



Daily PIB Summary

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1. INDIA TAKES A SIGNIFICANT STEP TO STRENGTHEN COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH IN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE



- The Government of India is promoting **collaborative research in traditional medicine** to improve scientific evidence, innovation, and integration with modern healthcare systems.
- The initiative encourages cooperation between **national research institutions, universities, and international partners** to explore the therapeutic potential of traditional medical systems such as **Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy**.
- Strengthening research collaboration will help develop **evidence-based treatment protocols, standardized formulations, and quality control mechanisms**.
- The initiative also aligns with India's broader objective of **positioning traditional medicine as an important component of global healthcare**

systems and promoting medical value travel.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Traditional Medicine Systems in India

India has a rich tradition of indigenous medical systems collectively referred to as **AYUSH**, which includes:

- **Ayurveda**
- **Yoga and Naturopathy**
- **Unani**
- **Siddha**
- **Homeopathy**

These systems emphasize **holistic healthcare, preventive medicine, and natural therapies**.

The sector is governed by the Ministry of AYUSH.

Research and Evidence-Based Validation

For global acceptance, traditional medicine requires:

- **Scientific validation of treatments**
- **Clinical trials and pharmacological research**
- **Standardization of herbal medicines**
- **Quality assurance and safety evaluation**

Collaborative research helps combine **traditional knowledge with modern scientific methods**.

Global Recognition of Traditional Medicine

International organizations such as the World Health Organization is increasingly recognizing the role of traditional medicine in healthcare systems.

India has also established the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine to promote **global research and policy cooperation** in this field.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Research Collaboration:** Strengthening partnerships among **research institutions and universities.**
- **Scientific Validation:** Promotes **evidence-based research in traditional medicine systems.**
- **AYUSH Integration:** Focus on systems such as **Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, Yoga, and Homeopathy.**
- **Global Outreach:** Enhances **international collaboration and knowledge exchange.**
- **Healthcare Innovation:** Supports development of **standardized herbal formulations and therapies.**
- **Medical Value Travel:** Strengthens India's position as a **global hub for traditional medicine and wellness.**

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Ministry of AYUSH:

- Established in **2014**

- Responsible for **policy, regulation, and promotion of traditional medicine systems**

WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine:

- Located in **Jamnagar, Gujarat**
- Launched in **2022**
- Promotes **research, policy collaboration, and global knowledge sharing**

Major Traditional Medicine Systems in India:

- Ayurveda
- Yoga & Naturopathy
- Unani
- Siddha
- Homeopathy

Importance of Research:

- Ensures **safety and efficacy of traditional medicines**
- Enables **integration with modern healthcare systems**

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding **traditional medicine in India:**

1. The Ministry of AYUSH is responsible for promoting traditional medicine systems in India.
2. The WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine is located in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
3. AYUSH includes Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

2. NUCLEAR ENERGY MISSION: GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE TO EXPAND NUCLEAR POWER CAPACITY



- India is advancing its **Nuclear Energy Mission** to significantly increase nuclear power generation as part of the country's long-term clean energy strategy.

- Nuclear energy is considered a **reliable base-load source of electricity** that can complement renewable energy sources such as solar and wind.
- The mission focuses on **developing new nuclear power plants, deploying indigenous reactor technologies, and strengthening domestic manufacturing capabilities.**
- It also supports India's climate commitments by **reducing dependence on fossil fuels and lowering greenhouse gas emissions.**
- The initiative aligns with the government's broader goal of achieving **energy security, sustainable development, and net-zero emission targets.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India's Nuclear Energy Programme

India's nuclear power programme is managed by the Department of Atomic Energy and operated largely through the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited.

The programme follows a **three-stage nuclear power strategy** proposed by Homi J. Bhabha.

Stage 1

- Uses **Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs)**
- Fuel: Natural uranium
- Produces plutonium as a by-product

Stage 2

- Uses **Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs)**
- Utilizes plutonium from Stage 1

Stage 3

- Uses **Thorium-based reactors**
- Exploits India's large thorium reserves

Importance of Nuclear Energy

Nuclear energy plays a crucial role in:

- **Low-carbon electricity generation**
- **Energy diversification**
- **Stable base-load power supply**

Unlike solar or wind energy, nuclear plants provide **continuous electricity irrespective of weather conditions**.

India's Climate Commitments

Nuclear power contributes to India's commitments under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

It supports India's goals of:

- **Reducing carbon intensity**
- Expanding **non-fossil fuel energy capacity**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Mission Objective:** Expand **nuclear power capacity in India**.
- **Implementing Agency:** Managed by the **Department of Atomic Energy**.
- **Clean Energy Role:** Nuclear power helps reduce **carbon emissions**.

