



Daily PIB Summary

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1. CTIL & FICCI ORGANISE CONFERENCE ON INDIA–EUROPE TRADE PARTNERSHIPS UNDER NEXT-GENERATION FTAs



Key Themes Discussed

- Next-generation FTAs and evolving trade architecture
- Market access and investment opportunities
- Digital trade and sustainability standards
- Supply chain resilience and economic cooperation

What are Next-Generation FTAs?

- I. Modern trade agreements covering:
 - A. Goods and services
 - B. Digital economy
 - C. Intellectual property
 - D. Sustainable development
 - E. Investment facilitation

Importance for India

- I. Expands:
 - A. Export opportunities
 - B. Technology and investment flows
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Economic integration with Europe

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Trade diversification
 - B. Global value chain participation
 - C. Long-term strategic partnerships

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

CTIL

- I. Centre for Trade and Investment Law:
 - A. Think tank and advisory institution on international trade law and policy

FICCI

- I. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry:
 - A. Major industry and business chamber in India

India–Europe Trade Relations

- I. Europe is an important trade and investment partner for India.
- II. Cooperation spans:
 - A. Manufacturing
 - B. Green technology
 - C. Digital economy
 - D. Services and innovation

Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)

- I. Agreements between countries to:
 - A. Reduce tariffs and trade barriers
 - B. Promote investment and economic cooperation

Emerging Trade Issues

- I. Increasing focus on:
 - A. Sustainability
 - B. Carbon regulations
 - C. Data governance
 - D. Supply chain security

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organisers:** CTIL and FICCI.
- **Theme:** India–Europe trade partnerships.
- **Focus:** Next-generation FTAs.
- **Areas:** Trade, investment, digital economy, sustainability.
- **Importance:** Economic integration and export growth.
- **Strategic dimension:** Supply chain resilience and global cooperation.
- **Way Forward:** Accelerate balanced and future-ready trade agreements.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CTIL:** Centre for Trade and Investment Law
- **FICCI:** Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- **FTA:** Free Trade Agreement
- **Next-generation FTAs:** Include digital and sustainability issues
- **Partner region:** Europe
- **Goal:** Trade and investment expansion

- **Focus:** Global value chains and economic cooperation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

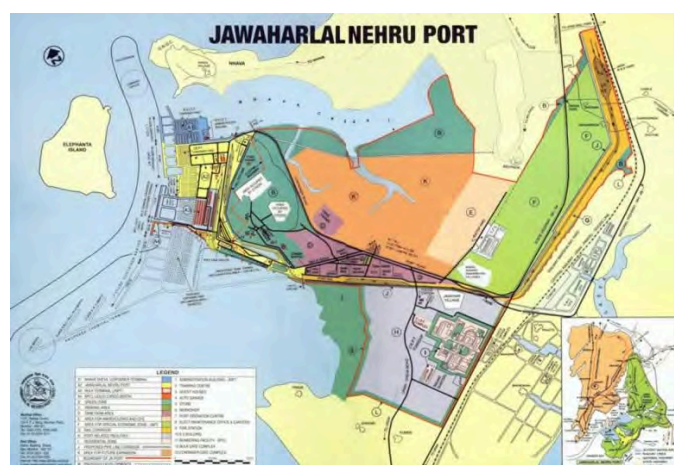
1. Free Trade Agreements aim to reduce trade barriers between countries.
2. Next-generation FTAs may include digital trade and sustainability provisions.
3. FICCI is an industry and business chamber in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.GOV'T MOVES TO EASE CONTAINER MOVEMENT AT JNPA AMIDST RISING GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN CHALLENGES



Key Objectives

- Reduce congestion in container movement
- Improve logistics efficiency and turnaround time
- Ensure smooth export-import operations

Measures Being Taken

- I. Better coordination among:
 - A. Port authorities
 - B. Shipping lines
 - C. Logistics operators
- II. Infrastructure and operational improvements:
 - A. Faster cargo clearance
 - B. Enhanced container handling capacity
 - C. Digital and streamlined logistics processes

