



Daily PIB Summary

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1. FCRA: FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION (REGULATION) ACT, 2010



- I. The **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010** regulates the acceptance and utilization of **foreign contributions and foreign hospitality** by individuals, associations, NGOs, and companies in India.
- II. The Act aims to ensure that foreign funding **does not adversely affect**:
 - A. National security.
 - B. Sovereignty and integrity of India.
 - C. Democratic institutions.
 - D. Public interest.
- III. Organizations receiving foreign contributions must:
 - A. Obtain **FCRA Registration** or **Prior Permission**.
 - B. Maintain a designated FCRA bank account.
 - C. File annual returns with the Government.
- IV. The Act is administered by the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Evolution

- I. **FCRA, 1976**
 - A. Enacted during the Emergency period to regulate foreign funding.
- II. **FCRA, 2010**

- A. Replaced the 1976 Act to strengthen transparency and accountability.

III. **FCRA (Amendment) Act, 2020**

- A. Introduced stricter compliance measures to enhance transparency and prevent misuse of foreign funds.

KEY PROVISIONS

Registration

- I. NGOs intending to receive foreign contributions must:
 - A. Obtain **FCRA Registration**, or
 - B. Obtain **Prior Permission** for a specific contribution.

Validity

- Registration is valid for **5 years** and must be renewed.

Designated Bank Account

- Every FCRA-registered organization must receive foreign contributions in a designated **State Bank of India (SBI), New Delhi Main Branch** account.

Utilization of Funds

- Foreign contributions must be used **only for the purpose** for which they are received.

Administrative Expenses

- Administrative expenses cannot exceed **20%** of foreign contributions received in a financial year without Government approval.

Transfer of Foreign Contribution

- The 2020 Amendment prohibits the transfer of foreign contributions from one FCRA-registered organization to another.

WHO CANNOT RECEIVE FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION?

The Act prohibits foreign contributions to:

- Election candidates.
- Members of Parliament (MPs).
- Members of State Legislatures (MLAs/MLCs).



- Political parties.
- Judges.
- Government servants.
- Journalists associated with registered newspapers (subject to statutory provisions).
- Organisations of a political nature as notified by the Government.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Act:** Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010.
- **Administering Ministry:** Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- **Objective:** Regulate foreign contributions to safeguard national interest and ensure transparency.
- **Governance Significance:** Enhances accountability of NGOs receiving foreign funds.
- **Security Significance:** Prevents misuse of foreign contributions for activities detrimental to national security and public interest.
- **Challenges:** Balancing national security with civil society participation, compliance burden on NGOs, and timely processing of registrations and renewals.
- **Way Forward:** Improve transparency, simplify compliance through digital platforms, strengthen monitoring, and ensure a balanced regulatory framework that supports genuine developmental activities.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **FCRA: Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010.**
- **Administering Ministry: Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).**
- **Earlier Law: Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.**
- **Major Amendment: Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Act, 2020.**
- **Registration Validity: 5 years, renewable.**

- **Designated FCRA Account:** Mandatory receipt of foreign contributions through the **State Bank of India (SBI), New Delhi Main Branch.**
- **Administrative Expense Limit: 20%** of foreign contribution received in a financial year.
- **Prior Permission:** Required when an organisation is not registered under FCRA but seeks to receive a specific foreign contribution.
- **Foreign Hospitality:** Regulated under FCRA for specified public servants and categories of persons.
- **Constitutional Context:** While **Article 19(1)(c)** guarantees the right to form associations, it is subject to **reasonable restrictions** under **Article 19(4)** in the interests of sovereignty, integrity, and public order.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010:**

1. The Act is administered by the **Ministry of Home Affairs.**
2. Registration under FCRA is valid for **five years** and is renewable.
3. The **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Act, 2020** prohibits the transfer of foreign contributions from one FCRA-registered organization to another.

