PadhAI

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Daily PIB Summary

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Welcome to PadhAI.

1.UNION MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE PROPOSES AMENDMENTS TO MEDICAL DEVICES RULES, 2017 TO STREAMLINE LICENSING PROCESS

- The proposed amendments are intended to simplify the licensing framework for medical devices by reducing procedural complexities.
- The reforms aim to create a transparent, efficient, and predictable regulatory environment for manufacturers and importers.
- Streamlined licensing is expected to reduce compliance costs and accelerate the availability of quality medical devices.
- The amendments support the growth of India's medical technology sector and encourage domestic manufacturing under **Make in India**.
- A robust regulatory framework is essential to ensure patient safety and maintain quality standards.
- The reforms align with the Government's objective of promoting innovation while strengthening regulatory oversight.
- Improved regulatory processes are expected to attract investments and enhance India's competitiveness in the global medical devices market.
- The initiative contributes to strengthening healthcare infrastructure and improving access to medical technologies.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Medical Devices Rules, 2017

- Framed under the **Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940**.
- Came into force on **1 January 2018**.
- Regulate the manufacture, import, clinical investigation, sale, and distribution of medical devices in India.
- Adopt a **risk-based classification** for medical devices.

Risk Classification of Medical Devices

- **Class A:** Low Risk
- **Class B:** Low-Moderate Risk
- **Class C:** Moderate-High Risk
- **Class D:** High Risk

Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)

- India's National Regulatory Authority for drugs and medical devices.
- Responsible for licensing, regulation, and ensuring quality and safety standards.
- Functions under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Medical Devices Sector in India

- Covers products such as diagnostic equipment, implants, surgical instruments, imaging systems, and in-vitro diagnostic devices.
- Identified as a priority sector under **Make in India**.
- Plays a vital role in strengthening healthcare delivery and medical innovation.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Regulatory Reform:** Proposed amendments to the Medical Devices Rules, 2017.
- **Primary Objective:** Streamline licensing and simplify regulatory procedures.
- **Ease of Doing Business:** Reduce compliance burden and improve regulatory efficiency.
- **Patient Safety:** Maintain stringent standards for quality, safety, and efficacy.
- **Industrial Growth:** Promote domestic manufacturing and innovation in the medical devices sector.
- **Investment Promotion:** Improve the regulatory ecosystem to attract investment.
- **Challenges:** Regulatory capacity, technological advancements, post-market surveillance, and quality assurance.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen digital licensing systems, enhance regulatory harmonization with global standards, improve post-market monitoring, and support indigenous medical device manufacturing.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Medical Devices Rules: 2017** (effective from **1 January 2018**).
- **Parent Legislation: Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940**.
- **Regulator: Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)**.
- **Risk Classification:** Class A, B, C, and D.
- **Class A:** Low-risk devices.
- **Class D:** High-risk devices.
- **Medical Device:** Instrument, apparatus, implant, reagent, or software intended for medical purposes.
- **In-vitro Diagnostic (IVD):** Medical device used to examine samples such as blood or tissue outside the human body.
- **Post-Market Surveillance:** Monitoring the safety and performance of medical devices after commercialization.
- **Make in India:** Initiative promoting domestic manufacturing and investment.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Medical Devices Rules, 2017 are framed under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.
2. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) is India's

national regulatory authority for medical devices.

3. Under the Medical Devices Rules, Class D devices are classified as low-risk medical devices.

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.UNION MINISTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN LAUNCHES AI-ENABLED 'RURAL INTERNAL AUDIT PORTAL' AT "RASHTRIYA GRAMIN VIKAS SAMMELAN"

- The AI-enabled Rural Internal Audit Portal has been launched to modernize the internal audit system for rural development programmes.
- Artificial Intelligence will assist in identifying financial irregularities, improving risk assessment, and enabling timely corrective actions.
- The portal is expected to enhance transparency, accountability, and data-driven decision-making in programme implementation.
- Digital auditing will improve monitoring of public expenditure and strengthen governance at various administrative levels.
- The initiative aligns with the Government's vision of leveraging emerging technologies for efficient public administration.
- AI-enabled audits can reduce manual errors, improve compliance, and ensure optimal utilization of public funds.
- The portal supports evidence-based governance and promotes greater public trust in rural development programmes.
- It represents an important step towards digital transformation in rural governance and public financial management.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Internal Audit