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. India's international trade and export competitiveness
- II. Helps:
 - A. Strengthen resilience against global supply chain disruptions

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)

- I. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority:
 - A. India's largest container port
- II. Located in:
 - A. Maharashtra

Importance of Container Ports

- I. Handle:
 - A. Large-scale import and export cargo movement
- II. Critical for:
 - A. Manufacturing
 - B. Trade
 - C. Supply chain connectivity

Global Supply Chain Challenges

- I. Triggered by:
 - A. Geopolitical tensions
 - B. Shipping disruptions
 - C. Rising freight costs
 - D. Port congestion worldwide

Logistics & Trade Facilitation

- I. Efficient ports contribute to:
 - A. Lower logistics costs
 - B. Faster trade movement
 - C. Economic growth and competitiveness

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Port:** JNPA.
- **Location:** Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- **Issue:** Container congestion and supply chain stress.
- **Focus:** Logistics efficiency and trade facilitation.
- **Sector:** Maritime trade and shipping.
- **Importance:** Export-import competitiveness.
- **Way Forward:** Expand digital, multimodal, and resilient logistics infrastructure.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **JNPA:** Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority
- **Location:** Navi Mumbai
- **Type:** Major container port
- **Importance:** International trade gateway
- **Challenge:** Global supply chain disruptions
- **Focus:** Port efficiency and logistics
- **Goal:** Faster cargo movement and reduced costs

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority is one of India's major container ports.
2. Efficient port logistics can improve export competitiveness.
3. Global supply chain disruptions can affect cargo movement and trade.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.COST-EFFECTIVE HIGH-PERFORMANCE THERMAL BATTERY MATERIAL DEVELOPED FOR CLEAN ENERGY STORAGE



What is a Thermal Battery?

- I. A device that:
 - A. Stores energy in the form of heat and releases it when required
- II. Used for:
 - A. Energy storage and temperature management applications

Key Features of the New Material

- Cost-effective production
- Improved thermal efficiency
- Enhanced energy storage capacity
- Better durability and performance

Potential Applications

- Renewable energy systems
- Grid-scale energy storage
- Electric mobility and electronics
- Industrial heat management

Significance

- I. Supports:

- A. Clean energy transition
- B. Sustainable energy infrastructure
- C. Reduced dependence on fossil fuels

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Importance of Energy Storage

- I. Renewable energy sources like:
 - A. Solar and wind are intermittent in nature
- II. Efficient storage systems help:
 - A. Ensure reliable energy supply

Thermal Energy Storage

- I. Stores excess energy as:
 - A. Heat for later use
- II. Advantages:
 - A. Lower costs
 - B. Improved energy efficiency
 - C. Reduced wastage

Clean Energy Transition

- I. Advanced battery technologies are important for:
 - A. Decarbonization
 - B. Green energy integration
 - C. Climate action goals

Challenges in Energy Storage

- High cost of advanced materials
- Limited storage efficiency
- Scalability and sustainability concerns

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Innovation:** Thermal battery material.
- **Focus:** Clean energy storage.

- **Advantage:** Cost-effective and high-performance.
- **Applications:** Renewable energy and industry.
- **Importance:** Sustainable energy transition.
- **Sector:** Advanced materials and energy technology.
- **Way Forward:** Promote commercialization and large-scale deployment of energy storage innovations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Thermal battery:** Stores energy as heat
- **Purpose:** Energy storage
- **Focus:** Clean and renewable energy
- **Benefit:** Improved efficiency and reliability
- **Challenge:** Storage cost and scalability
- **Sector:** Advanced materials science
- **Goal:** Sustainable energy systems

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Thermal batteries store energy in the form of heat.
2. Efficient energy storage systems are important for renewable energy integration.
3. Renewable energy sources such as solar and wind are always continuously available without fluctuation.