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: (d)

2. INDIAN NAVY COMMISSIONS INS MALVAN – THE SECOND MAHE-CLASS ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE SHALLOW WATER CRAFT



- V. INS Malvan will significantly enhance maritime security in India's coastal waters and support anti-submarine operations in shallow seas.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Mahe-Class ASW Shallow Water Craft

- The **Mahe-class** consists of a series of **Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC)** being built for the Indian Navy.
- These vessels are intended to replace the ageing **Abhay-class ASW Corvettes**.
- Built under the Government's **Make in India** initiative.

Role of ASW Shallow Water Craft

- I. Detect and neutralize enemy submarines operating in shallow coastal waters.
- II. Conduct:
 - A. Coastal patrols.
 - B. Maritime surveillance.
 - C. Search and Rescue (SAR).
 - D. Low-intensity maritime operations.
 - E. Coordination with other naval assets.

FEATURES OF INS MALVAN

- I. **Class:** Mahe-class ASW Shallow Water Craft.
- II. **Role:** Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW).
- III. **Operations:** Shallow coastal waters.
- IV. **Capabilities:**
 - A. Hull-mounted sonar.
 - B. Lightweight torpedoes.
 - C. Anti-submarine rockets.
 - D. Advanced communication and navigation systems.
 - E. Mine-laying capability.
- V. **Built in India:** Supports indigenous defence manufacturing.

SIGNIFICANCE

Strategic Importance

- Enhances underwater surveillance.
- Strengthens coastal security.

- I. **INS Malvan** is the **second Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC)** inducted into the Indian Navy.
- II. The vessel has been designed for:
 - A. Anti-submarine warfare (ASW).
 - B. Coastal surveillance.
 - C. Search and Rescue (SAR).
 - D. Low-intensity maritime operations.
 - E. Mine-laying capability.
- III. The ship has been **designed and built in India**, showcasing the country's growing indigenous defence manufacturing capabilities.
- IV. It is equipped with advanced:
 - A. Sonar systems.
 - B. Underwater surveillance equipment.
 - C. Modern navigation systems.
 - D. Anti-submarine weapons.

- Improves anti-submarine warfare capability.

Defence Manufacturing

- Promotes:
 - Make in India.
 - Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
 - Indigenous shipbuilding ecosystem.

Maritime Security

- Supports India's vision of **SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region)**.
- Enhances operational readiness in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ship:** INS Malvan.
- **Class:** Mahe-class ASW Shallow Water Craft.
- **Operator:** Indian Navy.
- **Primary Role:** Anti-Submarine Warfare in shallow coastal waters.
- **Strategic Significance:** Strengthens maritime security and underwater defence.
- **Industrial Significance:** Boosts indigenous defence production under Make in India.
- **Challenges:** Rapid technological advancements in submarine warfare, underwater surveillance requirements, and evolving maritime threats.
- **Way Forward:** Expand indigenous shipbuilding, integrate AI-enabled underwater surveillance, strengthen coastal security networks, and enhance interoperability with other naval platforms.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **INS Malvan:** Second **Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC)** commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- **ASW: Anti-Submarine Warfare**—operations aimed at detecting, tracking, and neutralizing enemy submarines.

- **Mahe-Class:** Indigenous class of shallow water anti-submarine warfare vessels for the Indian Navy.
- **Indian Navy Motto:** "शं नो वरुणः (**Sham No Varunah**)" – *May the Lord of the Oceans be auspicious unto us.*
- **SAGAR: Security and Growth for All in the Region**—India's maritime cooperation vision announced in **2015**.
- **Indian Ocean Region (IOR):** Strategic maritime region connecting the Middle East, Africa, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.
- **Blue Water Navy:** A navy capable of sustained operations across the open oceans.
- **Make in India (Defence):** Initiative to promote indigenous defence manufacturing and reduce import dependence.
- **Aatmanirbhar Bharat:** National mission to enhance self-reliance across strategic sectors, including defence.
- **Abhay-Class Corvettes:** Older anti-submarine warfare corvettes that the Mahe-class is intended to replace.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

- INS Malvan** is the **second Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft** commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- The primary role of the Mahe-class vessels is **anti-submarine warfare in shallow coastal waters**.
- SAGAR** stands for **Security and Growth for All in the Region**.

