



Daily PIB Summary

06 Aug, 2026

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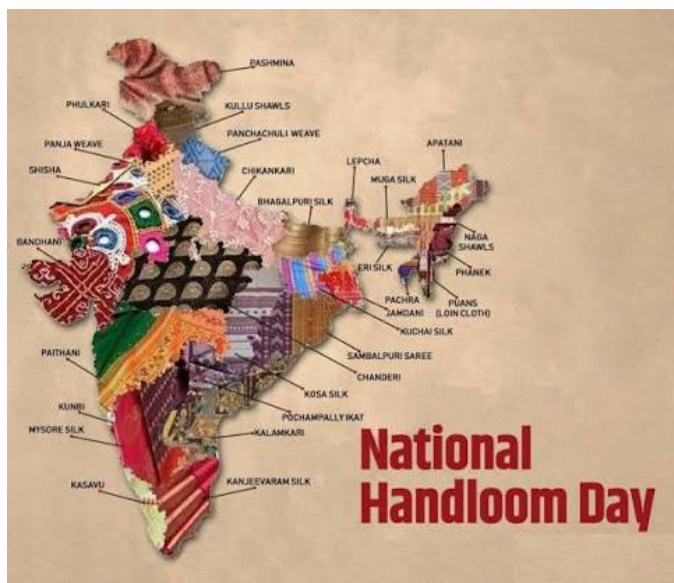
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1. NATIONAL HANDLOOM DAY 2026



- I. National Handloom Day celebrates:
 - A. India's handloom traditions.
 - B. Contributions of weavers and artisans.
 - C. Promotion of sustainable and eco-friendly textiles.
 - D. Preservation of traditional skills.
- II. The Government continues to support the sector through various schemes aimed at enhancing production, marketing, exports, and artisan welfare.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National Handloom Day

Observed On

- **7 August** every year.

First Celebrated

- **2015**

Objective

- Recognise the contribution of handloom weavers.
- Promote indigenous handloom products.
- Generate awareness about the importance of the handloom sector.
- Encourage youth participation and innovation.

Historical Significance

The date commemorates the launch of the **Swadeshi Movement** on **7 August 1905**, which encouraged:

- Use of indigenous goods.
- Boycott of foreign products.
- Promotion of Indian industries and textiles.

INDIA'S HANDLOOM SECTOR

India has one of the world's largest handloom sectors.

Major Characteristics

- Labour-intensive.
- Eco-friendly.
- Low carbon footprint.
- Rich cultural diversity.
- Supports rural livelihoods.

The sector provides employment to **millions of weavers and allied workers**, with a significant proportion being **women**.

MAJOR HANDLOOM PRODUCTS

Some famous handloom traditions include:

- Banarasi Silk (Uttar Pradesh)
- Kanchipuram Silk (Tamil Nadu)
- Pochampally Ikat (Telangana)
- Chanderi (Madhya Pradesh)
- Muga Silk (Assam)
- Paithani (Maharashtra)
- Sambalpuri Ikat (Odisha)
- Jamdani (West Bengal)

Many of these enjoy **Geographical Indication (GI)** protection.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)

Supports:

- Cluster development.
- Skill upgradation.
- Marketing.
- Infrastructure.

Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS)

Provides:

- Yarn at subsidised rates.
- Timely availability of raw materials.

Handloom Marketing Assistance

Promotes:

- Domestic exhibitions.
- International trade fairs.

- Online marketing.
- Branding initiatives.

India Handloom Brand (IHB)

Ensures:

- Quality assurance.
- Authenticity.
- Branding of premium handloom products.

Handloom Export Promotion

Supports:

- Export competitiveness.
- Global branding.
- Market access.

SIGNIFICANCE

Economic

- Employment generation.
- Rural development.
- Export earnings.
- MSME growth.

Cultural

- Preserves India's textile heritage.
- Protects traditional weaving skills.

Environmental

- Sustainable production.
- Low energy consumption.
- Minimal carbon emissions.