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)

4.SUCCESSFUL TEST-LAUNCH OF AGNI-1 BALLISTIC MISSILE



About Agni-1 Missile

- I. Short-range ballistic missile developed by India.
- II. Part of:
 - A. Agni Missile Series

Key Features

- Surface-to-surface ballistic missile
- Capable of carrying conventional and strategic payloads
- Road and rail mobile launch capability

Objectives of the Test

- I. Validate:
 - A. Operational capability
 - B. Accuracy and reliability
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. Strategic deterrence capability

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. National security and defence preparedness
- II. Reflects:
 - A. Progress in indigenous missile technology and strategic systems

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Agni Missile Programme

- I. Developed under:
 - A. India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)
- II. Includes missiles with varying ranges:
 - A. Agni-I to Agni-V

Ballistic Missile

- I. Missile that:
 - A. Follows a ballistic trajectory after launch phase
- II. Used for:
 - A. Strategic and defence purposes

Strategic Deterrence

- I. Capability aimed at:
 - A. Preventing aggression through credible defence strength

DRDO

Defence Research and Development Organisation

- India's premier defence research agency responsible for missile development and indigenous defence technologies.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Missile:** Agni-1.
- **Type:** Ballistic missile.
- **Country:** India.
- **Agency:** DRDO.
- **Purpose:** Strategic deterrence and defence readiness.
- **Feature:** Indigenous missile capability.
- **Way Forward:** Continue modernization of strategic defence systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Agni-1:** Short-range ballistic missile
- **Programme:** IGMDF
- **Agency:** DRDO
- **Type:** Surface-to-surface missile
- **Purpose:** Strategic deterrence
- **Capability:** Conventional and strategic payloads
- **Focus:** Indigenous defence technology

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Agni-1 is a ballistic missile developed by India.

2. DRDO is involved in missile development programmes in India.
3. Ballistic missiles follow a ballistic trajectory after the launch phase.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.HINDUSTAN MACHINE TOOLS (HMT) EXPANDS GLOBAL FOOTPRINT; EXPORT MACHINE FLAGGED OFF TO SOUTH AFRICA



Key Highlights

- I. Export machine dispatched to:
 - A. South Africa
- II. Demonstrates:
 - A. Growing global demand for Indian engineering products

Objectives

- Expand India's industrial exports
- Strengthen indigenous manufacturing capabilities
- Promote "Make in India" in global markets

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. India's engineering export potential
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Bilateral industrial and trade relations
- III. Reflects:
 - A. Revival and modernization of public sector manufacturing capabilities

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT)

- I. Hindustan Machine Tools:
 - A. Public sector enterprise established in:
 1. 1953
- II. Known for:
 - A. Machine tools
 - B. Industrial machinery
 - C. Engineering equipment
 - D. Watches (historically)

Machine Tools Industry

- I. Machine tools are:
 - A. Machines used for shaping, cutting, and manufacturing components
- II. Critical for:
 - A. Manufacturing and industrial production

Engineering Exports

- I. India exports:
 - A. Machinery
 - B. Heavy equipment
 - C. Industrial products to global markets
- II. Important for:
 - A. Foreign exchange earnings and industrial growth

Make in India

Make in India

- I. Initiative aimed at:
 - A. Promoting manufacturing and global competitiveness of Indian industries

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Company:** HMT.
- **Export destination:** South Africa.
- **Sector:** Machine tools and engineering exports.
- **Focus:** Indigenous manufacturing.
- **Initiative:** Make in India.
- **Importance:** Industrial competitiveness and exports.
- **Way Forward:** Expand advanced manufacturing and international market access.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **HMT:** Hindustan Machine Tools
- **Established:** 1953
- **Sector:** Industrial machinery
- **Export focus:** Engineering goods
- **Initiative:** Make in India
- **Importance:** Manufacturing ecosystem
- **Goal:** Global industrial competitiveness

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) is a public sector enterprise in India.
2. Machine tools are important for manufacturing and industrial production.
3. "Make in India" aims to promote manufacturing competitiveness in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)