



Daily PIB Summary

10 Aug, 2026

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1. IIHT SUTRA 2026 – NATIONAL CONCLAVE OF INDIAN INSTITUTES OF HANDLOOM TECHNOLOGY



- The conclave aims to bring together IIHTs, industry, artisans, researchers and other stakeholders.
- It will focus on **technology, innovation, skill development and modernisation** of India's handloom sector.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology (IIHTs)

- IIHTs provide **technical education and training** related to handloom technology.
- They support the sector through:
 - Skill development.
 - Design and product development.
 - Technological innovation.
 - Research and consultancy.

Handloom Sector

- Provides employment and livelihood to millions of weavers and allied workers.
- It is important for India's **cultural heritage, rural employment and traditional knowledge**.

KEY FEATURES

IIHT SUTRA 2026

- SUTRA** represents a platform for strengthening collaboration and technological advancement in the handloom ecosystem.
- Key focus areas:
 - Modern handloom technologies.
 - Sustainable production.
 - Design innovation.
 - Industry–institute collaboration.

- Entrepreneurship and skilling.
- Technology transfer to weavers.

SIGNIFICANCE

- Bridges the gap between **traditional craftsmanship and modern technology**.
- Improves productivity and product quality.
- Promotes sustainable and innovative handloom production.
- Enhances competitiveness of Indian handloom products.
- Supports **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and livelihoods of artisans.

CHALLENGES

- Technological gaps among traditional weavers.
- Limited access to modern machinery and design facilities.
- Competition from powerloom and mass-produced textiles.
- Limited market and branding opportunities.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen IIHT–industry–artisan partnerships.
- Promote indigenous handloom technology.
- Expand digital design and marketing capabilities.
- Focus on sustainable and value-added products.
- Improve technology access for weavers at the grassroots level.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** IIHT SUTRA 2026.
- **Organiser:** Ministry of Textiles.
- **Institutions:** Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology.
- **Focus:** Technology, innovation, skilling and modernisation.
- **Objective:** Strengthen India's handloom ecosystem through institutional and industry collaboration.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Indian Handloom Sector

- A major source of **rural and traditional employment**.
- Preserves India's traditional weaving techniques and cultural heritage.

Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology

- Provide specialised technical education for the handloom sector.
- Contribute to **research, design, technology and skill development**.

Ministry of Textiles

- Responsible for policy formulation and development of India's textile and handloom sectors.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology (IIHTs):

1. They provide technical education and training related to handloom technology.
2. They contribute to research, design and technological innovation in the handloom sector.
3. IIHT SUTRA 2026 is being organised by the Ministry of Textiles.

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. PLFS INTRODUCES METHODOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS OVER EARLIER EUS

PERIODIC LABOUR FORCE SURVEY



- PLFS was introduced in **2017** by the **National Statistical Office (NSO)**.
- It provides regular estimates of **employment, unemployment and labour-force participation**.

- The survey uses a rotational panel approach in urban areas to improve the frequency and quality of labour-market estimates.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

- I. Conducted by the **NSO under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**.
- II. Replaced the earlier quinquennial **Employment-Unemployment Surveys** for regular labour-market monitoring.
- III. Provides estimates using indicators such as:
 - A. **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)**
 - B. **Worker Population Ratio (WPR)**
 - C. **Unemployment Rate (UR)**

Rotational Panel Design

- Used for **urban areas**.
- Selected households are surveyed repeatedly over specified periods.
- Helps capture **short-term changes and trends** in employment.

KEY FEATURES

Methodological Improvements

- More frequent labour-market estimates.
- Rotational panel sampling in urban areas.
- Improved measurement of employment and unemployment.
- Separate reporting through different **usual status and current weekly status** measures.

Earlier EUS

- Employment-Unemployment Surveys were conducted periodically by the **National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO)**.
- They primarily provided quinquennial employment and unemployment estimates.

SIGNIFICANCE

- Enables more timely assessment of India's labour market.
- Supports evidence-based employment policies.
- Helps track changes in workforce participation and unemployment.
- Improves comparability and availability of labour statistics.

