



Daily PIB Summary

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1. INDIA–NEPAL DEFENCE COOPERATION: COAS VISITS NEPAL



- I. India and Nepal share close **historical, cultural and military ties**.
- II. Defence cooperation includes:
 - A. Joint military exercises.
 - B. Training and capacity building.
 - C. Defence exchanges.
 - D. Humanitarian assistance and disaster-relief cooperation.
- III. The COAS visit provides an opportunity to deepen **bilateral defence engagement and interoperability**.

KEY AREAS OF COOPERATION

- I. **Military exchanges**
 - A. Regular visits between senior military leadership of both countries.
- II. **Joint exercises**
 - A. **Exercise Surya Kiran** is the major India–Nepal joint military exercise.
 - B. It focuses on **jungle warfare, counter-terrorism operations and disaster response**.
- III. **Training**
 - A. Nepalese military personnel receive training in Indian defence institutions.
 - B. This promotes professional interaction and interoperability.
- IV. **Gorkha connection**

- A. **Gorkha soldiers from Nepal have a historic association with the Indian Army.**
- B. This forms an important people-to-people dimension of India–Nepal defence ties.

SIGNIFICANCE

- I. **Himalayan security**
 - A. Nepal's geographical position makes it important for India's Himalayan security environment.
- II. **Border management**
 - A. India and Nepal share an approximately **1,770-km open border**.
 - B. Security cooperation is important for addressing cross-border challenges.
- III. **Disaster management**
 - A. Both countries are vulnerable to **earthquakes, landslides, floods and other Himalayan disasters**.
 - B. Military cooperation can strengthen humanitarian assistance and disaster-relief capabilities.
- IV. **People-to-people ties**
 - A. Defence relations complement the broader civilisational and cultural relationship between the two countries.

INDIA–NEPAL DEFENCE RELATIONSHIP

- **1950:** India–Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship provides the broader framework for close bilateral relations.
- **Indian Army–Nepal Army:** Both maintain institutional military-to-military engagement.
- **Honorary ranks:** The tradition of awarding honorary rank of **General** to the Army Chief of the other country reflects the special military relationship.

CHALLENGES

- Maintaining trust and regular high-level engagement.
- Addressing security concerns along the open border.
- Managing geopolitical sensitivities surrounding Nepal's relations with other major powers.
- Ensuring defence cooperation remains complementary to Nepal's strategic autonomy.

WAY FORWARD

- Expand joint exercises and specialised training.
- Strengthen cooperation in **HADR and mountain warfare**.
- Improve coordination on border-related security issues.
- Increase defence technology and institutional exchanges.
- Continue high-level military diplomacy.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- Exercise Surya Kiran → India–Nepal
- Nature → Joint military exercise
- Major focus → Counter-terrorism + Jungle warfare + HADR
- India–Nepal border → Open border
- Gorkha connection → Important component of bilateral military ties

Remember

India + Nepal → Open Border + Gorkha Connection + Surya Kiran + Himalayan Security

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding India–Nepal defence relations:

- India and Nepal conduct the joint military exercise **Surya Kiran**.
- The two countries share an open border.
- Gorkha soldiers from Nepal have a historic association with the Indian Army.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

2. CYBER KUSHTI 2026:

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY & AI HACKATHON



- **CYBER KUSHTI 2026** seeks to develop practical cybersecurity skills among participants.
- It combines **cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and human decision-making**.
- The hackathon focuses on how participants **analyse threats, assess risks and make appropriate decisions**.
- It reflects the growing need for cybersecurity professionals capable of working alongside AI systems.

WHAT IS NIELIT?

- NIELIT → National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology.**
- It functions under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**.
- Major areas include:
 - Digital literacy.
 - Electronics and IT education.
 - Skill development.
 - Cybersecurity.
 - Emerging technologies.

CYBER KUSHTI 2026: KEY IDEA

- Traditional cybersecurity competitions**
 - Often emphasise speed of detecting or responding to a threat.
- CYBER KUSHTI approach**
 - Places greater emphasis on:

1. **Judgement**
2. Risk assessment
3. Contextual analysis
4. Decision-making
5. Responsible use of AI

Core principle

Detect → Analyse → Assess → Decide → Respond

rather than simply:

Detect → Respond as fast as possible

ROLE OF AI

- I. AI can rapidly process large volumes of cybersecurity data.
- II. However, automated detection may produce:
 - A. False positives.
 - B. False negatives.
 - C. Contextual errors.
- III. Human experts remain important for determining the **appropriate response and consequences**.

SIGNIFICANCE

- **Cyber talent:** Builds a skilled cybersecurity workforce.
- **AI readiness:** Encourages responsible integration of AI into cyber defence.
- **Critical infrastructure:** Better cyber skills can strengthen protection of India's digital infrastructure.
- **Human-in-the-loop security:** Highlights the continuing importance of human judgement.
- **Youth innovation:** Hackathons provide a platform for students and innovators to solve real-world cyber problems.