Women Empowerment

Large numbers of women participate in:

- Weaving.
- Dyeing.
- Spinning.
- Marketing.

CHALLENGES

- Competition from powerloom products.
- Rising raw material costs.
- Limited access to modern markets.
- Ageing artisan population.
- Inadequate design innovation.

WAY FORWARD

- Expand digital marketing platforms.
- Promote GI-tagged handloom products globally.
- Strengthen design and innovation support.

- Improve access to finance.
- Encourage youth participation.
- Enhance exports through branding and quality certification.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Observed On:** 7 August.
- **First Celebrated:** 2015.
- **Historical Significance:** Commemorates the **Swadeshi Movement (1905)**.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Textiles.
- **Major Schemes:** NHDP, RMSS, India Handloom Brand.
- **Strategic Importance:** Employment, exports, cultural preservation, women empowerment, and sustainable development.
- **Challenges:** Competition, marketing, and raw material costs.
- **Way Forward:** Digitalisation, branding, innovation, and export promotion.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

National Handloom Day

- **Date:** 7 August
- **First Observed:** 2015

Swadeshi Movement

- Launched on **7 August 1905**.
- Encouraged use of indigenous goods and boycott of foreign products.

Ministry

- **Ministry of Textiles** is the nodal ministry for handloom development.

India Handloom Brand (IHB)

- Certifies high-quality, authentic Indian handloom products.

National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)

- Promotes cluster development, infrastructure, skill development, and marketing.

Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS)

- Provides subsidised yarn and raw materials to handloom weavers.

GI-tagged Handloom Examples

- Banarasi Brocades and Sarees
- Kanchipuram Silk Sarees

- Pochampally Ikat
- Chanderi Fabric
- Sambalpuri Ikat
- Muga Silk

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding National Handloom Day:

1. It is observed annually on **7 August**.
2. It commemorates the launch of the **Swadeshi Movement** in **1905**.
3. The **India Handloom Brand** is an initiative to promote quality and authenticity of Indian handloom products.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

2. PRESS RELEASE ON THE 200th REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE (RAJYA SABHA)



- I. The **200th Report** reflects the role of Parliamentary Standing Committees in:
 - A. Examining government policies.
 - B. Reviewing implementation of programmes.
 - C. Ensuring executive accountability.

- D. Suggesting reforms to strengthen governance.

- II. The Committee's recommendations are **advisory in nature** but often influence policy formulation and legislative oversight.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRPSCs)

- Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees were established to enable **detailed legislative scrutiny** and improve parliamentary oversight of government functioning.

Objectives

- Examine Demands for Grants of Ministries.
- Scrutinise Bills referred by the Presiding Officers.
- Review Annual Reports.
- Examine long-term policy documents.
- Recommend policy improvements.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Jurisdiction

The Committee examines matters relating to the:

- I. **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, including:
 - A. Department of Commerce.
 - B. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Composition

- I. **31 Members**
 - A. **21 from Lok Sabha**
 - B. **10 from Rajya Sabha**

Members are nominated by the respective Presiding Officers.

Tenure

- **One year.**

ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee examines:

Demands for Grants

- Reviews budgetary allocations before discussion in Parliament.

Bills

- Examines Bills referred to it and submits reports with recommendations.

Annual Reports

- Evaluates ministry performance and implementation of schemes.

Policy Documents

Studies major policy initiatives related to:

- Trade.
- Industry.
- Exports.
- Investment.
- Ease of Doing Business.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 200th REPORT

The milestone highlights:

- Two hundred reports submitted by the Committee.
- Continuous parliamentary oversight of commerce-related policies.
- Contribution to evidence-based policymaking.
- Strengthening of accountability in public administration.

IMPORTANCE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Legislative Scrutiny

- Detailed examination of Bills beyond floor debates.

Executive Accountability

- Reviews implementation of government programmes.
- Seeks explanations from Ministries.

Expert Consultation

Committees can receive evidence from:

- Experts.
- Industry associations.
- Civil society.
- Government officials.

