



# Daily PIB Summary

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22nd February

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## 1. INDIA AND BRAZIL SIGN MoU TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION IN THE POSTAL SECTOR



- India and Brazil have formalized postal cooperation through a new MoU to modernize and expand bilateral postal exchanges.
- The agreement focuses on improving parcel services, e-commerce logistics, and digital financial inclusion.
- It reflects the growing importance of postal networks in facilitating cross-border trade and MSME exports.
- The partnership enhances service efficiency, technological exchange, and capacity building.
- Strategically, it strengthens South-South cooperation between two major emerging economies.
- The initiative supports digital transformation of traditional postal services.
- From a governance perspective, it integrates public service delivery with global trade facilitation.

## BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

### Department of Posts (India Post)

The **India Post** functions under the **Ministry of Communications**.

It provides:

- Mail and parcel services
- Postal banking services (India Post Payments Bank)
- Financial inclusion services
- Rural connectivity

India Post operates one of the world's largest postal networks.

### Correios (Brazil)

Correios is Brazil's state-owned postal enterprise.

It plays a significant role in:

- Domestic and international mail
- Logistics and e-commerce services
- Financial services outreach

### Global Postal Cooperation

Postal cooperation often includes:

- Exchange of best practices
- Electronic data interchange
- Customs facilitation
- E-commerce logistics integration

Both countries are members of the **Universal Postal Union (UPU)**, a UN specialized agency coordinating international postal policies.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Bilateral Cooperation:** Strengthens India–Brazil South–South collaboration.
- **E-commerce Focus:** Enhances cross-border parcel and MSME trade facilitation.
- **Digital Integration:** Promotes technological modernization of postal networks.
- **Financial Inclusion:** Supports postal banking and digital financial outreach.
- **Global Alignment:** Cooperation within UPU framework.
- **Trade Facilitation:** Improves customs processes and logistics efficiency.
- **Way Forward:** Integration with digital trade corridors and logistics reforms.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **India Post:** World's largest postal network (over 1.5 lakh post offices).
- **Ministry of Communications:** Administrative ministry for Department of Posts.
- **Universal Postal Union (UPU):** Established in 1874; headquartered in Bern, Switzerland.
- **Brazil:** Member of BRICS and G20.
- **South–South Cooperation:** Collaboration among developing countries.
- **Postal Banking:** Financial inclusion model using postal infrastructure.
- **MoU:** Non-binding agreement outlining cooperation framework.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. India Post functions under the Ministry of Communications.
2. The Universal Postal Union is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
3. Correios is a private postal company operating in Brazil.

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)**

## 2.INDIA REGISTERS LANDMARK PROGRESS IN ORGAN DONATION & TRANSPLANTATION: NOTTO AT THE HELM



- India has witnessed substantial growth in organ donation and transplantation activities in recent years.
- NOTTO has played a central role in streamlining allocation systems and ensuring transparency.
- Improved coordination among hospitals, state authorities, and transplant centers has enhanced efficiency.
- The rise in deceased organ donations marks a shift from predominantly living donor-based transplants. Initiatives like green corridors and digital registries have improved organ transport logistics.
- The progress strengthens public health outcomes and reduces waiting list mortality.
- From a governance perspective, it demonstrates institutional consolidation and regulatory oversight in a sensitive healthcare domain.

## BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

### NOTTO: Apex Coordinating Body

The **National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization** functions under the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.

It is responsible for:

- National organ allocation registry
- Policy coordination
- Capacity building
- Monitoring transplant activities

It operates under the framework of the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA), 1994 (amended 2011).

## Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA), 1994

- Regulates removal, storage, and transplantation of organs.
- Prohibits commercial dealings in human organs.
- Recognizes brain death as a legal form of death.

### Institutional Structure

- **NOTTO** – National level
- **ROTTOs** – Regional level
- **SOTTOs** – State level

### Public Health Significance

- Organ shortage remains a major challenge.
- Deceased donation improves organ availability.
- Awareness campaigns aim to increase voluntary pledges.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Deceased Donation Rise:** Increasing shift from living to cadaver donations.
- **Digital Registry:** Transparent and centralized organ allocation mechanism.
- **Green Corridors:** Rapid organ transport through coordinated traffic management.
- **Legal Framework:** THOTA ensures ethical transplant practices.
- **Institutional Coordination:** Integration of national, regional, and state networks.
- **Health Impact:** Reduces mortality among patients awaiting transplants.

- **Way Forward:** Public awareness drives and strengthening transplant infrastructure.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **THOTA, 1994:** Governs organ transplantation in India.
- **Brain Death:** Legally recognized under THOTA.
- **NOTTO:** Apex body for organ allocation and policy coordination.
- **ROTO:** Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization.
- **SOTTO:** State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization.
- **Green Corridor:** Special traffic-free route for organ transport.
- **Major Transplanted Organs:** Kidney, liver, heart, lungs, pancreas.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

### MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 prohibits commercial dealings in human organs.
2. Brain death is legally recognized in India for the purpose of organ transplantation.
3. NOTTO functions under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

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)**

## 3.UNION MINISTER JAYANT CHAUDHARY LAUNCHES 'BADHNA HAI TOH YAHAN JUDNA HAI' DIGITAL SKILLING CAMPAIGN THROUGH SIDH



- The campaign seeks to enhance participation in India's digital skilling ecosystem through SIDH.
- It focuses on increasing youth enrollment in technology-driven skill programs.
- SIDH acts as an integrated digital platform connecting learners, training providers, and employers.
- The initiative aligns with India's demographic dividend and workforce transformation goals.
- It promotes employability in emerging sectors such as AI, data analytics, and cybersecurity.
- Strategically, it supports the transition toward a knowledge-based and digital economy.
- From a governance perspective, it strengthens institutional convergence between skilling, industry demand, and digital infrastructure.

## BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

### Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH)

The **Skill India Digital Hub** is a unified digital platform under the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)**.

It provides:

- Access to skill courses
- Digital certifications
- Industry partnerships
- Employment linkages

It integrates multiple skilling schemes and stakeholders under one digital interface.

## Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)

The **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** oversees:

- Skill India Mission
- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)
- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)

## Digital Skilling Imperative

- Rapid digitization of economy
- Automation and AI-driven job transformation
- Need for reskilling and upskilling workforce
- Alignment with Industry 4.0 demands

## Policy Context

- Skill India Mission (launched 2015)
- Digital India initiative
- National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 – vocational integration

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Nationwide Campaign:** Mobilizes youth participation in digital skill programs.
- **Platform Integration:** SIDH as a centralized digital skilling ecosystem.
- **Industry Alignment:** Courses mapped to market demand.
- **Digital Certification:** Enhances portability and transparency of credentials.
- **Economic Impact:** Supports job creation and entrepreneurship.
- **Demographic Dividend:** Harnessing India's young workforce potential.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthening rural outreach and industry co-creation models.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **SIDH:** Unified digital skilling platform under MSDE.
- **MSDE:** Established in 2014.
- **Skill India Mission:** Launched in 2015.
- **PMKVY:** Flagship short-term skill training scheme.
- **NSDC:** Public-private partnership for skill development.
- **Industry 4.0:** Automation, AI, IoT-driven industrial transformation.
- **Demographic Dividend:** Economic growth potential from a large working-age population.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) functions under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

2. The Skill India Mission was launched in 2015.
3. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is a constitutional body.

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)**