CHALLENGES

- Rapid evolution of cyber threats.
- Increasing use of AI by both defenders and attackers.
- Shortage of highly skilled cybersecurity professionals.
- Difficulty in distinguishing genuine threats from false alarms.
- Need for ethical and responsible AI deployment.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen cybersecurity education and practical training.
- Promote **AI-assisted but human-supervised** cyber defence.
- Increase industry-academia collaboration.
- Develop specialised talent for AI security and cyber forensics.
- Conduct more national-level cyber exercises and hackathons.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- CYBER KUSHTI 2026 → National Cybersecurity & AI Hackathon
- Organiser → NIELIT
- NIELIT → National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology
- Ministry → MeitY
- Core emphasis → Human judgement + cybersecurity + AI

Remember

AI detects faster → Humans judge better → Effective cyber response

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

- NIELIT functions under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- CYBER KUSHTI 2026 focuses on cybersecurity and AI.
- The hackathon places emphasis on human judgement rather than detection speed alone.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

3. RESPONSIBLE PATIENT CARE: EARLY DIAGNOSIS & RATIONAL INVESTIGATION



- Early detection can improve treatment outcomes, particularly for serious and chronic diseases.
- Medical investigations should be **clinically justified** rather than performed routinely without a clear indication.
- Timely intervention can prevent disease progression and complications.
- Responsible healthcare requires balancing **diagnostic accuracy, patient safety and affordability**.

KEY PRINCIPLES

I. Early diagnosis

- A. Detecting disease at an earlier stage can improve treatment options and prognosis.
- B. Screening and appropriate diagnostic testing can support early detection where medically indicated.

II. Timely intervention

- A. Delayed treatment can allow diseases to progress.
- B. Appropriate intervention can reduce complications and improve recovery.

III. Rational investigations

- A. Tests should be ordered based on **clinical need and medical evidence**.
- B. Unnecessary tests can increase costs and may sometimes lead to false-positive findings or additional interventions.

IV. Patient-centric care

- A. Decisions should consider the patient's condition, risks, benefits and preferences.
- B. Clear communication between doctors and patients is essential.

WHY AVOID UNNECESSARY INVESTIGATIONS?

- **Cost:** Reduces avoidable healthcare expenditure.
- **Patient safety:** Some investigations involve radiation, contrast agents or invasive procedures.
- **False positives:** Testing without sufficient clinical indication can produce incidental or misleading results.
- **Cascade effect:** One unnecessary test may lead to additional tests, procedures and anxiety.
- **Healthcare efficiency:** Resources can be directed towards patients who genuinely need them.

SIGNIFICANCE

- Promotes **value-based and evidence-based healthcare**.
- Can reduce the financial burden on patients.
- Encourages more efficient use of diagnostic infrastructure.
- Supports **Universal Health Coverage (UHC)** by improving resource allocation.
- Reinforces the principle of **"right test, right patient, right time."**

CHALLENGES

- Defensive medicine may encourage excessive testing.
- Commercial incentives can influence diagnostic utilisation.
- Limited access to quality primary healthcare can delay diagnosis.
- Patients may sometimes demand unnecessary tests.
- Lack of awareness about evidence-based diagnostic practices.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen primary healthcare and early screening.



- Develop and follow evidence-based clinical guidelines.
- Improve doctor-patient communication.
- Promote rational diagnostic prescribing.
- Use digital health records and clinical decision-support systems appropriately.
- Increase public awareness about the risks of unnecessary testing.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- Early diagnosis → Earlier detection and treatment
- Timely intervention → Prevents progression/complications
- Rational investigations → Clinically justified testing
- Responsible patient care → Evidence + Safety + Timeliness + Affordability

Remember

Early diagnosis → Correct diagnosis → Timely intervention → Better outcomes

while

Unnecessary testing → False positives → Cascading investigations → Higher cost/risk

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding rational healthcare:

- Unnecessary diagnostic investigations can increase healthcare costs.
- Excessive testing can sometimes produce false-positive results and trigger further interventions.
- Responsible patient care requires every possible diagnostic test to be conducted irrespective of clinical indication.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

4. BRICS ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP MEETINGS 2026



- The **BRICS Environment Working Group (EWG)** facilitates cooperation among BRICS members on environmental issues.
- Discussions focus on common challenges such as **climate change, biodiversity, pollution, sustainable development and resource efficiency**.
- India's hosting highlights its role in shaping the **Global South's environmental agenda**.
- The meetings are expected to strengthen cooperation through **knowledge sharing, technology and policy coordination**.