Consensus Building

- Committee deliberations are generally bipartisan, helping build informed consensus.

LIMITATIONS

- Recommendations are **not legally binding**.
- Acceptance depends on the Government.
- Limited public awareness of committee work.
- Time constraints in examining all issues.

SIGNIFICANCE FOR GOVERNANCE

Parliamentary Committees improve:

- Transparency.
- Accountability.
- Policy quality.
- Legislative effectiveness.
- Democratic oversight.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen follow-up on committee recommendations.
- Improve public dissemination of reports.
- Enhance expert engagement.
- Increase data-driven policy evaluation.
- Expand digital access to committee proceedings and reports.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Committee:** Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce.
- **House:** Rajya Sabha (with members from both Houses).
- **Report:** 200th Report.
- **Jurisdiction:** Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **Major Functions:** Budget scrutiny, legislative examination, policy review, and executive oversight.
- **Nature of Recommendations:** Advisory.
- **Importance:** Strengthens parliamentary accountability and informed policymaking.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRPSCs)

- Established in **1993**.
- Presently there are **24 DRPSCs**.

Composition

- 31 Members**
 - A. 21 from Lok Sabha.
 - B. 10 from Rajya Sabha.

Tenure

- **One year.**

Functions

- Examine Demands for Grants.

- Scrutinise Bills referred by the Speaker/Chairman.
- Review Annual Reports.
- Examine long-term policy documents.

Nature of Reports

- Recommendations are **advisory**, not binding on the Government.

Related Constitutional Provision

- **Article 118** empowers each House of Parliament to make rules for regulating its procedure and conduct of business, under which committee systems function.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRPSCs):

1. They examine the **Demands for Grants** of Ministries.
2. Their recommendations are **advisory** and are not legally binding on the Government.
3. A DRPSC consists of **31 members**, with **21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

3. BHUBANESWARI OCP: WHERE INNOVATION POWERS PRODUCTION AND SUSTAINABILITY SHAPES

GROWTH



- I. Bhubaneswari OCP has achieved:
 - A. Higher operational efficiency.
 - B. Increased coal production.
 - C. Adoption of advanced mining technologies.
 - D. Improved environmental management.
- II. The project contributes significantly to:
 - A. Domestic coal availability.
 - B. Thermal power generation.
 - C. Industrial development.
 - D. Sustainable mining.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Bhubaneswari Open Cast Project (OCP)

- I. A major **open-cast coal mine** in **Odisha**.
- II. Operated by **Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)**.
- III. Supplies coal primarily to:
 - A. Thermal power plants.
 - B. Core industries.
- IV. Plays an important role in meeting India's growing energy demand.

MAHANADI COALFIELDS LIMITED (MCL)

About

- I. A subsidiary of **Coal India Limited (CIL)**.
- II. Headquarters: **Sambalpur, Odisha**.

- III. Operates coal mines mainly in:
- A. Odisha.

Functions

- Coal exploration.
- Coal production.
- Mine development.
- Environmental management.
- Mine safety.

COAL INDIA LIMITED (CIL)

About

- Public Sector Undertaking under the **Ministry of Coal**.
- World's largest coal-producing company by output.

Role

- Meets the bulk of India's domestic coal demand.
- Supports power generation.
- Ensures energy security.

KEY FEATURES OF BHUBANESWARI OCP

Modern Mining Technologies

Use of:

- High-capacity excavators.
- Large dumpers.
- GPS-enabled fleet management.
- Digital mine planning.
- Automated monitoring systems.

Operational Excellence

Focus on:

- Productivity.
- Fuel efficiency.
- Safety.
- Resource optimisation.

Sustainable Mining

Measures include:

- Mine reclamation.
- Afforestation.
- Dust suppression.
- Water conservation.
- Scientific overburden management.

Safety Measures

- Mechanised operations.

- Continuous safety monitoring.
- Workforce training.
- Emergency preparedness.

SIGNIFICANCE

Energy Security

- Ensures reliable coal supply.
- Supports thermal power generation.

