



Daily PIB Summary

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1. POSHAN TRACKER



- Poshan Tracker is a mobile-based application that provides real-time monitoring of nutrition services delivered through Anganwadi Centres.
- It maintains digital records of beneficiaries, including pregnant women, lactating mothers, children (0–6 years), and adolescent girls (where applicable).
- The platform tracks growth monitoring, supplementary nutrition, home visits, and early childhood care services.
- It enables policymakers to monitor programme implementation, identify nutrition gaps, and improve service delivery.
- The application reduces paperwork and enhances efficiency by digitizing Anganwadi operations.
- Poshan Tracker promotes evidence-based decision-making and accountability in nutrition programmes.
- It supports the goals of **POSHAN Abhiyaan** and **Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0** to improve maternal and child nutrition.
- The initiative strengthens India's digital public service delivery in the nutrition sector.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Poshan Tracker

- A mobile-based ICT application for:

- Real-time beneficiary management.
- Growth monitoring.
- Nutrition service delivery.
- Digital record-keeping.
- Monitoring Anganwadi Centres.

Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0

- Umbrella scheme of the **Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD)**.
- Integrates:
 - Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP).
 - POSHAN Abhiyaan.
 - Anganwadi Services.
- Focuses on improving:
 - Maternal nutrition.
 - Child nutrition.
 - Early childhood care and development.

Beneficiaries

- Pregnant women.
- Lactating mothers.
- Children (0–6 years).
- Anganwadi workers.
- Supervisors and programme administrators.

Objectives

- Improve nutrition outcomes.
- Reduce stunting, wasting, and underweight prevalence.
- Strengthen monitoring and transparency.
- Enable timely interventions using real-time data.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Platform:** Poshan Tracker.
- **Implementing Ministry:** Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- **Purpose:** Digital monitoring of nutrition services and beneficiaries.
- **Coverage:** Anganwadi Centres across India.



- **Governance Impact:** Enhances transparency, accountability, and evidence-based policymaking.
- **Social Significance:** Supports maternal and child health and nutrition.
- **Challenges:** Digital connectivity, device availability, data quality, and capacity building of frontline workers.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen digital infrastructure, improve training of Anganwadi workers, ensure high-quality data entry, and integrate analytics for better programme planning.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **POSHAN: Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment.**
- **POSHAN Abhiyaan:** Launched in **2018** to improve nutritional outcomes.
- **Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN 2.0:** Umbrella scheme launched in **2021** by integrating nutrition-related programmes.
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD).
- **ICDS: Integrated Child Development Services,** launched in **1975**.
- **Anganwadi Centre (AWC):** Village-level centre delivering nutrition, preschool education, and health services.
- **Growth Monitoring:** Regular measurement of a child's height and weight to assess nutritional status.
- **Stunting:** Low height-for-age due to chronic undernutrition.
- **Wasting:** Low weight-for-height indicating acute undernutrition.
- **Underweight:** Low weight-for-age reflecting chronic and/or acute undernutrition.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Poshan Tracker is a digital platform for real-time monitoring of nutrition services delivered through Anganwadi Centres.

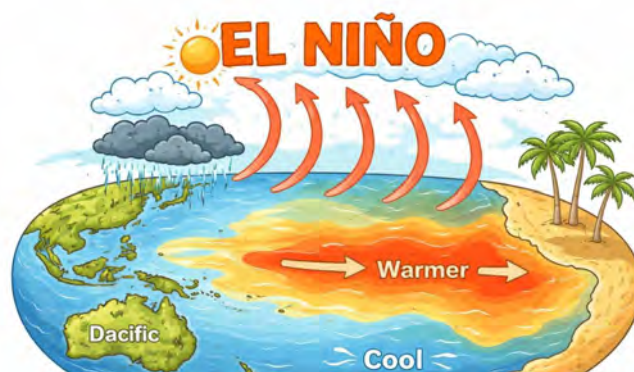
2. POSHAN Abhiyaan was launched in **2018** to improve nutritional outcomes among women and children.
3. Stunting refers to low height-for-age caused primarily by chronic undernutrition.

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. CENTRE INTENSIFIES PREPAREDNESS AS EL NIÑO THREAT LOOMS; WEEKLY REVIEWS UNDERWAY



- The Government is closely monitoring climatic developments associated with El Niño through regular reviews and coordination among concerned ministries.
- Preparedness measures include monitoring rainfall, reservoir levels, agricultural conditions, and food stock availability.
- El Niño can weaken the Indian summer monsoon, increasing the risk of below-normal rainfall, droughts, and heatwaves.
- Timely planning helps reduce adverse impacts on agriculture, drinking water supply, power generation, and livelihoods.