KEY AREAS OF COOPERATION

- I. **Climate change**
 - A. Sharing approaches for climate mitigation and adaptation.
 - B. Promoting climate-resilient development.
- II. **Biodiversity conservation**
 - A. Cooperation on conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.
 - B. Sharing experiences on ecosystem restoration.
- III. **Pollution control**
 - A. Addressing air, water and other forms of pollution.
 - B. Promoting cleaner technologies and circular-economy approaches.
- IV. **Resource efficiency**
 - A. Encouraging sustainable consumption and production.
 - B. Promoting **circular economy and efficient resource use**.
- V. **Environmental technologies**

- A. Sharing technology and best practices among member countries.
- B. Strengthening capacity-building for developing economies.

SIGNIFICANCE

- **Global South leadership:** Provides India an avenue to articulate developing countries' environmental priorities.
- **Climate finance:** BRICS cooperation can strengthen discussions on affordable finance and technology access.
- **Technology cooperation:** Enables sharing of environmental and clean-energy technologies.
- **Biodiversity:** Supports India's efforts towards ecosystem conservation and restoration.
- **Sustainable development:** Helps integrate environmental objectives with economic development.

BRICS & ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

- I. BRICS provides a platform for emerging economies to coordinate on global challenges.
- II. Environmental cooperation complements BRICS engagement on:
 - A. Sustainable development.
 - B. Energy transition.
 - C. Climate action.
 - D. Disaster resilience.
 - E. Green finance.

CHALLENGES

- Different levels of economic development among member countries.
- Divergent national priorities on energy and climate policy.
- Financing requirements for green transition.
- Technology access and intellectual-property concerns.
- Balancing environmental protection with development needs.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen joint research and technology partnerships.
- Promote **South-South cooperation** on climate and environmental solutions.
- Develop common approaches to circular economy and pollution control.

- Improve access to climate finance and green technologies.
- Link BRICS environmental cooperation with broader **SDGs and climate commitments**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- Event → BRICS Environment Working Group Meetings
- Dates → 17–18 August 2026
- Venue → Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- Host → India
- Core themes → Climate + Biodiversity + Pollution + Resource efficiency + Sustainable development

Remember

BRICS → Emerging economies → Environmental cooperation → Technology + Finance + Sustainable development

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the BRICS Environment Working Group:

- It provides a platform for environmental cooperation among BRICS countries.
- Its areas of relevance include climate change, biodiversity and pollution.
- India is hosting the 2026 BRICS Environment Working Group meetings in New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

5. SJY & PM-AJAY: FROM DAILY-WAGE WORK TO SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD



- The initiative demonstrates a shift from **wage dependence to entrepreneurship**.
- Government support helped provide the foundation for establishing a small grocery business.
- The example highlights the importance of **livelihood generation, financial assistance and economic empowerment**.
- Such interventions can strengthen household income and promote greater **social and economic inclusion**.

KEY SCHEMES

PM-AJAY

- I. **PM-AJAY → Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana.**
- II. Implemented by the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**.
- III. Focuses on improving the socio-economic conditions of **Scheduled Caste communities**.
- IV. Major areas include:
 - A. Income-generating activities.
 - B. Skill development.
 - C. Infrastructure development in SC-dominated areas.
 - D. Reduction of poverty and improvement of living standards.

SJY

- **SJY → Support for Jan-Dhan-linked livelihood/self-employment assistance** in the context of the beneficiary's livelihood support.
- The broader objective is to facilitate **economic independence and sustainable livelihoods** for disadvantaged beneficiaries.

SIGNIFICANCE

- **Women empowerment:** Supports women in moving towards independent income generation.
- **Poverty reduction:** Sustainable self-employment can provide more stable income than casual wage labour.
- **Social inclusion:** Targeted schemes help disadvantaged communities access economic opportunities.
- **Entrepreneurship:** Small businesses can become pathways to long-term livelihood security.
- **Local economy:** Grocery businesses provide essential goods while generating local employment and economic activity.

CHALLENGES

- Limited access to affordable credit.
- Market competition faced by small businesses.
- Need for financial and digital literacy.
- Irregular demand and working-capital constraints.
- Difficulty in scaling micro-enterprises.

WAY FORWARD

- Improve awareness and last-mile delivery of livelihood schemes.
- Strengthen access to affordable institutional credit.
- Provide entrepreneurship and digital-marketing training.
- Encourage convergence between **social welfare, skill development and financial-inclusion programmes**.
- Support micro-enterprises in accessing wider markets.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- PM-AJAY → Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana
- Ministry → Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- Target → Socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes
- Broad approach → Poverty reduction + Livelihood + Skill development + Infrastructure

Remember

**Welfare support → Skill/financial assistance →
Self-employment → Sustainable livelihood →
Economic empowerment**

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

PM-AJAY is primarily associated with:

- (a) Rural road construction
- (b) Development of Scheduled Caste communities
- (c) Urban housing for migrants
- (d) Agricultural export promotion

Answer: (b)