CHALLENGES

- Capturing India's large informal and self-employed workforce.
- Measuring seasonal and intermittent employment.
- Ensuring accurate reporting of women's work and unpaid activities.
- Maintaining survey quality across a large and diverse population.

WAY FORWARD

- Continue improving sampling and survey methodology.
- Strengthen digital data collection and validation.
- Improve measurement of informal, gig and platform employment.
- Integrate complementary administrative datasets where appropriate.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Survey:** Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS).
- **Introduced:** 2017.
- **Conducted by:** National Statistical Office (NSO).
- **Ministry:** MoSPI.
- **Major innovation:** Rotational panel sampling in urban areas.
- **Purpose:** Regular measurement of labour-force and employment indicators.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Key PLFS Indicators

- **LFPR:** Percentage of population that is in the labour force.
- **WPR:** Percentage of population that is employed.
- **UR:** Percentage of persons in the labour force who are unemployed.

Usual Status

- Measures employment status over a **longer reference period**, generally the preceding year.

Current Weekly Status (CWS)

- Based on activity status during the **seven days preceding the survey date**.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS):

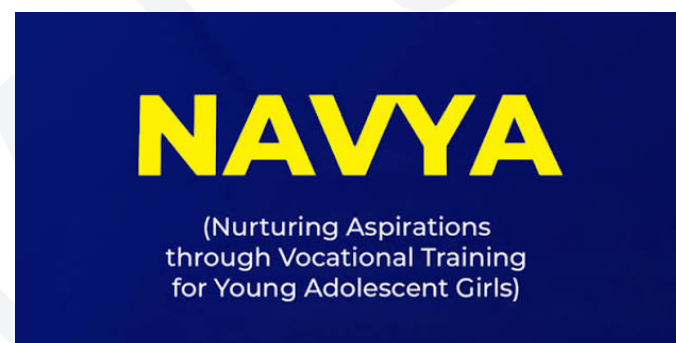
1. PLFS is conducted by the National Statistical Office under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
2. PLFS introduced a rotational panel sampling design for urban areas.
3. Labour Force Participation Rate, Worker Population Ratio and Unemployment Rate are important PLFS indicators.

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. GIRLS TRAINED UNDER NAVYA



- NAVYA focuses on **girls aged 16–18 years**.
- It seeks to improve their employability through **skill development, vocational training and career opportunities**.
- The initiative promotes women's participation in emerging and traditionally male-dominated sectors.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

NAVYA

- **Full Form:** *Nurturing Aspirations through Vocational Training for Young Adolescent Girls*.
- Implemented through collaboration between the **Ministry of Women and Child Development** and the **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship**.
- Targets adolescent girls from disadvantaged backgrounds.

KEY FEATURES

Focus Areas



- Vocational and technical skills.
- Digital and emerging technologies.
- Non-traditional occupations.
- Employability and entrepreneurship.
- Career counselling and exposure to industry.

Objective

- Reduce the gender gap in skill development.
- Enable girls to enter **higher-paying and non-traditional occupations**.
- Support economic independence and empowerment.

SIGNIFICANCE

- Promotes **women-led development**.
- Improves employability and workforce participation among young women.
- Challenges gender stereotypes in occupations.
- Supports India's demographic dividend through skill development.

CHALLENGES

- Gender stereotypes regarding occupations.
- Early school dropout and limited access to training.
- Rural and disadvantaged girls may face mobility and digital-access barriers.
- Need for sustained employment linkages after training.

WAY FORWARD

- Expand NAVYA to more districts.
- Strengthen industry partnerships and apprenticeships.
- Provide placement and entrepreneurship support after training.
- Improve access to digital infrastructure and career counselling.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Initiative:** NAVYA.
- **Target group:** Adolescent girls, **16–18 years**.
- **Focus:** Vocational and non-traditional skills.
- **Key objective:** Employability and economic empowerment of girls.
- **Government departments:** Ministry of Women & Child Development + Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

NAVYA

Nurturing Aspirations through Vocational training for Young Adolescent girls.

