



Daily PIB Summary

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1. NATIONAL ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMME (NADCP)



- NADCP aims to improve animal health and productivity through systematic disease prevention.
- **FMD vaccination** targets cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs.
- **Brucellosis vaccination** primarily targets female bovine calves.
- Disease control improves livestock productivity, farmer incomes and the availability of milk and other animal products.
- Reduced disease incidence also improves India's prospects for **livestock-product trade and exports**.
- The programme follows a coordinated national approach involving the **Central and State Governments**.
- Effective surveillance, vaccination coverage and identification of animals are crucial for disease elimination.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)

- FMD is a **highly contagious viral disease** affecting cloven-hoofed animals.
- It can cause fever, blisters and reduced productivity.
- Although mortality is generally low in adult animals, its economic impact can be

substantial due to reduced milk production, weight gain and trade restrictions.

Brucellosis

- Brucellosis is a **bacterial zoonotic disease**.
- In livestock, it can cause **abortion, infertility and reproductive losses**.
- It can also infect humans, making control important from a **One Health** perspective.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Launch:** 2019.
- **Core Diseases:** Foot and Mouth Disease and Brucellosis.
- **Approach:** Mass vaccination + surveillance + disease monitoring.
- **FMD Coverage:** Cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs.
- **Brucellosis:** Focuses particularly on female bovine calves.
- **Economic Impact:** Protects livestock productivity and farmer incomes.
- **Public Health:** Brucellosis control has a zoonotic-health dimension.
- **Way Forward:** Universal vaccination coverage, animal identification, laboratory surveillance and rapid disease reporting.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NADCP:** National Animal Disease Control Programme.
- **Launch Year:** 2019.
- **FMD:** Caused by an **aphthovirus**; affects cloven-hoofed animals.
- **Brucellosis:** Caused by bacteria of the **Brucella** genus.
- **Brucellosis:** **Zoonotic** disease.
- **Major FMD Hosts:** Cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs.
- **One Health:** Integrated approach recognising links among **human, animal and environmental health**.
- **NADCP Objective:** Control and eventual elimination of FMD and control of brucellosis.
- **Key Tools:** Vaccination, surveillance, animal identification and disease monitoring.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the National Animal Disease Control Programme:

1. It was launched in 2019 to control major livestock diseases.
2. Foot and Mouth Disease is a viral disease affecting cloven-hoofed animals.
3. Brucellosis is exclusively an animal disease and has no significance for human health.

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. EPFO URGES ESTABLISHMENTS TO UTILIZE EMPLOYEES' ENROLMENT CAMPAIGN 2026



- The campaign aims to identify and enrol eligible employees who have remained outside the **Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952** framework.
- Wider EPF coverage strengthens workers' long-term financial security through provident-fund savings and associated social-security benefits.
- The initiative can support **formalisation of employment** by bringing previously unregistered workers into organised social-security systems.

- Greater enrolment improves the portability and continuity of social-security benefits as workers change jobs.
- It also encourages employers to comply with statutory social-security obligations.
- Digital EPFO systems can simplify registration, contribution tracking and access to benefits.
- The campaign reflects the broader objective of extending **social protection to India's expanding workforce**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Employees' Provident Fund

- The **EPF** is a contributory social-security scheme in which eligible employees and employers make prescribed contributions.
- EPFO administers major schemes under the **EPF & MP Act, 1952**.

Major EPFO Schemes

- **Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952:** Retirement savings.
- **Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995:** Pension benefits.
- **Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976:** Insurance benefit linked to employment.

Employment Formalisation

- I. Formal social-security coverage helps protect workers against:
 - A. Old-age income insecurity
 - B. Loss of employment
 - C. Disability/death-related financial risks
 - D. Lack of retirement savings

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Implementing Institution:** Employees' Provident Fund Organisation.
- **Campaign:** Employees' Enrolment Campaign, 2026.
- **Objective:** Bring eligible employees outside EPF coverage into the social-security system.
- **Social Security:** Strengthens retirement savings and related benefits.
- **Formalisation:** Encourages registration of workers and establishments within the formal framework.
- **Employer Compliance:** Promotes adherence to statutory EPF obligations.