Economic Growth

- Generates employment.
- Supports industrial production.
- Contributes to regional development.

Technological Advancement

- Encourages digital mining.
- Improves operational efficiency.

Environmental Sustainability

- Promotes responsible mining practices.
- Reduces environmental impact through reclamation and pollution control.

RELATED GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Commercial Coal Mining

- Encourages competition.
- Increases coal production.
- Attracts private investment.

Single Window Clearance System

Facilitates:

- Faster approvals.
- Mine development.
- Ease of doing business.

Coal Gasification Mission

Promotes:

- Cleaner coal utilisation.
- Production of synthetic fuels, chemicals, and hydrogen.

CHALLENGES

- Environmental degradation.
- Land acquisition.
- Rehabilitation and resettlement.
- Balancing coal production with climate commitments.
- Mine safety.

WAY FORWARD

- Expand automation and digital technologies.
- Strengthen environmental safeguards.
- Improve mine reclamation.
- Enhance community development initiatives.
- Promote cleaner coal technologies while supporting India's energy transition.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Project:** Bhubaneswari Open Cast Project (OCP).
- **Operator:** Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL).
- **Parent Company:** Coal India Limited (CIL).
- **Location:** Odisha.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Coal.
- **Major Contribution:** Coal supply for thermal power and core industries.
- **Key Focus:** Innovation, operational excellence, and sustainable mining.
- **Challenges:** Environmental sustainability, rehabilitation, and safety.
- **Way Forward:** Technology-driven, environmentally responsible mining.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Bhubaneswari OCP

- Major open-cast coal mining project in **Odisha**.
- Operated by **Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)**.

Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)

- Subsidiary of **Coal India Limited (CIL)**.
- Headquarters: **Sambalpur, Odisha**.

Coal India Limited (CIL)

- Ministry: **Ministry of Coal**.
- World's largest coal-producing company by output.

Open-Cast Mining

- Surface mining technique used where mineral deposits lie close to the Earth's surface.
- Generally offers higher productivity than underground mining but has greater land-use impacts.

Mine Reclamation

- Restoration of mined land through:
 - Afforestation.

- Soil restoration.
- Water management.
- Ecological rehabilitation.

Coal Gasification

- Converts coal into **synthesis gas (syngas)** for producing:
 - Chemicals.
 - Fertilisers.
 - Hydrogen.
 - Synthetic fuels.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Bhubaneswari Open Cast Project (OCP):

- It is operated by **Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)**.
- Mahanadi Coalfields Limited** is a subsidiary of **Coal India Limited (CIL)**.
- The project illustrates the use of modern mining technologies alongside environmental management practices.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

4. NO CONCESSION OR COMMITMENT ON IMPORT OF ETHANOL FOR FUEL BLENDING FROM THE UNITED STATES





- I. No agreement or commitment has been made to import ethanol from the U.S. for blending with petrol.
- II. India's ethanol blending programme is based on **indigenously produced ethanol**.
- III. The policy aligns with the objectives of:
 - A. **Atmanirbhar Bharat**
 - B. Energy security
 - C. Farmer welfare
 - D. Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
 - E. Import substitution

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme

The **EBP Programme** was launched to blend ethanol with petrol to:

- Reduce dependence on imported crude oil.
- Improve farmers' income.
- Lower vehicular emissions.
- Promote renewable biofuels.

Nodal Ministry

- **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG)**

WHAT IS ETHANOL?

- Ethanol is a **renewable biofuel** produced through fermentation of agricultural feedstocks.

Major Feedstocks in India

- Sugarcane juice
- B-heavy molasses
- C-heavy molasses
- Sugar syrup
- Damaged food grains
- Surplus rice (as permitted)
- Maize and other grains

INDIA'S ETHANOL POLICY

Domestic Procurement

India follows a policy of sourcing ethanol from:

- Domestic sugar mills.
- Grain-based distilleries.
- Other approved domestic producers.

The objective is to create a **stable domestic ethanol ecosystem** rather than depend on imports.

