



Daily PIB Summary

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1. CCI APPROVES ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN SHAREHOLDING IN SHRIRAM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY BY SANLAM EMERGING MARKETS (MAURITIUS) LTD



Fair Competition
For Greater Good

Key Highlights

- CCI approved the proposed acquisition of additional shareholding in Shriram Life Insurance Company.
- The acquisition is by Sanlam Emerging Markets (Mauritius) Ltd.
- The approval was granted after assessing that the transaction is not likely to cause an appreciable adverse effect on competition in India.
- The transaction is subject to applicable sectoral and regulatory approvals.

ABOUT THE COMPETITION COMMISSION OF INDIA (CCI)

Competition Commission of India

Established

- 2003

Operational Since

- 2009

Established Under

- Competition Act, 2002

Ministry

- Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Composition

- One Chairperson.
- Up to six Members appointed by the Central Government.

Objectives

- Prevent anti-competitive practices.
- Promote and sustain competition.
- Protect consumer interests.
- Ensure freedom of trade.

FUNCTIONS OF CCI

- Prevent abuse of dominant position.
- Regulate combinations (mergers, acquisitions, and amalgamations).
- Prohibit anti-competitive agreements.
- Promote competition advocacy.
- Conduct market studies and inquiries.

WHAT ARE COMBINATIONS?

Under the **Competition Act, 2002**, a **Combination** refers to:

- Acquisition of shares, voting rights, or assets.
- Acquisition of control over an enterprise.
- Mergers and amalgamations.

Such transactions exceeding prescribed thresholds require CCI approval to ensure they do not substantially reduce competition.

ABOUT SHRIRAM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Shriram Life Insurance Company Limited

- I. A private sector life insurance company in India.
- II. Provides:
 - A. Life insurance policies.
 - B. Savings and protection products.
 - C. Pension and retirement solutions.

ABOUT SANLAM EMERGING MARKETS (MAURITIUS) LTD

Sanlam Emerging Markets (Mauritius) Ltd

- A subsidiary of Sanlam **Limited**.
- Focuses on investments in financial services across emerging markets.

SIGNIFICANCE

Promotes Healthy Competition

- Ensures market competition is not adversely affected by mergers and acquisitions.

Consumer Protection

- Prevents monopolistic practices and promotes fair pricing.

Investment Facilitation

- Encourages domestic and foreign investment while maintaining competitive markets.

Regulatory Oversight

- Strengthens transparency and accountability in corporate restructuring.

CHALLENGES

- Balancing investment promotion with competition safeguards.
- Monitoring complex cross-border acquisitions.
- Addressing competition concerns in rapidly evolving markets.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen competition assessment mechanisms.
- Enhance coordination with sectoral regulators.

- Promote awareness regarding competition law compliance.
- Ensure timely disposal of combination approval cases.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Regulator:** Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- **Law:** Competition Act, 2002.
- **Transaction:** Acquisition of shareholding in Shriram Life Insurance Company.
- **Acquirer:** Sanlam Emerging Markets (Mauritius) Ltd.
- **Objective of CCI:** Promote fair competition and protect consumer interests.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Competition Commission of India (CCI)**
 - A. Established: **2003**.
 - B. Operational: **2009**.
 - C. Statutory body under the **Competition Act, 2002**.
 - D. Functions under the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs**.
- II. **Competition Act, 2002**
 - A. Replaced the **Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Act, 1969**.
 - B. Deals with:
 1. Anti-competitive agreements.
 2. Abuse of dominant position.
 3. Regulation of combinations.
- III. **Combination**

- A. Includes mergers, acquisitions, and amalgamations exceeding prescribed thresholds.
- B. Requires CCI approval before implementation.

IV. **Objective of CCI**

- A. Promote competition.
- B. Protect consumer interests.
- C. Ensure freedom of trade in Indian markets.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Competition Commission of India (CCI):

1. The Competition Commission of India was established under the Competition Act, 2002.
2. CCI regulates mergers, acquisitions, and amalgamations that qualify as combinations under the Act.
3. The Competition Act, 2002 replaced the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Act, 1969.

