Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog and Professor at Columbia University, as its Chairman. ● Specific terms of reference have been outlined, including the distribution of tax proceeds between the Union and States, principles governing grants-in-aid to States, and measures to bolster State funds for local bodies like Panchayats and Municipalities. ● The Commission has also been tasked with reviewing disaster management financing arrangements under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, and making recommendations for improvements.
<p>Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Union Cabinet approved the revision of the Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP) with an outlay of ₹3,880 crore for 2024-26 to enhance livestock disease control. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A centrally sponsored scheme aimed at improving livestock health through vaccination, disease control, and veterinary infrastructure enhancement. ● It ensures higher productivity, economic growth for farmers, and disease prevention in livestock. ● Aim: ● To prevent, control, and eradicate major livestock diseases



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	<p>through vaccination, surveillance, and veterinary services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve veterinary healthcare accessibility via Mobile Veterinary Units (MVUs). • Diseases Covered: • Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis, Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), Anthrax, Rabies, and other livestock diseases. • Developed By: Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying.
Parvat Mala Programme	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cabinet has approved the development of a 12.4 km ropeway project from Govindghat to Hemkund Sahib Ji in Uttarakhand under the National Ropeways Development Programme – Parvatmala Pariyojana. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Ropeway Development Programme also known as ‘Parvatmala’ (Parvatmala means garlanding mountains) was announced in the 2022-23 Union Budget. • Aim: To decongest mountainous areas where road and train connectivity cannot be upgraded beyond a limit. • Under phase-I of the project, 30 priority points or stretches will be consParvatmala will construct ropeways in mountainous terrains of India under the Public Private Partnership (PPP). • Nodal Ministry: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways undertakes the project. • Implementing Agency: The National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) has been mandated by the ministry to implement the project. It is a 100% owned SPV of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).
Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY)	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women with a household income of less than Rs 3 lakh per year and those who do not pay taxes will be eligible for a Rs 2,500 grant from the Delhi government under Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY). <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY) is a scheme aimed to benefit the women entrepreneurs from backward backgrounds or poor backgrounds. • The scheme was launched as part of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. • Under this scheme, the Government provides micro-finance to the women entrepreneurs either directly or through Self-Help Groups (SHGs). This scheme is being implemented by a wide range of channel partners nationwide. • Targeted women beneficiaries are identified and given loans either directly or in the form of Self-Help Groups (SHGs).



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