- Coordination among meteorological agencies, disaster management authorities, and state governments is critical for effective response.
- The initiative reflects India's emphasis on climate resilience and proactive disaster risk reduction.
- Scientific forecasting and early warning systems play a vital role in mitigating climate-related risks.
- Enhanced preparedness strengthens food security, economic stability, and public safety.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

El Niño

- A **warm phase of the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO)**.
- Characterized by **above-normal sea surface temperatures** in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- Occurs at irregular intervals, typically every **2–7 years**.

ENSO (El Niño–Southern Oscillation)

- I. A coupled ocean–atmosphere phenomenon comprising:
 - A. **El Niño** (warming phase).
 - B. **La Niña** (cooling phase).
 - C. **Neutral** conditions.
- II. Influences global weather and climate patterns.

Impact on India

- I. May lead to:
 - A. Weaker southwest monsoon.
 - B. Reduced rainfall.
 - C. Drought conditions.
 - D. Heatwaves.
 - E. Lower agricultural productivity.
 - F. Water stress.
- II. However, the relationship is **not deterministic**, as other factors such as the **Indian Ocean Dipole** can influence the monsoon.

Preparedness Measures

- Improved weather forecasting.
- Reservoir and water resource management.
- Contingency crop planning.
- Food grain stock monitoring.
- Disaster preparedness and early warning systems.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Focus:** Preparedness for possible El Niño conditions.
- **Lead Agencies:** Central Government, meteorological agencies, and state governments.
- **Objective:** Minimize impacts on agriculture, water resources, food security, and disaster management.
- **Scientific Significance:** Uses climate forecasting for proactive planning.
- **Economic Significance:** Helps reduce losses in agriculture and allied sectors.
- **Governance Impact:** Promotes coordinated and evidence-based disaster preparedness.
- **Challenges:** Forecast uncertainty, regional variability in rainfall, and climate change.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen climate forecasting, expand climate-resilient agriculture, improve water conservation, and enhance early warning and community preparedness.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **El Niño:** Warm phase of ENSO associated with warming of the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- **La Niña:** Cool phase of ENSO characterized by below-normal sea surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific.
- **ENSO:** El Niño–Southern Oscillation, a major climate phenomenon influencing global weather.
- **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD):** Climate phenomenon based on sea surface



temperature differences between the western and eastern Indian Ocean.

- **Southwest Monsoon:** Brings nearly **75%** of India's annual rainfall (June–September).
- **Heatwave:** Prolonged period of abnormally high temperatures.
- **IMD:** India Meteorological Department, the national agency responsible for weather forecasting.
- **Contingency Crop Planning:** Alternate agricultural strategies to cope with adverse weather conditions.
- **Early Warning System:** Mechanism for timely forecasting and dissemination of hazard information.
- **Climate Resilience:** Ability of systems and communities to anticipate, adapt to, and recover from climate-related impacts.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. El Niño is the warm phase of the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO).
2. El Niño is characterized by above-normal sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean.
3. The **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)** can influence the impact of El Niño on the Indian monsoon.

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. DRDO CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT-TEST OF PINAKA LONG RANGE GUIDED ROCKET



- The Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket is an advanced version of the indigenous Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) system.
- It incorporates an indigenous guidance system, enabling high-precision strikes against targets at extended ranges.
- The successful flight test demonstrates improvements in accuracy, reliability, and operational effectiveness.
- The system significantly enhances the Indian Army's long-range firepower and battlefield capabilities.
- Indigenous development reduces dependence on imported weapon systems and strengthens defence self-reliance.
- The programme showcases DRDO's growing expertise in precision-guided munitions and advanced missile technologies.
- The enhanced Pinaka system supports rapid deployment, mobility, and network-centric warfare.
- It contributes to India's objective of building a modern, technologically advanced defence ecosystem.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL)

- Indigenous artillery rocket system developed by **DRDO**.
- Designed to provide rapid, high-volume fire support.
- Mounted on a high-mobility vehicle for quick deployment.
- Used by the **Indian Army**.

Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR)

- I. Advanced guided version of the Pinaka rocket.
- II. Features:
 - A. Extended strike range.
 - B. Precision guidance.
 - C. Improved accuracy.
 - D. Indigenous navigation and control system.

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

- I. Established in **1958**.
- II. Functions under the **Ministry of Defence**.
- III. Responsible for research and development in defence technologies including:
 - A. Missiles.
 - B. Aircraft.
 - C. Electronic warfare.
 - D. Naval systems.
 - E. Armaments.

Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Defence

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Indigenous defence production.
 - B. Technology development.
 - C. Import substitution.
 - D. Defence exports.
 - E. Strategic autonomy.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **System:** Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR).