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. UNION MINISTER SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY SENDS OFF 14 INDIAN WORKERS TO MAURITIUS UNDER INDIA–MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP



Key Highlights

- First batch of **14 Indian workers** sent to Mauritius.
- Implemented under the **India–Mauritius G2G Mobility Partnership**.
- Facilitated through institutional cooperation between the two governments.
- Focuses on ethical recruitment and skill-based overseas employment.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP

- Promote safe and legal migration.
- Create overseas employment opportunities for skilled Indians.
- Ensure transparent and ethical recruitment.

- Protect the rights and welfare of migrant workers.
- Strengthen bilateral cooperation between India and Mauritius.

ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT (G2G) MOBILITY MODEL

The G2G Mobility Partnership provides a structured framework for:

- Skill matching between employers and workers.
- Transparent recruitment processes.
- Pre-departure orientation and training.
- Protection of workers' rights.
- Institutional monitoring and grievance redressal.

ROLE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (MSDE)

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Functions

- Promote skill development and vocational training.
- Enhance employability of Indian youth.
- Facilitate international workforce mobility.
- Align Indian skills with global labour market requirements.

SIGNIFICANCE

Employment Generation

- Expands overseas job opportunities for skilled workers.

Safe Migration

- Reduces risks associated with illegal recruitment and exploitation.

Economic Benefits

- Increases remittance inflows and supports livelihoods.

Skill Recognition

- Enhances global acceptance of India's skilled workforce.

Strengthened Bilateral Relations

- Deepens India–Mauritius cooperation in labour mobility and human resource development.

CHALLENGES

- Ensuring continuous protection of migrant workers abroad.
- Recognition of Indian qualifications in foreign markets.
- Adapting skills to changing international labour demands.
- Preventing illegal recruitment practices.

WAY FORWARD

- Expand G2G mobility partnerships with more countries.
- Strengthen pre-departure skill and language training.
- Enhance digital monitoring of overseas employment.
- Promote international recognition of Indian skill certifications.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Initiative:** India–Mauritius Government-to-Government Mobility Partnership.
- **First Batch:** 14 Indian workers.
- **Destination:** Mauritius.
- **Lead Ministry:** Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- **Objective:** Safe, legal, and ethical overseas employment.
- **Benefit:** Enhanced global mobility for India's skilled workforce.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)**
 - A. Established in **2014**.
 - B. Nodal ministry for skill development and vocational training.
- II. **Government-to-Government (G2G) Mobility Partnership**
 - A. Facilitates regulated and transparent international labour mobility.
 - B. Protects migrant workers through institutional cooperation.

- III. **Benefits of G2G Labour Mobility**
- Safe migration.
 - Ethical recruitment.
 - Better employment conditions.
 - Enhanced bilateral cooperation.
- IV. **Mauritius**
- Island nation in the **Indian Ocean**.
 - Strong historical, cultural, and diaspora ties with India.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

- The India–Mauritius Government-to-Government Mobility Partnership aims to promote safe and legal migration of workers.
- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is the nodal ministry for promoting skill development in India.
- One objective of the G2G mobility model is to ensure ethical recruitment and protection of migrant workers.

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)

3.NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HOMOEOPATHY ADVISES RESPONSIBLE PUBLIC DISCOURSE ON HOMOEOPATHY; CALLS FOR RELIANCE ON VERIFIED INFORMATION



Key Highlights

- NCH emphasized the importance of:
 - Responsible communication regarding Homoeopathy.
 - Dissemination of scientifically verified information.
 - Preventing misinformation related to healthcare practices.
- Called upon stakeholders to maintain ethical standards while discussing Homoeopathy in the public domain.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HOMOEOPATHY (NCH)

National Commission for Homoeopathy

Established

- 2021

Established Under

- National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020

Ministry

- Ministry of AYUSH.

Headquarters

- New Delhi

Replaced

- **Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH).**

OBJECTIVES OF NCH

- Regulate Homoeopathy education and profession.
- Maintain high standards of medical education.
- Ensure transparency and accountability.
- Promote quality healthcare services.
- Encourage ethical professional practices.

ABOUT HOMOEOPATHY

Homoeopathy

Origin

- Developed by **Samuel Hahnemann** in Germany.

Fundamental Principles

- **Like cures like** (*Similia Similibus Curentur*).
- Use of highly diluted substances.
- Individualized treatment approach.

Recognition in India

- Homoeopathy is one of the recognized systems under the **AYUSH** framework.

ROLE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH

The **Ministry of AYUSH** promotes:

- Ayurveda.
- Yoga & Naturopathy.
- Unani.
- Siddha.
- Sowa-Rigpa.
- Homoeopathy.