- **Energy Security:** Provides **reliable base-load electricity supply**.
- **Technology Development:** Focus on **indigenous reactor technologies such as PHWRs**.
- **Long-term Strategy:** Part of India's **three-stage nuclear power programme**.
- **Climate Relevance:** Supports **low-carbon energy transition and climate commitments**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Department of Atomic Energy (DAE):

- Established in **1954**
- Directly under the **Prime Minister's Office**

Major Nuclear Power Operator:

- Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited

India's Nuclear Fuel Resources:

- **Limited uranium reserves**
- **Large thorium reserves (monazite sands in coastal regions)**

Important Nuclear Power Plants in India:

- Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant
- Tarapur Atomic Power Station
- Kakrapar Atomic Power Station

Fast Breeder Reactor:

- Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding **India's Nuclear Energy Programme**:

1. India's nuclear power programme follows a three-stage strategy involving uranium and thorium fuel cycles.
2. Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) form the first stage of India's nuclear programme.
3. Nuclear power generation produces zero greenhouse gas emissions during electricity production.

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: (a)

3. NEW DELHI TO HOST GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS (GCWAS-2026)



- The **Global Conference on Women in Agri-Food Systems (GCWAS-2026)** aims to bring together **policy makers, researchers, international organizations, and agricultural stakeholders** to discuss strategies for empowering women in agriculture.
- The event will focus on **women's participation across the agri-food value chain**, including farming, food processing, marketing, and agribusiness entrepreneurship.
- It seeks to address **gender disparities in access to land, finance, technology, and markets**, which often limit women's economic potential in the agricultural sector.
- The conference will also promote **knowledge sharing, policy dialogue, and international cooperation** to strengthen gender equality in food systems.
- Strengthening women's role in agriculture is crucial for **food security, rural development, and sustainable livelihoods**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Women in Agriculture in India

Women constitute a significant share of the agricultural workforce in India.

Key roles include:

- Crop cultivation and harvesting
- Livestock management
- Food processing and storage

- Participation in **self-help groups and rural enterprises**

However, women farmers often face challenges such as:

- Limited **land ownership**
- Restricted **access to credit and technology**
- Lower participation in **decision-making processes**

Agri-Food Systems

An **agri-food system** includes all activities related to:

- **Agricultural production**
- **Processing**
- **Distribution**
- **Consumption of food**

Strengthening women's participation across this value chain improves **productivity, nutrition outcomes, and rural economic development**.

Global Importance of Gender Equality in Agriculture

International institutions such as the The Food and Agriculture Organization emphasises that **empowering women farmers can significantly improve agricultural productivity and food security**.

Gender-inclusive policies are also linked with achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly **SDG-2 (Zero Hunger)** and **SDG-5 (Gender Equality)**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Global Conference:** GCWAS-2026 to be held in **New Delhi from 12-14 March 2026**.
- **Focus Area:** Empowering **women in agri-food systems and agricultural value chains**.
- **Stakeholder Participation:** Involvement of **policy makers, researchers, international organizations, and farmers**.
- **Gender Equality:** Addressing barriers such as **limited access to land, credit, and technology**.
- **Knowledge Exchange:** Platform for **sharing best practices, research insights, and policy innovations**.
- **Food Security Link:** Women's empowerment in agriculture contributes to **sustainable food systems and rural livelihoods**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Women in Agriculture (India):

- Women constitute **a significant portion of the agricultural workforce**
- Often engaged in **subsistence farming, livestock management, and food processing**

Agri-Food Systems Include:

- Agricultural production
- Food processing
- Distribution and marketing
- Consumption

Relevant International Organizations:

- Food and Agriculture Organization
- International Fund for Agricultural Development

Relevant Sustainable Development Goals:

- **SDG-2:** Zero Hunger
- **SDG-5:** Gender Equality

Policy Importance:

- Enhances **food security**
- Promotes **inclusive rural development**

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding **women in agri-food systems**:

1. Agri-food systems include activities related to agricultural production, processing, distribution, and food consumption.
2. Empowering women farmers can contribute to improved agricultural productivity and food security.
3. The Sustainable Development Goals include targets related to gender equality and zero hunger.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

4.INDIA READY TO MEET ANY UNPRECEDENTED DEMAND FOR COAL



- The Government of India has emphasized that the country maintains **sufficient coal production, stock levels, and logistics capacity** to meet any sudden rise in coal demand.
- Coal remains a **critical energy source for electricity generation**, with the majority of India's thermal power plants relying on coal-based fuel.
- To prevent supply disruptions, the government has strengthened **coal production, transportation infrastructure, and stock monitoring systems**.
- Measures include improved **coal evacuation through railways, higher domestic production, and better coordination with power utilities**.
- Ensuring adequate coal availability is essential for **energy security, grid stability, and uninterrupted power supply**, especially during peak electricity demand periods.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Coal in India's Energy Mix

Coal is the **dominant source of electricity generation in India**.