- **Developer:** Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- **Purpose:** Precision long-range artillery strike capability.
- **Strategic Significance:** Enhances the Indian Army's firepower and operational flexibility.
- **Technological Significance:** Indigenous precision-guidance and extended-range capability.
- **Economic Impact:** Promotes domestic defence manufacturing and reduces import dependence.
- **Challenges:** Continuous technological upgrades, production scaling, and integration with advanced battlefield systems.
- **Way Forward:** Expand indigenous guided munitions, strengthen defence R&D, increase private sector participation, and boost defence exports.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **DRDO:** Defence Research and Development Organisation.
- **Established:** 1958.
- **Administrative Ministry:** Ministry of Defence.
- **Pinaka:** Indigenous Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher (MBRL) system.
- **MBRL:** Weapon system capable of launching multiple rockets in quick succession.
- **Guided Rocket:** Rocket equipped with a guidance system for improved targeting accuracy.
- **Precision-Guided Munition (PGM):** Weapon designed to accurately strike a designated target.
- **Firepower:** Military capability to deliver effective offensive fire against targets.
- **Aatmanirbhar Bharat:** Initiative promoting self-reliance in strategic sectors, including defence.

- **Network-Centric Warfare:** Integration of sensors, communication, and weapons for enhanced battlefield effectiveness.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

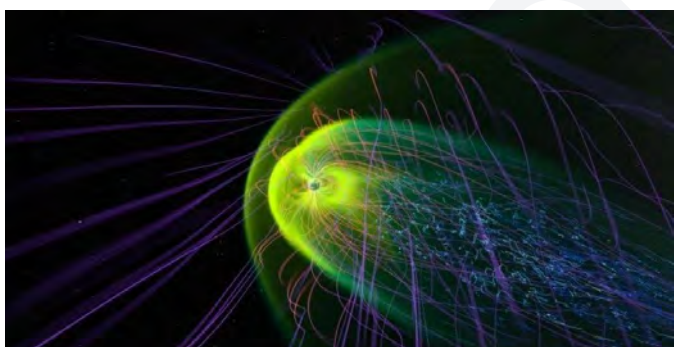
1. The Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket is an advanced guided version of the indigenous Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher system.
2. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was established in **1958** under the Ministry of Defence.
3. Precision-guided munitions are designed to improve targeting accuracy and reduce collateral damage.

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)

4. UNRAVELLING THE SECRETS OF NEAR-EARTH SPACE CRITICAL FOR SATELLITE OPERATIONS



- Near-Earth space is a dynamic region influenced by interactions between the Earth's magnetic field, atmosphere, and solar activity.
- Variations in space weather can affect satellite communication, navigation systems, and spacecraft operations.

- Improved understanding of this region enables better forecasting of geomagnetic disturbances and atmospheric changes.
- Accurate space weather prediction enhances the safety, reliability, and lifespan of satellites.
- The research supports advancements in satellite-based communication, remote sensing, and navigation services.
- It also contributes to national capabilities in space science and disaster management.
- Understanding near-Earth space is increasingly important as satellite launches and space-based applications continue to expand.
- The findings strengthen India's scientific research in space technology and atmospheric sciences.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Near-Earth Space

- I. Region extending from the upper atmosphere to the area occupied by Earth-orbiting satellites.
- II. Includes:
 - A. Ionosphere.
 - B. Magnetosphere.
 - C. Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
 - D. Medium Earth Orbit (MEO).
 - E. Geostationary Orbit (GEO).

Space Weather

- I. Conditions in space influenced by:
 - A. Solar flares.
 - B. Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs).
 - C. Solar wind.
- II. Can disrupt:
 - A. Satellites.
 - B. GPS.
 - C. Radio communication.
 - D. Power grids.

Ionosphere

- Electrically charged layer of the upper atmosphere.
- Reflects and modifies radio waves.
- Plays a crucial role in satellite communication and navigation.

Magnetosphere

- Region dominated by Earth's magnetic field.
- Protects Earth from charged particles emitted by the Sun.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Focus:** Understanding near-Earth space environment.
- **Scientific Significance:** Improves prediction of space weather and satellite performance.
- **Applications:** Satellite communication, navigation, Earth observation, and disaster management.
- **Strategic Importance:** Strengthens space infrastructure and national security.
- **Economic Impact:** Enhances reliability of satellite-based services supporting multiple sectors.
- **Challenges:** Complex solar-terrestrial interactions, forecasting accuracy, and increasing space congestion.
- **Way Forward:** Expand space weather monitoring, strengthen international collaboration, develop advanced forecasting models, and improve satellite resilience.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Near-Earth Space:** Region extending from the upper atmosphere to Earth-orbiting satellites.
- **Ionosphere:** Electrically charged atmospheric layer extending approximately **60–1,000 km** above Earth.
- **Magnetosphere:** Region dominated by Earth's magnetic field that shields the planet from solar particles.