- Internal audit is an independent and systematic process to evaluate financial management, compliance, and operational efficiency.
- It helps ensure transparency, accountability, and effective utilization of public resources.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Governance

I. AI enables automated data analysis, pattern recognition, predictive analytics, and anomaly detection.
II. Applications include:
   A. Financial audits
   B. Public service delivery
   C. Fraud detection
   D. Decision support
   E. Resource allocation
   F. Monitoring and evaluation

Ministry of Rural Development

- Responsible for planning and implementing rural development programmes.
- Focuses on poverty alleviation, livelihood generation, rural infrastructure, and social protection.

Major Rural Development Programmes

- **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)**
- **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G)**
- **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)**
- **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Launch:** AI-enabled Rural Internal Audit Portal.
- **Objective:** Strengthen transparency, accountability, and financial oversight in rural development programmes.
- **Technology:** Artificial Intelligence for automated audit and risk assessment.
- **Governance Impact:** Improves monitoring, compliance, and utilization of public funds.
- **Administrative Efficiency:** Enables data-driven auditing and faster identification of irregularities.
- **Digital Transformation:** Promotes technology-enabled rural governance.
- **Challenges:** Data quality, cybersecurity, AI adoption, digital capacity, and infrastructure gaps.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen digital infrastructure, build AI capacity, ensure data security, and integrate advanced analytics into public financial management.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Rural Development.
- **Internal Audit:** Independent evaluation of financial and operational processes.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Technology enabling machines to perform tasks requiring human intelligence.
- **Predictive Analytics:** Use of historical data to forecast future outcomes.
- **Risk-Based Audit:** Audit approach focusing on areas with higher

probability of financial or operational risks.

- **MGNREGS:** Legal guarantee of at least **100 days** of wage employment to eligible rural households.
- **PMAY-G:** Rural housing scheme for providing pucca houses.
- **DAY-NRLM:** Rural livelihoods mission promoting Self-Help Groups (SHGs).
- **PMGSY:** Programme for all-weather rural road connectivity.
- **Good Governance Principles:** Transparency, accountability, efficiency, responsiveness, and participation.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Internal audit primarily aims to improve transparency, accountability, and operational efficiency.
2. Artificial Intelligence can assist audit systems by identifying anomalies and supporting risk assessment.
3. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) guarantees at least 100 days of wage employment to every urban household.

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.PRIME MINISTER HONOURED WITH 'GUARDIAN OF THE BLUE HORIZON' PRESIDENTIAL DISTINCTION

- The Presidential Distinction reflects the growing strategic partnership between India and Cyprus.
- The honour acknowledges India's expanding global engagement and contribution to peace, diplomacy, and sustainable development.
- India and Cyprus are strengthening cooperation in trade, investment, maritime affairs, digital innovation, education, and tourism.
- The visit reaffirmed the commitment of both countries to deepen political, economic, and people-to-people ties.
- Cyprus holds strategic importance due to its location in the Eastern Mediterranean and its membership in the European Union.
- Enhanced bilateral engagement supports India's broader outreach to Europe and the Mediterranean region.
- The recognition highlights India's increasing diplomatic profile and its role as a trusted global partner.
- The visit contributes to stronger cooperation in regional stability,

connectivity, and economic development.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Cyprus Relations

I. India and Cyprus established diplomatic relations in **1962**.
II. Bilateral cooperation includes:
   A. Trade and investment
   B. Maritime cooperation
   C. Education
   D. Tourism
   E. Information Technology
   F. Financial services
   G. Culture

Strategic Importance of Cyprus

- Located in the **Eastern Mediterranean**.
- Member of the **European Union (EU)** since **2004**.
- Serves as a gateway for trade and investment between Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.
- Important partner in maritime connectivity and regional cooperation.

India's Engagement with Europe

- Expanding trade and investment partnerships.
- Strengthening connectivity and supply chains.
- Promoting cooperation in digital technologies, clean energy, and innovation.
- Enhancing strategic partnerships with European countries.