The Ministry supports education, research, regulation, and integration of traditional systems of medicine.

SIGNIFICANCE

Evidence-Based Healthcare

- Encourages dissemination of verified medical information.

Public Awareness

- Helps prevent misinformation related to healthcare.

Professional Ethics

- Promotes responsible communication by healthcare professionals and institutions.

Regulatory Oversight

- Strengthens public confidence in regulated systems of medicine.

CHALLENGES

- Spread of misinformation through digital platforms.
- Public confusion due to conflicting medical claims.
- Need for greater awareness regarding regulatory standards.
- Ensuring scientific research and quality assurance.

WAY FORWARD

- Promote evidence-based communication.
- Strengthen research in AYUSH systems.
- Enhance public awareness through authentic sources.
- Encourage ethical healthcare communication by professionals and institutions.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Regulator:** National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH).
- **Established:** 2021.
- **Law:** National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020.
- **Ministry:** Ministry of AYUSH.

- **Replaced:** Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH).
- **Focus:** Responsible public discourse and verified information.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH)**
 - A. Established under the **National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020**.
 - B. Came into effect in **2021**.
 - C. Functions under the **Ministry of AYUSH**.
- II. **Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH)**
 - A. Replaced by the National Commission for Homoeopathy.
- III. **Homoeopathy**
 - A. Developed by **Samuel Hahnemann**.
 - B. Based on the principle of "**Like cures like**" (**Similia Similibus Curentur**).
- IV. **AYUSH**
 - A. Stands for **Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, and Homoeopathy**.
- V. **National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM)**
 - A. Established under the **National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, 2020**.
 - B. Regulates Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Sowa-Rigpa education and practice.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The National Commission for Homoeopathy was established under the National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020.
2. The National Commission for Homoeopathy replaced the Central Council of Homoeopathy.
3. Homoeopathy is one of the systems of medicine promoted under the Ministry of AYUSH.

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.NO BAN ON IMPORT OF INDIAN MANGOES BY NEPAL



Key Highlights

- No official nationwide ban has been imposed by Nepal on Indian mango imports.
- Import consignments are subject to **quarantine inspection** and **pesticide residue testing**.
- The issue relates to compliance with **Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures** rather than a blanket trade prohibition.
- India and Nepal continue to engage through established trade and regulatory mechanisms.

BACKGROUND

What are Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures?

- I. SPS measures are regulations adopted by countries to:
 - A. Protect human, animal, and plant health.
 - B. Prevent the spread of pests and diseases.
 - C. Ensure food safety in international trade.
- II. These measures may include:
 - A. Quarantine inspections.
 - B. Pest-risk analysis.
 - C. Pesticide residue testing.
 - D. Phytosanitary certification.

ROLE OF APEDA

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

Established

- 1986

Established Under

- APEDA Act, 1985

Ministry

- Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Functions

- Promote agricultural exports.
- Facilitate compliance with international quality standards.

- Assist exporters in meeting SPS and phytosanitary requirements.
- Develop export infrastructure and market access.

WHY QUALITY COMPLIANCE MATTERS

- Ensures acceptance of Indian agricultural products in global markets.
- Protects consumer health.
- Reduces the risk of export rejections.
- Enhances India's credibility as a reliable exporter.

SIGNIFICANCE

Agricultural Exports

- Maintains uninterrupted export of high-value horticultural products.

Farmer Welfare

- Supports better market access and higher incomes for mango growers.

India–Nepal Trade

- Reinforces strong bilateral agricultural trade relations.

Food Safety

- Encourages adherence to international quality and safety standards.

CHALLENGES

- Meeting stringent pesticide residue limits.
- Strengthening testing and certification infrastructure.
- Addressing misinformation regarding export restrictions.
- Ensuring uniform compliance across the supply chain.

WAY FORWARD

- Enhance residue monitoring and quality control.
- Strengthen export inspection and certification systems.
- Improve awareness among farmers regarding Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).
- Continue bilateral coordination on SPS issues.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Clarification:** No nationwide ban on Indian mango imports by Nepal.
- **Issue:** Quality inspection and SPS compliance.
- **Facilitating Agency:** APEDA.
- **Focus:** Safe agricultural trade and export quality.
- **Importance:** Protects exports while ensuring food safety.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

I. APEDA

- A. Established: **1986**.