Key characteristics:

- Accounts for a **major share of power generation**
- Used primarily in **thermal power plants**
- Supports **industrial sectors such as steel and cement**

India possesses some of the **largest coal reserves in the world**, making domestic coal production crucial for energy security.

Major Institutions in Coal Sector

Coal Production

- Coal India Limited – largest coal producer in the world
- Singareni Collieries Company Limited – major coal producer in Telangana

Policy and Regulation

- The Ministry of Coal oversees coal sector policies and development.

Coal Supply Chain

Coal supply involves multiple stages:

1. **Mining and production**
2. **Transportation through railways and road networks**
3. **Stocking at power plants**

4. Electricity generation in thermal plants

Efficient logistics is critical to avoid **coal shortages at power plants**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Supply Preparedness:** India is prepared to meet **any unprecedented demand for coal**.
- **Power Sector Support:** Ensures **continuous fuel supply to thermal power plants**.
- **Production Growth:** Focus on increasing **domestic coal production**.
- **Logistics Strengthening:** Improved **coal transportation via rail networks**.
- **Stock Monitoring:** Regular monitoring of **coal stocks at power plants**.
- **Energy Security:** Ensures **reliable electricity supply during peak demand periods**.
- **Industrial Importance:** Coal supports **power generation, steel, and cement industries**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Coal India Limited (CIL):

- Public sector company under the **Ministry of Coal**
- One of the **largest coal producers globally**

Major Coal-Producing States in India:

- Jharkhand
- Odisha
- Chhattisgarh
- West Bengal

- Madhya Pradesh

Types of Coal in India:

- **Anthracite** – highest carbon content
- **Bituminous** – commonly used in power plants
- **Lignite** – lower grade coal

Importance of Coal:

- Major source of **thermal power generation**
- Supports **energy security and industrial growth**

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the **coal sector in India**:

1. Coal remains a major source of electricity generation in India.
2. Coal India Limited is one of the largest coal-producing companies in the world.
3. The Ministry of Coal is responsible for policy and development of the coal sector.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

5. INDIAN NAVAL SHIP TRIKAND VISITS PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS TO STRENGTHEN MARITIME COOPERATION



- The visit of **INS Trikand**, a stealth frigate of the Indian Navy, to Mauritius reflects India's commitment to strengthening **maritime diplomacy and regional security cooperation**.
- During the port call, naval personnel engage in **professional interactions, joint activities, and goodwill engagements with the Mauritian authorities and navy**.
- Such visits support India's broader vision of **Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)** and enhance interoperability among friendly maritime forces.
- The engagement also reinforces **India-Mauritius strategic partnership**, particularly in areas such as **maritime security, capacity building, and humanitarian cooperation**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

INS Trikand

INS Trikand is a **Talwar-class stealth frigate** of the Indian Navy.

Key features:

- Equipped with **advanced sensors and weapon systems**
- Designed for **anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine warfare**
- Part of India's **blue-water naval capabilities**

India–Mauritius Maritime Cooperation

India and Mauritius share close historical and strategic relations.

Areas of cooperation include:

- **Maritime security**
- **Hydrographic surveys**
- **Coastal surveillance systems**
- **Capacity building and training**

Mauritius is a key partner in India's **Indian Ocean maritime strategy**.

SAGAR Doctrine

India's maritime policy framework is guided by the concept of **Security and Growth for All in the Region**.

Objectives include:

- Ensuring **regional maritime security**
- Strengthening **economic cooperation in the Indian Ocean**
- Supporting **capacity building of partner nations**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Naval Deployment:** INS Trikand visited **Port Louis, Mauritius** during operational deployment.
- **Maritime Diplomacy:** Aims to enhance **defence cooperation and naval partnerships**.
- **Joint Engagements:** Includes **professional interactions and goodwill activities** with Mauritian authorities.
- **Strategic Partnership:** Reinforces **India–Mauritius defence and maritime relations**.
- **Regional Security:** Supports India's **SAGAR vision for the Indian Ocean Region**.
- **Operational Presence:** Demonstrates the **Indian Navy's capability and presence in the IOR**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

INS Trikand

- **Class:** Talwar-class stealth frigate
- **Role:** Multi-role warship capable of **anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine operations**

Indian Ocean Region (IOR)

- Strategically important for **global trade and energy routes**

SAGAR Doctrine

- Announced in **2015**
- Framework for **India's maritime cooperation in the Indian Ocean**

India–Mauritius Relations

- Mauritius hosts **a large population of Indian origin**
- Strong cooperation in **security, development, and maritime surveillance**

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding **India's maritime strategy**:

1. The SAGAR doctrine focuses on promoting security and cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region.
2. Talwar-class frigates of the Indian Navy are multi-role warships capable of anti-submarine warfare.
3. Mauritius is located in the Indian Ocean and is a strategic partner for India's maritime cooperation.

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)