



Daily PIB Summary

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1. MEETING OF PRIME MINISTER WITH H.E. MR. PETTERI ORPO, PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND, ON THE MARGINS OF THE AI IMPACT SUMMIT



- I. The interaction reinforced India–Finland ties in the areas of:
- Emerging technologies, especially AI and quantum research
 - Clean energy transition and green hydrogen
 - Circular economy and sustainable infrastructure
 - Skill development and academic collaboration

Finland, known for its innovation ecosystem and high digital readiness, is considered a key European partner in India’s technology and climate diplomacy outreach.

The meeting reflects India’s strategy of leveraging **technology diplomacy** to strengthen partnerships with advanced innovation-driven economies.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

1 India–Finland Relations

- Diplomatic relations established in **1949**.
- Strong cooperation in **education, ICT, clean technologies, and renewable energy**.
- Finland is a member of the **European Union**, enhancing India–EU engagement dynamics.

2 Finland’s Strengths

- Leader in **digital governance models**
- Advanced in **5G/6G research, AI innovation, and green technologies**
- Pioneer in **circular economy frameworks**

India seeks to collaborate with Finland for technology transfer, innovation partnerships, and sustainable development models.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **AI Cooperation:** Collaboration in responsible AI research and deployment.
- **Digital Innovation:** Synergies in 5G/6G, quantum computing, and data governance.
- **Clean Energy Partnership:** Focus on green hydrogen and renewable technologies.

- **Circular Economy Collaboration:** Exchange of best practices in waste management and sustainability.
- **Education & Skilling:** Academic exchange and research cooperation.
- **Multilateral Alignment:** Coordination within India–EU frameworks and global AI governance platforms.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Finland Capital:** Helsinki
- **Government System:** Parliamentary Republic
- **EU Membership:** Since 1995
- **Arctic Council:** Finland is a member (Arctic governance relevance)
- **Global Innovation Index:** Finland consistently ranks high
- **AI Governance Debate:** Ethical AI frameworks gaining prominence in Europe

Static Linkage:

- India–EU Relations
- Technology Diplomacy
- Green Energy Cooperation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding India–Finland relations:

1. Finland is a Nordic country and a member of the European Union.
2. India and Finland have cooperation in Artificial Intelligence and green technologies.
3. Finland is a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

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)

2. BIENNIAL ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF STATES TO FILL THE SEATS OF MEMBERS RETIRING IN APRIL 2026



The Rajya Sabha, also known as the **Council of States**, is a permanent House that is not subject to dissolution. However, its members serve a **six-year term**, with approximately one-third retiring every two years.

The biennial elections:

- Are conducted by the Election Commission
- Involve elected Members of Legislative Assemblies (MLAs) as electors
- Follow the **proportional representation system by means of the Single Transferable Vote (STV)**

These elections reflect the federal character of India, as States elect representatives to the Upper House.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

1 Constitutional Provisions

The Rajya Sabha is governed by:

- **Article 79** – Constitution of Parliament
- **Article 80** – Composition of the Council of States
- **Article 83(1)** – Rajya Sabha shall not be subject to dissolution; one-third retire every second year

Maximum strength: **250 members**

- 238 representatives of States and Union Territories
- 12 nominated by the President (special knowledge in literature, science, art, social service)

2 Electoral Process

- Conducted by the Election Commission of India
- Voting by elected MLAs of State Assemblies
- Open ballot system (party members show ballot to authorized agent)
- Proportional representation ensures representation of multiple parties

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Retirement Cycle:** One-third members retire every two years.
- **Electoral College:** Elected MLAs of respective States.
- **Voting System:** Proportional Representation by Single Transferable Vote (STV).

- **Federal Character:** Ensures state representation at national level.
- **Permanent House:** Rajya Sabha cannot be dissolved.
- **Nominated Members:** 12 members appointed by the President.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Council of States:** Upper House of Parliament (Rajya Sabha).
- **Maximum Strength:** 250 members.
- **Current Strength:** 245 (varies slightly due to vacancies).
- **Term:** 6 years.
- **Minimum Age:** 30 years.
- **Presiding Officer:** Vice President of India (ex-officio Chairman).
- **Disqualification:** Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law).
- **Money Bills:** Rajya Sabha can recommend amendments but cannot reject.

Static Linkage:

- Federalism
- Parliamentary System
- Representation of States

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding Biennial Elections to the Rajya Sabha:

1. They are conducted by the Election Commission of India.
2. Members are elected through proportional representation by means of Single Transferable Vote.
3. The Rajya Sabha is dissolved after every general election to the Lok Sabha.