- **Space Weather:** Environmental conditions in space influenced by solar activity.
- **Solar Wind:** Continuous stream of charged particles emitted by the Sun.
- **Solar Flare:** Sudden burst of electromagnetic radiation from the Sun.
- **Coronal Mass Ejection (CME):** Massive eruption of plasma and magnetic field from the Sun's corona.
- **Low Earth Orbit (LEO):** Approximately **160–2,000 km** above Earth.
- **Geostationary Orbit (GEO):** Approximately **35,786 km** above Earth's equator with a 24-hour orbital period.
- **GPS:** Global Positioning System used for positioning, navigation, and timing.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The ionosphere is an electrically charged layer of the upper atmosphere that influences radio wave propagation.
2. Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) originate from the Sun and can affect satellite operations.
3. A geostationary satellite orbits the Earth with the same rotational period as the Earth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

5. AI INTERVENTION HOLDS PROMISE OF MANIFOLD INCREASE IN INDIA'S AGRICULTURE ECONOMY; AGRI-STARTUPS HOLD THE KEY TO THE FUTURE OF FARMING: DR. JITENDRA SINGH



- AI is enabling data-driven farming through precision agriculture, crop monitoring, weather forecasting, and pest management.
- Agri-startups are developing innovative solutions in farm mechanization, digital advisory services, supply chain management, and agri-finance.
- AI-powered technologies improve productivity, optimize resource use, and reduce input costs for farmers.
- Digital agriculture supports climate-resilient farming by enabling timely decision-making based on real-time data.
- The growth of agri-startups promotes rural entrepreneurship, employment generation, and agricultural modernization.
- AI integration aligns with India's vision of technology-driven, sustainable, and inclusive agricultural development.

- The initiative also strengthens food security and enhances farmers' income through improved efficiency and market access.
- Continued investment in innovation and digital infrastructure is essential for transforming the agricultural sector.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Agriculture

- I. Uses machine learning and data analytics for:
 - A. Precision farming.
 - B. Crop health monitoring.
 - C. Yield prediction.
 - D. Pest and disease detection.
 - E. Irrigation management.
 - F. Weather forecasting.

Precision Agriculture

- I. Farm management approach using:
 - A. Sensors.
 - B. Drones.
 - C. Satellite imagery.
 - D. GPS.
 - E. AI-based analytics.
- II. Optimizes the use of water, fertilizers, and pesticides.

Agri-Startups

- I. Innovation-driven enterprises working in:
 - A. Agri-tech.
 - B. Farm mechanization.
 - C. Digital marketplaces.
 - D. Supply chain logistics.
 - E. Financial services.
 - F. Climate-smart agriculture.

Government Support

- **Digital Agriculture Mission.**
- **Agriculture Accelerator Fund.**
- **National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF).**
- Promotion of agri-innovation through incubation and startup ecosystems.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Theme:** AI-driven transformation of Indian agriculture.
- **Focus:** Precision farming, innovation, and agri-startups.
- **Economic Significance:** Enhances productivity, farmer income, and agricultural competitiveness.
- **Technological Impact:** Enables real-time decision-making and efficient resource management.
- **Strategic Importance:** Supports food security and climate-resilient agriculture.
- **Governance Impact:** Promotes digital agriculture and innovation-led rural development.
- **Challenges:** Digital divide, affordability, data availability, farmer awareness, and infrastructure gaps.
- **Way Forward:** Expand digital infrastructure, strengthen startup ecosystems, improve AI adoption, enhance farmer training, and promote public-private partnerships in agri-tech.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Technology enabling machines to perform tasks requiring human intelligence.
- **Precision Agriculture:** Data-driven farming using digital technologies for efficient resource utilization.
- **Digital Agriculture Mission:** Government initiative to promote technology-enabled agriculture.
- **Agriculture Accelerator Fund:** Supports innovation and startup development in agriculture.
- **Remote Sensing:** Collection of information about crops or land using satellites or drones.
- **GIS (Geographic Information System):** System for capturing and analyzing spatial data.

- **Internet of Things (IoT):** Network of connected devices that collect and exchange data.
- **Drone:** Unmanned aerial vehicle used for crop monitoring, spraying, and mapping.
- **Climate-Smart Agriculture:** Farming practices that improve productivity while enhancing resilience to climate change.
- **Agri-Startup:** Startup providing technology-based solutions for agriculture and allied sectors.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Precision agriculture uses technologies such as sensors, drones, satellite imagery, and AI to optimize farm management.
2. Remote sensing enables monitoring of crops using satellites or aerial platforms without direct physical contact.
3. Climate-smart agriculture aims to improve agricultural productivity while enhancing resilience to climate change.

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)