Blue Economy

- Refers to the sustainable use of ocean and marine resources for economic growth while conserving marine ecosystems.
- Covers sectors such as shipping, fisheries, marine renewable energy, coastal tourism, and marine biotechnology.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Honour:** 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon' Presidential Distinction.
- **Awarding Country:** Cyprus.
- **Recognition:** Contribution to strengthening India–Cyprus relations and international cooperation.
- **Strategic Significance:** Reinforces India's engagement with Europe and the Mediterranean region.
- **Bilateral Cooperation:** Trade, investment, maritime affairs, digital technologies, education, and tourism.
- **Diplomatic Impact:** Enhances political trust and long-term strategic partnership.
- **Blue Economy:** Offers opportunities for maritime cooperation and sustainable economic development.
- **Way Forward:** Expand economic collaboration, strengthen maritime partnerships, promote innovation, and deepen people-to-people exchanges.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Country:** Cyprus.
- **Capital:** Nicosia.
- **Region:** Eastern Mediterranean.
- **EU Membership:** Since **2004**.
- **Currency:** Euro (€).
- **Blue Economy:** Sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth and environmental conservation.
- **India–Cyprus Diplomatic Relations:** Established in **1962**.
- **Mediterranean Sea:** Connects Europe, Asia, and Africa through important maritime trade routes.
- **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ):** Maritime zone extending up to **200 nautical miles** from the baseline under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- **UNCLOS:** International legal framework governing the use of oceans and marine resources.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Cyprus is a member of the European Union.
2. The Blue Economy promotes the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic development.
3. Under UNCLOS, the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) extends up to 100 nautical miles from a country's baseline.

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)

4.DIKSHA: POWERING INDIA'S DIGITAL LEARNING ECOSYSTEM

DIKSHA

Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing

- DIKSHA has emerged as India's flagship Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for school education, providing accessible, multilingual, and curriculum-aligned learning resources.
- The platform supports students, teachers, and administrators through e-content, assessments, teacher training, and digital certificates.
- Integration with QR-coded textbooks enables blended learning and enhances classroom teaching.
- DIKSHA promotes equitable access to quality education by supporting online, offline, and multilingual learning.
- The platform aligns with the objectives of **NEP 2020** by fostering digital literacy,

competency-based education, and technology integration.
- It strengthens teacher professional development through continuous digital training and certification.
- DIKSHA contributes to improving learning outcomes while reducing geographical and socio-economic barriers to education.
- The initiative reflects India's commitment to building an inclusive, technology-driven education ecosystem.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

What is DIKSHA?

- **DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing)** is India's national digital platform for school education.
- Launched in **2017**.
- Developed by the **Ministry of Education**.
- Provides digital learning resources for students, teachers, parents, and school administrators.

Key Features

- Curriculum-aligned digital content.
- QR code-enabled textbooks (**Energized Textbooks**).
- Teacher training and certification.
- Interactive assessments.
- Multilingual educational resources.
- Offline access to learning content.

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020

- Promotes technology integration in education.
- Encourages digital learning and blended education.
- Focuses on equitable access, foundational literacy, and competency-based learning.

Related Digital Education Initiatives

- **PM eVIDYA**
- **SWAYAM**
- **SWAYAM PRABHA**
- **National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR)**
- **e-Pathshala**
- **NIPUN Bharat Mission**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Flagship Platform:** DIKSHA is India's national digital platform for school education.
- **Primary Objective:** Provide accessible, high-quality, curriculum-aligned digital learning resources.
- **Beneficiaries:** Students, teachers, parents, and school administrators.
- **Technology Integration:** QR-enabled textbooks, digital assessments, teacher training, and multilingual content.
- **Educational Impact:** Supports blended learning, teacher capacity building, and improved learning outcomes.
- **Policy Linkage:** Contributes to the implementation of NEP 2020 and Digital India.
- **Challenges:** Digital divide, internet connectivity, device availability, and digital literacy.
- **Way Forward:** Expand digital infrastructure, improve multilingual content, strengthen teacher training,

and ensure universal access to digital learning.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **DIKSHA:** Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing.
- **Launch Year: 2017**.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Education.
- **NEP 2020:** National Education Policy emphasizing technology-enabled learning.
- **PM eVIDYA:** Integrated digital education initiative launched in **2020**.
- **SWAYAM:** National online learning platform for higher education and lifelong learning.
- **SWAYAM PRABHA:** DTH channels providing educational content.
- **NDEAR:** National Digital Education Architecture.
- **e-Pathshala:** Digital repository of NCERT educational resources.
- **Energized Textbooks:** QR code-enabled textbooks linked to digital learning content.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. DIKSHA is a national digital platform designed primarily for school education.
2. DIKSHA supports QR code-enabled textbooks linked to digital learning resources.
3. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 encourages the integration of technology into education.