- Focuses on **non-traditional occupations**.
- Promotes skill development and economic empowerment of adolescent girls.

Why Non-Traditional Skills?

Examples include:

- Electronics and electrical work.
- Automotive sectors.
- IT and digital technologies.
- Advanced manufacturing.
- Other occupations traditionally dominated by men.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding NAVYA:

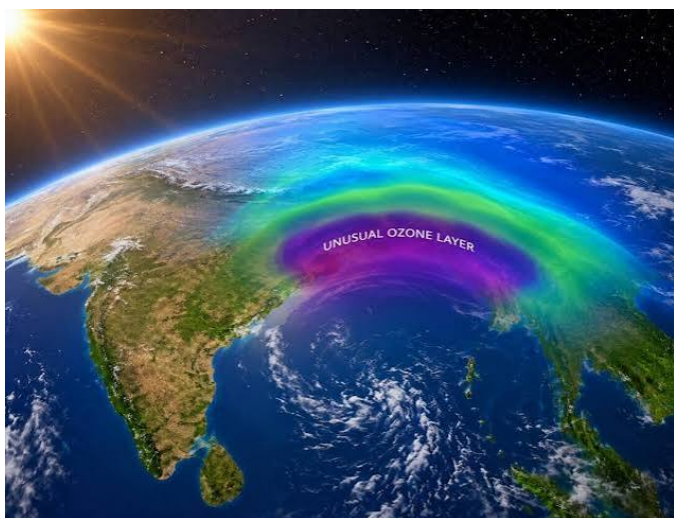
1. It focuses on vocational training of adolescent girls.
2. It seeks to encourage girls' participation in non-traditional occupations.
3. It is a joint initiative involving the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.

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. SCIENTISTS DISCOVER UNUSUAL OZONE LAYER ABOVE NORTH BAY OF BENGAL



- The finding concerns **tropospheric ozone**, not the protective stratospheric ozone layer.
- The unusual ozone presence is linked to atmospheric chemistry and the movement of air masses over the Bay of Bengal.
- The study improves understanding of **regional air quality and atmospheric processes**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Ozone

Ozone (O_3) exists mainly in two atmospheric regions:

- **Stratospheric ozone:** Forms the protective ozone layer and absorbs harmful **ultraviolet (UV) radiation**.
- **Tropospheric ozone:** A secondary air pollutant formed through photochemical reactions involving **nitrogen oxides (NOx)** and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in sunlight.

KEY FEATURES

Unusual Ozone Layer

- Observed over the **North Bay of Bengal**.
- Highlights the complex interaction between **land-based emissions, atmospheric transport and marine air**.
- Tropical atmospheric circulation can transport ozone and its precursors over large distances.

Why It Matters

- Tropospheric ozone can adversely affect **human health and vegetation**.
- It also acts as a **short-lived climate pollutant** and contributes to atmospheric warming.

SIGNIFICANCE

- Improves understanding of **tropical atmospheric chemistry**.
- Helps refine regional **air-quality and climate models**.
- Highlights the importance of studying air pollution beyond urban and land-based regions.
- Can contribute to better prediction of ozone concentrations over the **Bay of Bengal and adjoining regions**.

CHALLENGES

- Ozone formation involves complex chemical reactions.
- Long-range atmospheric transport makes identifying sources difficult.
- Tropical weather systems can rapidly alter ozone distribution.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen atmospheric monitoring over marine regions.
- Conduct long-term observations of tropospheric ozone.
- Improve satellite, aircraft and ground-based measurements.
- Integrate atmospheric chemistry with **monsoon and climate modelling**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Location:** North Bay of Bengal.
- **Gas:** Ozone (O_3).
- **Important distinction:** Finding concerns **tropospheric ozone**.
- **Importance:** Atmospheric chemistry, air quality and climate research.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Stratospheric vs Tropospheric Ozone