- **Digital Governance:** EPFO's digital systems facilitate enrolment and contribution management.
- **Way Forward:** Increase awareness, simplify compliance and ensure effective coverage of eligible workers.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **EPFO:** Employees' Provident Fund Organisation.
- **Parent Ministry:** Ministry of Labour & Employment.
- **Legal Basis:** Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, **1952**.
- **EPF Scheme:** 1952.
- **EPS:** Employees' Pension Scheme, **1995**.
- **EDLI:** Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, **1976**.
- **EPF:** Primarily provides retirement savings through employee-employer contributions.
- **Social Security:** Protection against economic risks such as old age, disability and death.
- **UAN:** Universal Account Number facilitates portability of EPF accounts across employment changes.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding EPFO:

1. EPFO administers schemes under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.
2. The Employees' Pension Scheme was introduced in 1995.
3. EPFO functions under the Ministry of Finance.

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. AMIT SHAH CHAIRS MEETING ON DEVELOPMENT OF WEST BENGAL'S HILL AREAS



- The meeting provides a platform for dialogue between the Union Government, State Government and representatives of hill communities.
- Development of the region has implications for **connectivity, livelihoods, tourism and public infrastructure**.
- The hill areas have strategic importance because of their proximity to **international borders and the Siliguri Corridor**.
- Inclusive development can help address regional disparities and strengthen integration with the wider economy.
- Dialogue-based governance is important for addressing local demands while maintaining **administrative stability and national security**.
- Improved infrastructure, employment opportunities and public services can strengthen socio-economic resilience in the region.
- Effective implementation requires coordination among Union, State and local institutions.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

West Bengal's Hill Region

- I. The Darjeeling-Kalimpong region forms the principal hill area of northern West Bengal.
- II. The region has a distinctive socio-cultural identity and an economy linked to:
 - A. Tea
 - B. Tourism
 - C. Horticulture
 - D. Small businesses
 - E. Services

Siliguri Corridor

- The **Siliguri Corridor**, popularly known as the **Chicken's Neck**, connects mainland India with the northeastern states.
- It is strategically significant because of its narrow geography and proximity to **Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh**.
- Connectivity and security in the corridor are therefore important for India's national integration and defence logistics.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Location:** Siliguri, West Bengal.
- **Leadership:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- **Stakeholders:** Representatives of hill areas and other concerned stakeholders.
- **Development:** Focus on infrastructure, livelihoods and public services.
- **Connectivity:** Strategic relevance of the Siliguri Corridor.
- **Security:** Border proximity adds a national-security dimension.
- **Governance:** Dialogue with local stakeholders supports participatory administration.
- **Way Forward:** Improve connectivity, tourism infrastructure, employment, education and healthcare while ensuring inclusive participation.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Siliguri Corridor:** Narrow land link connecting mainland India with Northeast India.
- **Popular Name:** **Chicken's Neck**.
- **Strategic Neighbours:** Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh are located around the broader corridor region.
- **Darjeeling:** Located in northern West Bengal in the Eastern Himalayas.
- **Kalimpong:** Hill district of West Bengal.
- **Key Economic Activities:** Tea cultivation, tourism, horticulture and services.
- **Governance Principle:** Participatory governance involves consultation with affected stakeholders in policy and development decisions.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Siliguri Corridor:

1. It connects mainland India with the northeastern region of the country.
2. It is located entirely within the state of Sikkim.
3. Its strategic significance is partly related to its proximity to international borders.

Which of the statements given above is/is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

4. GOVERNMENT RESTRICTS CERTAIN COLD-MEDICINE COMBINATIONS FOR CHILDREN BELOW FOUR YEARS





- The restriction concerns a specific **FDC**, where two active pharmaceutical ingredients are combined in a single formulation.
- **Chlorpheniramine** is an antihistamine, while **phenylephrine** is a decongestant.
- Young children can be particularly vulnerable to adverse effects from certain cough-and-cold medicines.
- The measure reflects the principle of **risk-based pharmaceutical regulation**, especially for paediatric medicines.
- Restrictions on manufacturing, sale and distribution can reduce the availability of formulations considered unsuitable for a specified age group.
- It also highlights the importance of evidence-based prescribing and appropriate **labelling and age-specific warnings**.
- The action strengthens the broader public-health objective of ensuring that medicines available in the market have an acceptable **benefit-risk profile**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Fixed-Dose Combination (FDC)

- An FDC contains **two or more active pharmaceutical ingredients in a fixed ratio** in a single dosage form.
- FDCs can improve convenience and adherence when their combined use is scientifically justified.
- However, irrational or inadequately evaluated combinations can increase the risk of adverse effects and inappropriate medication.

Chlorpheniramine & Phenylephrine

- **Chlorpheniramine:** First-generation antihistamine used to relieve allergy-related symptoms such as sneezing and runny nose.
- **Phenylephrine:** Sympathomimetic decongestant used to reduce nasal congestion.
- Their effects can be clinically significant in young children, making **age-appropriate use** important.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Restriction:** Manufacture, sale and distribution for children below four years.