B. Statutory body under the **APEDA Act, 1985**.

C. Functions under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.

II. SPS Measures

A. Governed internationally under the **World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**.

B. Aim to protect human, animal, and plant life or health.

III. Phytosanitary Certificate

A. Issued to certify that exported plants and plant products meet the importing country's plant health requirements.

IV. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)

A. Minimize pesticide residues and improve the quality and safety of agricultural produce.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. APEDA functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
2. Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures are intended to protect human, animal, and plant health in international trade.
3. Phytosanitary certificates are issued to ensure compliance with the importing country's plant health requirements.

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. GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENSURES ROBUST UREA AVAILABILITY FOR PUNJAB'S KHARIF 2026 SEASON



Key Highlights

- Urea supplied to Punjab: **Over 10.71 LMT.**
- Pro-rata requirement: **9 LMT.**
- Supply exceeds requirement by around **1.71 LMT.**
- Ensures timely availability of fertilizers for Kharif crops.
- Supports agricultural productivity and food security.

ABOUT UREA

Urea

- Urea is the **most widely used nitrogenous fertilizer** in India.
- Chemical Formula: **$\text{CO}(\text{NH}_2)_2$** .

- Contains about **46% nitrogen**, the highest nitrogen content among solid nitrogen fertilizers.

Importance

- I. Promotes vegetative growth.
- II. Essential for crops such as:
 - A. Paddy.
 - B. Wheat.
 - C. Maize.
 - D. Sugarcane.

KHARIF SEASON

Characteristics

- Sowing: **June–July** (with the onset of the southwest monsoon).
- Harvesting: **September–October.**

Major Kharif Crops

- Rice (Paddy).
- Maize.
- Cotton.
- Soybean.
- Bajra.
- Groundnut.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES FOR FERTILIZER MANAGEMENT

Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme

- Applicable to **Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers.**
- Subsidy is linked to nutrient content.

Urea Subsidy

- Urea is **not covered under the NBS Scheme**.
- It is sold to farmers at a **statutorily notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP)**, while the Government bears the difference between production/import cost and MRP.

Neem-Coated Urea

- Reduces nitrogen loss.
- Improves nutrient-use efficiency.
- Minimizes diversion of urea for non-agricultural purposes.

SIGNIFICANCE

Food Security

- Ensures timely fertilizer availability for crop production.

Farmer Welfare

- Prevents shortages during peak agricultural seasons.

Agricultural Productivity

- Supports higher crop yields through adequate nutrient supply.

Balanced Supply Chain

- Strengthens fertilizer distribution and logistics.

CHALLENGES

- Excessive use of urea leading to soil nutrient imbalance.
- Declining soil health due to imbalanced fertilizer application.
- Dependence on imported raw materials.
- Need for balanced nutrient management.

WAY FORWARD

- Promote balanced fertilization based on Soil Health Cards.
- Encourage integrated nutrient management.
- Increase awareness regarding judicious fertilizer use.
- Expand nano-fertilizers and alternative nutrient sources.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **State:** Punjab.
- **Season:** Kharif 2026.
- **Urea Supplied:** Over **10.71 LMT**.
- **Requirement:** **9 LMT**.
- **Major Fertilizer:** Urea (46% Nitrogen).
- **Objective:** Ensure uninterrupted fertilizer availability.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Urea**
 - A. Nitrogen content: **46%**.
 - B. Chemical formula: **CO(NH₂)₂**.
 - C. Most widely used nitrogenous fertilizer in India.
- II. **Neem-Coated Urea**

- A. Mandatory in India since **2015**.
- B. Reduces nitrogen losses.
- C. Improves fertilizer-use efficiency.
- D. Prevents diversion for industrial purposes.

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a)

III. **Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme**

- A. Covers **Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers**.
- B. **Urea is excluded** from the NBS Scheme.

IV. **Kharif Crops**

- A. Sown with the onset of the southwest monsoon.
- B. Major crops: Rice, Maize, Cotton, Soybean, Groundnut, Bajra.

V. **Soil Health Card Scheme**

- A. Provides farmers with soil nutrient status and fertilizer recommendations for balanced nutrient management.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Urea contains about 46% nitrogen by weight.
2. Urea is covered under the Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme.
3. Neem-coated urea helps improve nitrogen-use efficiency and reduces diversion for non-agricultural purposes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only