



# Daily PIB Summary

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25<sup>th</sup> February

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## 1. GENERAL UPENDRA DWIVEDI FLAGS IN 'BHARAT RANBHOO MI DARSHAN' EXPEDITION



- The 'Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan' expedition was organized to retrace and commemorate significant battlefields associated with India's military history.
- The flag-in ceremony by the Army Chief marked the successful completion of the expedition.
- The initiative promotes awareness of military heritage among armed forces personnel and citizens.
- It reinforces the ethos of sacrifice, courage, and service within the Indian Army.
- The expedition also contributes to civil-military engagement and national integration.
- Strategically, it aligns with initiatives aimed at preserving war memorials and honoring veterans.
- From a governance perspective, it strengthens institutional traditions and heritage documentation within the defence establishment.

## BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

### Role of the Chief of the Army Staff

The Chief of the Army Staff (COAS):

- Heads the Indian Army.
- Is responsible for operational preparedness and strategic leadership.
- Reports to the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and the Ministry of Defence.

### Military Heritage Initiatives

India has undertaken several measures to preserve military legacy, including:

- Establishment of the **National War Memorial** in New Delhi.
- Commemorative events for historic battles.
- Veteran outreach and welfare programs.

### Defence Governance Framework

- Armed Forces operate under the **Ministry of Defence**.
- The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces (Article 53).

### Strategic Significance

- Enhances morale and esprit de corps.
- Promotes historical consciousness within armed forces.
- Supports nation-building through shared remembrance.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Flag-In Ceremony:** Marked completion of the expedition.
- **Military Heritage:** Commemoration of historic battlefields.
- **Leadership Role:** Event led by the Army Chief.
- **National Integration:** Civil-military engagement strengthened.

- **Institutional Memory:** Documentation and preservation of military history.
- **Morale Boost:** Reinforces ethos of sacrifice and service.
- **Way Forward:** Integrating military heritage awareness into youth outreach and defence studies.

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (a)**

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Article 53:** Executive power of the Union vested in the President.
- **Supreme Commander:** President of India.
- **Ministry of Defence:** Administrative control over armed forces.
- **Chief of Army Staff (COAS):** Professional head of the Indian Army.
- **National War Memorial:** Dedicated to soldiers who laid down their lives post-Independence.
- **Esprit de Corps:** Spirit of unity and morale within a military unit.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces under Article 53 of the Constitution.
2. The Chief of the Army Staff functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence.
3. The National War Memorial commemorates soldiers who fought only during the colonial period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 only

## 2.INDIA AND SWEDEN DEEPEN AI PARTNERSHIP UNDER SITAC FRAMEWORK



- India and Sweden are expanding collaboration in AI through the Sweden-India Technology Action Council (SITAC).
- The partnership focuses on responsible AI, innovation ecosystems, and industry-academia linkages.
- It aims to promote co-development of AI solutions in sectors like healthcare, sustainability, and mobility.
- The initiative aligns with India's push for emerging technologies and digital governance reforms.
- Sweden's advanced innovation ecosystem complements India's digital scale and talent pool.
- Strategically, the partnership strengthens India's engagement with Nordic countries.
- From a governance perspective, it highlights ethical AI development and regulatory cooperation.

# BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

## SITAC Framework

The **Sweden–India Technology Action Council (SITAC)** was established to:

- Promote bilateral R&D collaboration
- Facilitate innovation partnerships
- Support joint funding and pilot projects

It serves as a structured mechanism for technology cooperation.

## India–Sweden Relations

India and **Sweden** share cooperation in:

- Clean energy
- Smart cities
- Digital innovation
- Sustainable industry

Sweden is known for strong R&D investments and high innovation rankings.

## AI Governance Context

India's AI push includes:

- National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence (NITI Aayog)
- Emphasis on AI for All
- Development of AI compute infrastructure

Globally, responsible AI frameworks focus on transparency, fairness, and data protection.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Technology Cooperation:** Expansion under SITAC mechanism.
- **Responsible AI:** Ethical and regulatory collaboration.

- **Sectoral Focus:** Healthcare, sustainability, mobility.
- **Innovation Synergy:** Sweden's R&D strength + India's digital scale.
- **Strategic Partnership:** Deepens India–Nordic engagement.
- **Digital Governance:** AI integration into public services.
- **Way Forward:** Joint research grants, startup exchanges, and regulatory dialogue.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **SITAC:** Sweden–India Technology Action Council for bilateral innovation.
- **AI for All:** India's inclusive AI vision.
- **Nordic Countries:** Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland.
- **Responsible AI Principles:** Transparency, accountability, fairness.
- **NITI Aayog:** Policy think tank of Government of India.
- **R&D Intensity:** Sweden among top global R&D spenders (% of GDP).
- **Data Protection:** Key component of AI governance.

## PadhAI–GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Sweden–India Technology Action Council (SITAC) facilitates bilateral innovation and technology cooperation.
2. Responsible AI frameworks emphasize transparency and accountability.
3. Sweden is a member of the European Union but not part of the Nordic region.