Feature	Stratospheric Ozone	Tropospheric Ozone

Location	Stratosphere	Troposphere
Role	Protects from UV radiation	Air pollutant
Formation	UV-driven oxygen chemistry	Photochemical reactions involving NOx/VOCs
Effect	Beneficial	Harmful at elevated concentrations

Ozone Layer

- Located mainly in the **stratosphere**.
- Absorbs much of the Sun's harmful **UV-B and UV-C radiation**.
- Ozone depletion is primarily associated with **ozone-depleting substances** such as CFCs.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding atmospheric ozone:

1. Stratospheric ozone protects life by absorbing harmful ultraviolet radiation.
2. Tropospheric ozone is a secondary air pollutant.
3. Tropospheric ozone can be formed through photochemical reactions involving nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds.

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. STATUS OF NATIONAL RIVERS INTERLINKING PROGRAMME



- I. The programme is being implemented through the **National Perspective Plan (NPP)** prepared by the **National Water Development Agency (NWDA)**.
- II. The NPP broadly covers **30 river-linking projects**:
 - A. **16 Peninsular component**
 - B. **14 Himalayan component**
- III. River interlinking seeks to address **water scarcity, floods, droughts and regional water imbalances**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National River Linking Programme

- The idea is to connect rivers through a network of **reservoirs and canals**.
- It envisages transferring water between river basins based on perceived **surplus and deficit** availability.
- The **NWDA**, under the **Ministry of Jal Shakti**, is the principal agency involved in studies and project development.

Two Components

Himalayan Component

- Involves Himalayan rivers and links with adjoining river basins.
- Intended to utilise and regulate Himalayan river flows.

Peninsular Component

- Focuses on rivers of southern and central India.
- Includes proposed links involving rivers such as **Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Pennar and Cauvery**.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Ken–Betwa Link Project

- The **Ken–Betwa Link Project** is the **first river-linking project under the National Perspective Plan** to move into implementation.
- It involves transfer of water from the **Ken basin to the Betwa basin**.
- The project is particularly significant for the **Bundelkhand region** of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

SIGNIFICANCE

- Potential to provide irrigation to water-stressed areas.
- Can improve drinking-water availability.
- May help moderate the effects of droughts and floods.
- Could enhance agricultural productivity and regional water security.
- Promotes integrated management of river-basin resources.

CHALLENGES

- **Inter-state water disputes** and obtaining consensus among states.
- Ecological impacts on riverine and forest ecosystems.
- Rehabilitation and resettlement of affected communities.
- High financial and infrastructure costs.
- Concerns regarding whether a river basin is genuinely “surplus” under changing rainfall patterns and climate change.

WAY FORWARD

- Base water-transfer decisions on **scientific basin-level assessments**.
- Strengthen inter-state consultation and consensus.
- Prioritise **water conservation, watershed management and demand management** alongside transfers.

- Incorporate climate-change projections into project planning.
- Ensure robust environmental and social impact assessments.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Programme:** National River Linking Programme.
- **Framework:** National Perspective Plan.
- **Nodal agency:** National Water Development Agency (NWDA).
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- **NPP links: 30** — 16 Peninsular + 14 Himalayan.
- **First implementation project:** Ken–Betwa Link Project.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

National Water Development Agency (NWDA)

- Works under the **Ministry of Jal Shakti**.
- Conducts studies and prepares proposals relating to inter-basin water transfer.

Ken–Betwa Link

- **Ken:** Tributary of the Yamuna.
- **Betwa:** Tributary of the Yamuna.
- States involved: **Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh**.
- Major component: **Daudhan Dam** and associated canal system.

Constitutional Aspect

- **Water** is primarily a **State List** subject.
- **Inter-State rivers and river valleys** fall under **Entry 17 of the State List**, subject to the provisions of **Entry 56 of the Union List**.
- River interlinking therefore requires substantial **Centre–State and inter-state coordination**.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding India's river interlinking programme:

1. The National Perspective Plan envisages both Himalayan and Peninsular river-linking projects.
2. The National Water Development Agency is associated with planning and development of inter-basin water-transfer proposals.
3. The Ken–Betwa Link Project involves Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



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

Answer: (d)