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: (d)

5.UNION MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY PIYUSH GOYAL LEADS HIGH-LEVEL BUSINESS DELEGATION TO GREECE FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL UK ENGAGEMENTS

- The high-level visit focuses on expanding India–Greece economic relations through greater trade, investment, and industry collaboration.
- Discussions are expected to enhance cooperation in sectors such as infrastructure, shipping, logistics, renewable energy, tourism, startups, and technology.
- Business-to-business engagement is intended to promote investment opportunities and strengthen commercial partnerships.

- The visit reflects India's strategy of diversifying trade partnerships and expanding its economic footprint in Europe.
- Enhanced cooperation with Greece can improve connectivity and facilitate India's integration with European and Mediterranean markets.
- The engagement supports resilient supply chains and encourages collaboration in emerging and high-growth sectors.
- The visit also strengthens diplomatic and economic ties under India's broader engagement with Europe.
- Sustained economic cooperation can contribute to increased bilateral trade, innovation, and long-term strategic partnership.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Greece Relations

I. India and Greece maintain friendly diplomatic relations based on shared democratic values and mutual cooperation.
II. Bilateral cooperation covers:
   A. Trade and investment
   B. Shipping and maritime affairs
   C. Tourism
   D. Renewable energy
   E. Pharmaceuticals
   F. Information Technology
   G. Defence and security
   H. Culture and education

Importance of Greece

- Strategic location connecting Europe, Asia, and Africa.
- Gateway to the Mediterranean and European markets.
- Major global maritime and shipping hub.
- Important partner under India's engagement with Europe.

Economic Cooperation

- Promotion of bilateral trade and investments.
- Business collaborations in logistics and infrastructure.
- Cooperation in innovation, startups, and digital technologies.
- Expansion of clean energy partnerships.

India's Trade Diversification Strategy

- Strengthening economic partnerships with European countries.
- Expanding export markets.
- Enhancing global value chain integration.
- Promoting investment-led growth.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **High-Level Visit:** Commerce Minister led an Indian business delegation to Greece.
- **Primary Objective:** Strengthen bilateral trade, investment, and business cooperation.
- **Priority Sectors:** Shipping, logistics, infrastructure, renewable energy, tourism, technology, and startups.
- **Strategic Significance:** Expands India's economic engagement with Europe and the Mediterranean region.

- **Business Engagement:** Encourages industry partnerships and investment opportunities.
- **Economic Impact:** Supports trade diversification, resilient supply chains, and export growth.
- **Challenges:** Market access, regulatory coordination, logistics costs, and global economic uncertainties.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen institutional cooperation, facilitate business exchanges, promote innovation partnerships, and strengthen connectivity initiatives.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Capital of Greece:** Athens.
- **Currency:** Euro (€).
- **Member of:** European Union (EU), NATO.
- **Strategic Importance:** Gateway to Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean.
- **Mediterranean Sea:** Connects Europe, Asia, and Africa through major maritime trade routes.
- **Piraeus Port:** One of the largest ports in the Mediterranean.
- **Blue Economy:** Sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth and environmental conservation.
- **Global Value Chains (GVCs):** International production networks spread across multiple countries.
- **Trade Diversification:** Expanding trade with multiple markets to reduce dependence on a limited number of partners.
- **Logistics:** Planning and management of the movement of goods and services across supply chains.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Greece is a member of both the European Union and NATO.
2. Greece occupies a strategically important position connecting Europe, Asia, and Africa through the Mediterranean region.
3. The Blue Economy focuses exclusively on offshore oil and gas exploration.

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)