Target

- India has advanced its target of achieving **20% ethanol blending (E20)** in petrol ahead of the earlier timeline.

BENEFITS OF ETHANOL BLENDING

Energy Security

- Reduces crude oil imports.
- Diversifies energy sources.
- Improves fuel self-reliance.

Farmer Welfare

Provides additional income through procurement of:

- Sugarcane.
- Maize.
- Other agricultural produce.

Environmental Benefits

- Lower carbon emissions.
- Reduced air pollution.
- Cleaner combustion.

Rural Economy

- Investment in distilleries.
- Rural employment generation.
- Growth of biofuel industries.

RELATED POLICIES

National Policy on Biofuels, 2018 (Amended)

Promotes:

- Ethanol production.
- Biodiesel.
- Advanced biofuels.
- Sustainable feedstock utilisation.

SATAT Initiative

- Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation.
- Promotes **Compressed Biogas (CBG)** production from agricultural and organic waste.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CLARIFICATION

The Government's clarification reinforces that:

- India remains committed to **domestic ethanol production**.
- There is **no policy shift towards import-dependent fuel blending**.

- Domestic producers and farmers continue to remain central to the EBP Programme.

CHALLENGES

- Availability of feedstock during poor crop years.
- Water-intensive nature of sugarcane cultivation.
- Balancing food and fuel requirements.
- Regional disparities in ethanol production capacity.
- Logistics and storage infrastructure.

WAY FORWARD

- Diversify feedstock by increasing grain-based and second-generation (2G) ethanol.
- Improve water-use efficiency in agriculture.
- Expand ethanol production infrastructure.
- Promote flex-fuel vehicles.
- Continue strengthening domestic biofuel supply chains.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Parliamentary Clarification:** No concession or commitment to import ethanol from the United States for fuel blending.
- **Programme:** Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP).
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- **Policy Focus:** Domestic ethanol production.
- **Major Feedstocks:** Sugarcane, molasses, maize, damaged food grains.
- **Objectives:** Energy security, farmer welfare, emission reduction, import substitution.
- **Strategic Importance:** Supports Atmanirbhar Bharat and India's clean energy transition.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme

- Promotes blending of ethanol with petrol.
- Implemented by the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**.

National Policy on Biofuels, 2018

- Promotes:
 - A. Ethanol
 - B. Biodiesel
 - C. Advanced biofuels

D. Waste-to-energy fuels

Feedstocks for Ethanol

- Sugarcane juice
- B-heavy molasses
- C-heavy molasses
- Sugar syrup
- Maize
- Damaged food grains

Second-Generation (2G) Ethanol

Produced from:

- Rice straw
- Wheat straw
- Bagasse
- Agricultural residues

Unlike first-generation ethanol, it does not primarily rely on food crops.

SATAT Initiative

- Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation.
- Promotes production and use of **Compressed Biogas (CBG)** from organic waste.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding India's Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme:

1. The programme aims to reduce dependence on imported crude oil by blending ethanol with petrol.
2. The Government has clarified that it has made **no concession or commitment to import ethanol from the United States for fuel blending**.
3. Ethanol used under the programme can be produced from feedstocks such as sugarcane, molasses, and maize.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

5. 'AGNI-4' BALLISTIC MISSILE SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRED



- I. **Agni-4** is a **nuclear-capable, surface-to-surface Intermediate-Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM)**.
- II. Developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, it forms part of India's **Agni series** of strategic missiles.
- III. The successful test validates the missile's:
 - A. Accuracy.
 - B. Reliability.
 - C. Operational preparedness.
 - D. Indigenous technological capability.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Agni Missile Series

- The **Agni series** is India's family of strategic ballistic missiles developed by **DRDO** under the **Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)** and subsequent strategic missile programmes.

Major Variants

Missile	Approximate Range
Agni-I	700–900 km
Agni-II	2,000 km
Agni-III	3,000+ km
Agni-IV	Around 4,000 km
Agni-V	Over 5,000 km

AGNI-4: KEY FEATURES

Type

- Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile.
- Intermediate-Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM).