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: (d)

3. BRANCH OF THE BHARATIYA BEEJ SAHAKARI SAMITI LIMITED (BBSSL) IN BIHAR



- I. **No formal BBSSL branch** has been established in Bihar.
- II. Despite this, BBSSL operates through the State's cooperative network for:
 - A. Distribution of quality seeds.
 - B. Seed production.
 - C. Farmer participation.
- III. **Key achievements in Bihar:**
 - A. **3,418 cooperative societies** enrolled as BBSSL members.
 - B. **19,956 farmers** supplied with quality and affordable seeds during the current financial year.
 - C. **279 farmers** engaged in seed production covering **2,663 hectares** during the **Rabi 2025–26** season.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

What is BBSSL?

- **Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL)** is a **national-level multi-state cooperative society** established to strengthen India's seed ecosystem.
- **Established: 25 January 2023.**

- **Legal Basis:** Registered under the **Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002.**
- **Administrative Ministry:** Ministry of Cooperation.

Promoter Institutions

BBSSL has been promoted by:

- **IFFCO**
- **KRIBHCO** (Chief Promoter)
- **NAFED**
- **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)**
- **National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)**

OBJECTIVES OF BBSSL

- Produce and distribute **quality certified seeds**.
- Improve the **Seed Replacement Rate (SRR)**.
- Promote **Varietal Replacement Rate (VRR)**.
- Encourage farmer participation in seed production.
- Strengthen cooperative institutions in agriculture.
- Conserve and promote indigenous seed varieties.

SIGNIFICANCE FOR BIHAR

- Improves farmers' access to certified and affordable seeds.
- Enhances agricultural productivity.
- Promotes cooperative-led seed production.
- Generates additional income for seed-producing farmers.
- Strengthens Bihar's cooperative agriculture ecosystem without establishing a separate branch office.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organisation:** Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL).
- **Branch in Bihar:** No formal branch office established.
- **Mode of Operation:** Through cooperative societies.



- **Cooperative Members in Bihar: 3,418.**
- **Farmers Benefited: 19,956.**
- **Seed Production: 279 farmers** over **2,663 hectares** (Rabi 2025–26).
- **Lead Ministry:** Ministry of Cooperation.
- **Strategic Importance:** Supports **Sahkar Se Samriddhi**, quality seed availability, and agricultural productivity.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **BBSSL:** Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited.
- **Established:** 25 January 2023.
- **Registered Under:** Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002.
- **Administrative Ministry:** Ministry of Cooperation.
- **Chief Promoter:** KRIBHCO.
- **Other Promoters:** IFFCO, NAFED, NDDB, and NCDC.
- **Objective:** Production, procurement, processing, certification, branding, and distribution of quality seeds through the cooperative network.
- **Seed Replacement Rate (SRR):** Percentage of cultivated area sown using **certified or quality seeds** instead of farm-saved seeds.
- **Varietal Replacement Rate (VRR):** Rate at which old crop varieties are replaced with improved, high-yielding varieties.
- **Vision:** "Sahkar Se Samriddhi" (Prosperity through Cooperation).

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL):

1. It was established in **2023** under the **Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002**.
2. It functions under the **Ministry of Cooperation**.
3. A formal branch office of BBSSL has been established in Bihar.