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)

3. UNION ENVIRONMENT MINISTER ANNOUNCES BIRTH OF THREE CHEETAH CUBS AT KUNO NATIONAL PARK



The birth of cheetah cubs at Kuno National Park signals ecological adaptation and reproductive success of translocated cheetahs brought from Namibia and South Africa.

Key significance:

- Boost to India's large carnivore conservation efforts
- Validation of habitat suitability in Kuno
- Positive signal for long-term population establishment
- Strengthening grassland ecosystem conservation

This event is a critical step toward re-establishing a viable cheetah metapopulation in India.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

1 Extinction and Reintroduction

- Cheetahs were declared extinct in India in **1952**.
- In 2022, under **Project Cheetah**, India translocated African cheetahs from Namibia and South Africa.
- It is the **world's first intercontinental large carnivore translocation project**.

2 Kuno National Park

Kuno National Park is located in Madhya Pradesh and was selected due to:

- Suitable grassland and savannah-type ecosystem
- Adequate prey base
- Low human density
- Connectivity potential for landscape-level conservation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Species Reintroduction:** African cheetahs introduced under Project Cheetah.
- **Reproductive Success:** Birth of cubs

indicates habitat adaptation.

- **Grassland Restoration:** Focus on neglected ecosystems in India.
- **Metapopulation Strategy:** Plan to establish multiple cheetah habitats.
- **Conservation Diplomacy:** Collaboration with Namibia and South Africa.
- **Genetic Diversity:** African cheetahs chosen due to extinction of Asiatic cheetah in India.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Scientific Name:** *Acinonyx jubatus*
- **IUCN Status:** Vulnerable (African cheetah)
- **CITES:** Appendix I
- **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972:** Schedule I species
- **Project Cheetah Launched:** 2022
- **Grassland Ecosystem:** Often misclassified as wastelands in India
- **Top Speed:** Fastest land mammal (~100–120 km/h)

Static Linkage:

- Species reintroduction principles
- Keystone species
- Protected Area network in India

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding cheetah conservation in India:

1. Project Cheetah is the first intercontinental large carnivore translocation programme in the world.
2. Kuno National Park was selected due to its suitable grassland ecosystem.

3. The Asiatic cheetah population in India was the source of the reintroduced cheetahs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.INDIA-UK OFFSHORE WIND TASKFORCE LAUNCHED; SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI CALLS IT A 'TRUSTFORCE' FOR ACCELERATING STRATEGIC CLEAN ENERGY COOPERATION



The India–UK Offshore Wind Taskforce aims to accelerate offshore wind development through:

- Policy and regulatory cooperation
- Technical knowledge exchange
- Investment facilitation
- Supply chain development
- Capacity building

The UK is a global leader in offshore wind capacity, while India is targeting large-scale expansion of offshore wind along its western and southern coastlines.

This initiative aligns with India's **energy transition goals** and bilateral climate commitments under global frameworks.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

1 India's Offshore Wind Ambition

- India has significant offshore wind potential along the **Gujarat and Tamil Nadu coasts**.
- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has identified offshore wind zones.
- India aims to scale renewable capacity toward **500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030**.

2 UK's Offshore Leadership

The United Kingdom is among global leaders in offshore wind deployment, with extensive experience in:

- Deep-water turbine installation
- Grid integration
- Financing models
- Regulatory frameworks

India seeks to leverage UK expertise to fast-track its offshore ecosystem.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Strategic Energy Cooperation:** Deepening India–UK clean energy partnership.
- **Technology Transfer:** Sharing best practices in turbine installation and grid integration.
- **Investment Facilitation:** Enabling private sector participation.
- **Supply Chain Development:** Boost to domestic manufacturing ecosystem.
- **Energy Security:** Diversifying India's renewable portfolio.
- **Climate Commitment Alignment:** Supports India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Offshore Wind Energy:** Wind farms located in sea or ocean waters.
- **Advantages:** Higher wind speeds, larger turbine capacity, stable generation.
- **India's Target:** 500 GW non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030.
- **NDC (Paris Agreement):** Commitment to reduce emissions intensity.
- **MNRE:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- **Gujarat & Tamil Nadu:** Identified high-potential offshore wind zones.
- **Blue Economy Linkage:** Marine resource-based sustainable development.

Static Linkage:

- Renewable Energy Mix
- Energy Security
- Climate Diplomacy

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Offshore wind energy generally has higher capacity factors compared to onshore wind.
2. The India–UK Offshore Wind Taskforce aims to enhance cooperation in clean energy technologies.
3. Offshore wind projects are located entirely on land.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)