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. NORTH EAST INSTITUTE SYNTHESIZES BIOBASED COMPOUND TO SUBSTITUTE COSMETIC LUBRICANTS



- Researchers at CSIR-NEIST have developed a bio-derived compound that can function as a lubricant or emollient in cosmetic formulations.
- The compound is derived from renewable biomass, reducing reliance on petrochemical inputs.
- It offers improved biodegradability and lower environmental footprint. Such innovation supports India's transition toward a circular bioeconomy.
- The cosmetic industry, heavily dependent on mineral oil-based lubricants, may benefit from sustainable substitutes.
- Strategically, it enhances domestic innovation and reduces import dependency in specialty chemicals.
- From a governance lens, it advances policy goals related to green manufacturing and sustainable industrial chemistry.

## BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

### CSIR-NEIST

The **CSIR-North East Institute of Science and Technology** is a constituent laboratory of the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)**.

It focuses on:

- Natural product chemistry
- Petrochemicals and polymers
- Biotechnology
- Sustainable resource utilization

### Green Chemistry

Green chemistry emphasizes:

- Renewable feedstocks
- Reduced toxic by-products
- Energy-efficient processes
- Biodegradability

It aligns with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).

### Cosmetic Industry Context

Cosmetic formulations commonly use:

- Mineral oils
- Synthetic esters
- Petroleum-based emollients

Biobased substitutes can reduce environmental persistence and carbon footprint.

### Bioeconomy Push

India aims to expand its bioeconomy through:

- Biomass valorization

- Waste-to-wealth initiatives
- Biotechnology innovation

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Biobased Innovation:** Renewable compound replaces petroleum lubricants.
- **Sustainability Boost:** Lower environmental impact and biodegradability.
- **Industrial Application:** Potential use in cosmetic formulations.
- **Import Substitution:** Reduces reliance on petrochemical imports.
- **Regional Research Strength:** North East's role in national innovation ecosystem.
- **Green Chemistry Alignment:** Supports eco-friendly manufacturing.
- **Way Forward:** Commercial scaling, regulatory approval, and industry partnerships.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CSIR:** Autonomous R&D body under Ministry of Science & Technology.
- **CSIR-NEIST:** Located in Jorhat, Assam.
- **Green Chemistry Principles:** 12 principles including waste prevention and safer solvents.
- **Biodegradable Compound:** Breaks down naturally without harmful residues.
- **Bioeconomy:** Economic activity derived from biological resources.
- **SDG 12:** Responsible Consumption and Production.
- **Emollient:** Substance that softens or smoothens skin.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. CSIR-NEIST is a constituent laboratory of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
2. Green chemistry promotes the use of renewable feedstocks and reduction of toxic by-products.
3. Biobased compounds are necessarily derived from petroleum resources.

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.NBEMS EARNS GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ RECOGNITION FOR AI IN HEALTHCARE LIVE STREAM



- NBEMS conducted a live-streamed educational session on Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare that set a global record for viewership.

- The recognition by Guinness World Records signifies unprecedented engagement in medical digital learning.
- The initiative promotes awareness of AI applications in diagnostics, imaging, and clinical decision support.
- It highlights the shift toward technology-enabled medical education platforms.
- The event aligns with India's digital health transformation agenda.
- Strategically, it positions India as a leader in AI-driven capacity building in healthcare.
- From a governance perspective, it strengthens institutional outreach and continuous professional development frameworks.

## BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

### NBEMS

The **National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences**:

- Conducts postgraduate and super-specialty medical examinations.
- Oversees Diplomate of National Board (DNB) qualifications.
- Functions under the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.

### Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

AI applications include:

- Medical imaging diagnostics
- Predictive analytics
- Robotic surgery assistance
- Electronic health record analysis

AI improves accuracy, efficiency, and patient outcomes.

### Digital Health Ecosystem

India's digital health initiatives include:

- Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)
- Telemedicine expansion
- Electronic health record standardization

AI integration complements these digital reforms.

### Capacity Building Significance

- Enhances continuous medical education (CME).
- Encourages adoption of emerging technologies.
- Bridges knowledge gaps across geographical regions.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **World Record Achievement:** Official recognition by Guinness World Records.
- **AI Education Focus:** Large-scale lesson on AI in healthcare.
- **Digital Outreach:** Leveraged live streaming for nationwide participation.
- **Medical Capacity Building:** Strengthened professional training ecosystem.
- **Health-Tech Integration:** Encourages AI adoption in clinical practice.
- **Institutional Prestige:** Elevates NBEMS's global academic standing.
- **Way Forward:** Institutionalizing AI modules in medical curricula.

## PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NBEMS:** Conducts DNB and DrNB examinations.
- **DNB (Diplomate of National Board):** Equivalent to MD/MS (as per NMC recognition norms).
- **AI in Healthcare:** Used in radiology, pathology, predictive modeling.
- **ABDM:** Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission for digital health ecosystem.
- **Continuing Medical Education (CME):** Ongoing professional learning for doctors.
- **Machine Learning:** Subset of AI using data-driven algorithms.
- **Telemedicine:** Remote clinical service delivery via digital platforms.

## PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences conducts postgraduate medical examinations in India.
2. Artificial Intelligence in healthcare can assist in diagnostic imaging and predictive analytics.
3. The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission focuses exclusively on insurance coverage for hospitalization.

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)**