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)

4. PARLIAMENT QUESTION: NUCLEAR ENERGY MISSION FOR VIKSIT BHARAT



परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग

Department Of Atomic Energy

- I. The **Nuclear Energy Mission for Viksit Bharat** is a major initiative to increase nuclear power generation as part of India's long-term energy strategy.
- II. The Mission supports:
 - A. Expansion of nuclear power capacity.
 - B. Development of **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)**.
 - C. Indigenous reactor technologies.
 - D. Greater participation of Indian industry in the nuclear supply chain.
- III. Nuclear energy is expected to play a significant role in achieving:
 - A. Net Zero emissions by **2070**.
 - B. Energy security.
 - C. Reliable 24×7 clean electricity.
- IV. The programme is implemented under the **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)** through **Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL)** and **Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI)**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India's Nuclear Power Programme

India follows the **Three-Stage Nuclear Power Programme**, conceived by **Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha**, to maximize the utilization of the country's limited uranium and abundant thorium resources.

Three Stages

Stage I

- I. **Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs).**
- II. Fuel:
 - A. Natural Uranium.
- III. Produces:
 - A. Electricity.
 - B. Plutonium for Stage II.

Stage II

- I. **Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs).**
- II. Fuel:
 - A. Plutonium-based mixed oxide fuel.
- III. Objective:
 - A. Breed more fissile material than consumed.

Stage III

- I. **Thorium-Based Reactors.**
- II. Uses:
 - A. Uranium-233 produced from Thorium-232.
- III. India possesses one of the world's largest thorium reserves.

NUCLEAR ENERGY MISSION

Major Objectives

- Expand nuclear power generation.
- Promote indigenous reactor manufacturing.
- Develop **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)**.
- Strengthen research and innovation.
- Increase private sector participation in non-core nuclear activities.
- Support India's clean energy transition.

IMPORTANCE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

Energy Security

- Provides reliable baseload electricity.
- Reduces dependence on imported fossil fuels.

Climate Action

- Low-carbon source of electricity.
- Supports India's commitments under the **Paris Agreement**.

Economic Growth

- Encourages high-technology manufacturing.
- Creates skilled employment.
- Promotes indigenous technology development.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- I. **Mission:** Nuclear Energy Mission for Viksit Bharat.
- II. **Lead Department:** Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).
- III. **Implementing Agencies:** NPCIL and BHAVINI.
- IV. **Focus Areas:**
 - A. Nuclear power expansion.
 - B. Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).
 - C. Indigenous technologies.
 - D. Private sector participation.
- V. **Strategic Significance:** Enhances energy security and supports Net Zero by 2070.
- VI. **Challenges:** High capital costs, long project timelines, nuclear waste management, public acceptance, and fuel availability.
- VII. **Way Forward:** Accelerate indigenous reactor deployment, expand uranium exploration, strengthen nuclear safety, promote advanced reactor technologies, and invest in thorium-based systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE):** Established in **1954**; functions directly under the **Prime Minister**.
- **Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL):** Public Sector Enterprise responsible for



the design, construction, commissioning, and operation of nuclear power plants (except fast breeder reactors).

- **BHAVINI (Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited):** Operates **Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs)**.
- **Three-Stage Nuclear Programme:** Conceived by **Dr. Homi J. Bhabha**.
- **PHWR:** Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor using natural uranium as fuel and heavy water as moderator.
- **Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR):** Produces more fissile material than it consumes.
- **Thorium:** India has one of the world's largest reserves, mainly in **monazite sands** along the coasts of **Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha**.
- **Small Modular Reactor (SMR):** Advanced nuclear reactor with lower capacity, modular construction, enhanced safety, and flexible deployment.
- **Atomic Energy Act, 1962:** Governs the development and control of atomic energy in India.
- **AERB (Atomic Energy Regulatory Board):** India's nuclear safety regulator, established in **1983**.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. India's **Three-Stage Nuclear Power Programme** was conceived by **Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha**.
2. **Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs)** constitute the **first stage** of India's nuclear programme.
3. **BHAVINI** is primarily associated with **Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs)**.