- **Medicines:** FDC containing chlorpheniramine maleate + phenylephrine hydrochloride.
- **Regulatory Objective:** Protect paediatric patients from inappropriate medicine use.
- **FDC:** Combines multiple active ingredients in a single formulation.
- **Public Health:** Reinforces age-specific medicine safety.
- **Regulatory Approach:** Risk-based control of pharmaceutical products.
- **Consumer Protection:** Reduces potential misuse through market restrictions.
- **Way Forward:** Strong pharmacovigilance, clear labelling and evidence-based paediatric prescribing.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **FDC:** Fixed-Dose Combination.
- **Chlorpheniramine:** Antihistamine.
- **Phenylephrine:** Decongestant.
- **Target Age Group:** Children **below 4 years**.
- **Pharmacovigilance:** Detection, assessment, understanding and prevention of adverse effects or other medicine-related problems.
- **Paediatric Medicines:** Require age-appropriate dosing, safety assessment and clear warnings.
- **Regulatory Principle:** A medicine's availability can be restricted when its **benefit-risk balance** is considered unsuitable for a particular population/use.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding pharmaceutical regulation:

1. A fixed-dose combination contains two or more active pharmaceutical ingredients in a fixed ratio.
2. Chlorpheniramine is an antihistamine, while phenylephrine is a decongestant.
3. Pharmacovigilance is limited to monitoring the effectiveness of medicines and does not include adverse drug reactions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. INDIAN NAVY RECEIVES 'MANGROL', THIRD ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE SHALLOW WATER CRAFT



- ASW-SWCs are designed specifically for **anti-submarine warfare in coastal and shallow-water environments**.
- Mangrol is part of a larger programme to induct **16 ASW-SWCs** for the Indian Navy.
- The vessels are equipped with specialised sensors and weapons for **underwater surveillance and submarine detection**.
- Their smaller size and shallow draught allow operations in areas where larger warships may face navigational constraints.
- The programme strengthens India's **underwater domain awareness** and coastal maritime security.
- Indigenous construction by CSL supports **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** and development of domestic naval shipbuilding capabilities.
- The induction also enhances the Navy's ability to protect **ports, naval bases and critical coastal infrastructure**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Anti-Submarine Warfare

- I. ASW involves detecting, tracking and neutralising hostile submarines.
- II. Major ASW capabilities include:
 - A. Hull-mounted and variable-depth sonars

- B. Towed arrays
- C. Underwater surveillance systems
- D. Torpedoes
- E. Anti-submarine rockets
- F. Maritime patrol aircraft and helicopters

ASW Shallow Water Craft

- ASW-SWCs are optimised for **littoral and shallow-water operations**.
- They complement larger surface combatants and maritime patrol assets in protecting India's coastal approaches.

Indigenous Shipbuilding

- The ASW-SWC programme demonstrates India's increasing ability to design and construct specialised naval platforms domestically.
- **Cochin Shipyard Limited** is a major Indian shipbuilding enterprise under the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Vessel:** Mangrol.
- **Type:** Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft.
- **Builder:** Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi.
- **Status:** Third vessel of its class delivered to the Indian Navy.
- **Programme:** 16 ASW-SWCs.
- **Primary Role:** Submarine detection and anti-submarine operations in shallow waters.
- **Strategic Significance:** Strengthens coastal and underwater security.
- **Indigenisation:** Supports domestic naval shipbuilding and defence manufacturing.
- **Way Forward:** Integrate ASW craft with maritime patrol aircraft, helicopters, sonar networks and other underwater surveillance assets.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **ASW:** Anti-Submarine Warfare.
- **ASW-SWC:** Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft.
- **Mangrol:** Third ASW-SWC delivered under the ongoing programme.
- **Builder:** Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi.



- **Primary Operating Environment:** Shallow/coastal waters.
- **Core Technology:** Sonar-based underwater detection and tracking.
- **Key Threat:** Enemy submarines.
- **Littoral Zone:** Near-shore maritime area where naval operations are affected by shallow waters, seabed conditions and coastal geography.
- **Aatmanirbhar Bharat:** Promotes greater indigenous capability in defence production.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding
Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft:

1. They are primarily designed for detecting and countering submarines in shallow and coastal waters.
2. Sonar is an important technology used for underwater detection in anti-submarine warfare.
3. Their operational role is limited exclusively to deep-ocean waters.

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)