Developer

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.

User

- Strategic Forces Command (SFC)**.

Approximate Range

- Around **4,000 km**.

Propulsion

- Two-stage, solid-fuel propulsion.

Payload

- Capable of carrying conventional or nuclear payloads.

Navigation

- Advanced navigation systems with high accuracy, including indigenous guidance technologies.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SUCCESSFUL TEST

Strategic Deterrence

- Strengthens India's credible minimum deterrence.
- Enhances long-range strike capability.

Operational Readiness

- Confirms reliability under operational conditions.
- Demonstrates readiness of the Strategic Forces Command.

Technological Capability

Highlights India's progress in:

- Indigenous missile technology.
- Precision guidance.
- Composite materials.
- Re-entry vehicle technology.

ROLE OF STRATEGIC FORCES COMMAND (SFC)

Established

- 2003**

Functions



- Manages India's nuclear arsenal.
- Responsible for operational deployment of strategic weapons.
- Implements India's nuclear doctrine.

INDIA'S NUCLEAR DOCTRINE

Key principles include:

- **Credible Minimum Deterrence.**
- **No First Use (NFU)** of nuclear weapons.
- Massive retaliation in case of a nuclear attack.

RELATED ORGANISATIONS

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

- Established: **1958**.
- Ministry: **Ministry of Defence**.
- Develops indigenous defence technologies.

Strategic Forces Command (SFC)

- Operational arm responsible for India's strategic nuclear forces.

SIGNIFICANCE

National Security

- Strengthens strategic defence preparedness.
- Enhances long-range deterrence capability.

Technological Self-Reliance

Supports:

- **Atmanirbhar Bharat**.
- Indigenous defence manufacturing.

Regional Stability

- A credible deterrent contributes to strategic stability by discouraging aggression.

CHALLENGES

- Rapid technological advancements in missile defence systems.
- Maintaining secure command-and-control systems.
- Continuous modernisation of strategic forces.
- Balancing deterrence with regional stability.

WAY FORWARD

- Continue indigenous R&D in advanced missile technologies.
- Strengthen surveillance, early-warning, and command systems.

- Enhance integration with space-based assets and network-centric capabilities.
- Sustain credible minimum deterrence in line with India's nuclear doctrine.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Missile:** Agni-4.
- **Type:** Intermediate-Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM).
- **Developer:** Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- **Operator:** Strategic Forces Command (SFC).
- **Range:** Around 4,000 km.
- **Propulsion:** Two-stage solid fuel.
- **Capability:** Nuclear and conventional payloads.
- **Strategic Importance:** Credible minimum deterrence, indigenous defence capability, and national security.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Agni-4

- Intermediate-Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM).
- Approximate range: **4,000 km**.
- Developed by **DRDO**.
- Operated by the **Strategic Forces Command**.

Strategic Forces Command (SFC)

- Established in **2003**.
- Responsible for operational management of India's nuclear forces.

DRDO

- Established: **1958**.
- Ministry: **Ministry of Defence**.
- Develops indigenous defence technologies.

Integrated Guided Missile

Development Programme (IGMDP)

- Launched in **1983** under the leadership of **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**.
- Led to the development of missile systems such as **Agni, Prithvi, Akash, Trishul, and Nag**.

India's Nuclear Doctrine

- **Credible Minimum Deterrence.**
- **No First Use (NFU)** policy.
- Massive retaliation in response to a nuclear attack.

Ballistic Missile vs Cruise Missile

Ballistic Missile	Cruise Missile
Travels on a ballistic trajectory	Flies within the atmosphere throughout its flight
Very high speed	Lower speed compared to ballistic missiles
Longer range generally	Precision-guided, terrain-hugging flight

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Agni-4 missile:

1. It is an **Intermediate-Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM)** developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.
2. It is operated by the **Strategic Forces Command (SFC)**.
3. It uses a **two-stage solid-fuel propulsion system**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)