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: (d)

5. 'HERITAGE ARTISAN COOPERATIVES'



- Heritage Artisan Cooperatives** are being promoted to organize traditional artisans into cooperative societies for collective production, value addition, branding, and marketing.
- The initiative focuses on artisans engaged in:
 - A. Handloom.
 - B. Handicrafts.
 - C. Pottery.
 - D. Woodcraft.
 - E. Metal crafts.

- F. Bamboo and cane products.
- G. Tribal and indigenous crafts.
- III. Through the cooperative model, artisans can benefit from:
 - A. Better market access.
 - B. Affordable institutional credit.
 - C. Common infrastructure.
 - D. Skill upgradation.
 - E. Digital marketing.
 - F. Export opportunities.
- IV. The initiative supports rural livelihoods, women's empowerment, and the preservation of India's cultural heritage.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Cooperative Model

A cooperative is a voluntary association where members jointly own and democratically manage an enterprise for their mutual economic and social benefit. The Government is promoting cooperatives under the vision of:

"Sahkar Se Samridhi" (Prosperity through Cooperation).

Importance of Traditional Artisans

Traditional artisans:

- Preserve India's cultural heritage.
- Generate rural employment.
- Promote sustainable livelihoods.
- Contribute to exports and tourism.
- Support the creative economy.

RELATED GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Ministry of Cooperation

- Established in **2021**.
- Promotes cooperative reforms and expansion.

PM Vishwakarma

- I. Launched in **2023**.
- II. Supports traditional artisans and craftspeople through:
 - A. Skill training.

- B. Toolkit incentives.
- C. Concessional credit.
- D. Digital transactions.
- E. Branding and marketing support.

National Handicrafts Development

Programme (NHDP)

- Supports handicraft clusters.
- Skill development.
- Design innovation.
- Marketing assistance.

National Handloom Development

Programme (NHDP)

- Promotes handloom production, technology, marketing, and welfare of weavers.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- I. **Initiative:** Heritage Artisan Cooperatives.
- II. **Lead Ministry:** Ministry of Cooperation.
- III. **Target Group:** Traditional artisans and craftspeople.
- IV. **Objectives:**
 - A. Strengthen artisan cooperatives.
 - B. Improve market access.
 - C. Promote branding and exports.
 - D. Enhance livelihoods.
 - E. Preserve traditional crafts.
- V. **Economic Significance:** Employment generation, rural industrialization, and export promotion.
- VI. **Social Significance:** Women's empowerment, inclusive growth, and preservation of traditional knowledge.
- VII. **Challenges:** Competition from machine-made products, fragmented markets, low productivity, limited digital access, and inadequate branding.
- VIII. **Way Forward:** Strengthen artisan cooperatives, integrate with e-commerce platforms, promote GI-tagged products, expand skill development,



improve design innovation, and enhance export facilitation.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Ministry of Cooperation:** Established in **2021** to strengthen India's cooperative movement.
- **Vision: "Sahkar Se Samriddhi" (Prosperity through Cooperation).**
- **PM Vishwakarma:** Central Sector Scheme launched in **2023** for traditional artisans and craftspeople.
- **Cooperative Society:** Democratic institution owned and managed by its members for mutual benefit.
- **97th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011:** Gave constitutional status to cooperative societies by inserting **Article 43B** and **Part IXB** (Part IXB was later read down by the Supreme Court for State cooperatives while remaining applicable to Multi-State Cooperative Societies).
- **Article 43B:** Directs the State to promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control, and professional management of cooperative societies.
- **Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002:** Governs cooperative societies operating in more than one State.
- **GI Tag (Geographical Indication):** Protects products whose qualities or reputation are linked to a specific geographical origin.
- **Creative Economy:** Economic activities based on creativity, culture, traditional knowledge, and intellectual property.

3. **Article 43B** of the Constitution encourages the promotion of cooperative societies.

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: (d)

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The **Ministry of Cooperation** was established in **2021**.
2. **PM Vishwakarma** is a scheme aimed at supporting traditional artisans and craftspeople.