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Daily PIB Summary

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1.AERODROME LICENSE GRANTED TO NOIDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

- The granting of an **Aerodrome License** to the **Noida International Airport (Jewar Airport)** signifies that the airport has met the **safety, infrastructure, and regulatory standards required for aviation operations**.
- The airport is expected to become one of the **largest airports in India**, serving the **National Capital Region (NCR)** and reducing congestion at Indira Gandhi International Airport.
- Strategically located in **Jewar, Uttar Pradesh**, the airport will enhance **regional connectivity, logistics efficiency, and economic development** in northern India.
- It is also expected to boost **tourism, trade, and investment** by improving air connectivity for the region.
- The project aligns with India's broader aviation expansion under the **regional connectivity and infrastructure development agenda**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Noida International Airport (Jewar Airport)

Noida International Airport is being developed as a **greenfield international airport** in **Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh**.

Key characteristics:

- Planned as **one of Asia's largest airports**
- Multi-phase development with **multiple runways and terminals**
- Designed to handle **large passenger and cargo traffic**

The airport is expected to function as a **major aviation hub for northern India**.

Aerodrome License

An **Aerodrome License** is issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation under the **Aircraft Act, 1934** and **Aircraft Rules, 1937**.

It certifies that:

- The airport infrastructure meets **aviation safety standards**
- Runways, navigation systems, and facilities comply with **regulatory requirements**
- The aerodrome is **fit for commercial air operations**

Civil Aviation Infrastructure in India

India has been rapidly expanding its aviation infrastructure through initiatives such as:

- UDAN Scheme
- Development of **greenfield airports** across the country
- Expansion of **existing airports to handle increasing passenger traffic**

The government aims to significantly increase the **number of operational airports and improve regional connectivity**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Regulatory Approval:** The DGCA granted the **Aerodrome License**, confirming compliance with aviation safety and operational standards.
- **Strategic Location:** The airport is located in **Jewar, Uttar Pradesh**, serving the **National Capital Region (NCR)**.
- **Decongestion of Delhi Airport:** It will help reduce traffic pressure on **Indira Gandhi**

International Airport, one of India's busiest airports.

- **Economic Catalyst:** The airport is expected to promote **industrial development, logistics hubs, and job creation** in the surrounding region.
- **Cargo and Logistics Hub:** Designed to handle **large-scale cargo operations**, supporting trade and supply chains.
- **Connectivity Boost:** Improved connectivity for **western Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and parts of Rajasthan**.
- **Greenfield Infrastructure:** Built as a **modern, sustainable airport with advanced infrastructure and expansion potential**.
- **Regional Development:** Expected to stimulate **urbanization and infrastructure growth** in the surrounding districts.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

I. **Aerodrome License:**
   A. Issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation
   B. Granted under the **Aircraft Act, 1934**.
II. **Noida International Airport:**
   A. Located in **Jewar, Uttar Pradesh**.
   B. Developed as a **greenfield international airport**.
III. **DGCA:**
   A. India's **civil aviation regulatory authority**.
   B. Responsible for **safety regulation and certification of aerodromes**.
IV. **UDAN Scheme:**
   A. Launched in **2016**.
   B. Objective: **Enhance regional air connectivity and make air travel affordable**.
V. **Greenfield Airport:**
   A. The airport developed **from scratch on undeveloped land**, unlike expansion of existing airports.
VI. **Major Airports in NCR:**
   A. Indira Gandhi International Airport
   B. Noida International Airport

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. An Aerodrome License in India is issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.
2. Noida International Airport is being developed as a greenfield airport in Uttar Pradesh.
3. The UDAN Scheme primarily aims to promote international aviation connectivity.

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.EDUCATION AS A SERVICE CAN BOOST INDIA'S EXPORT EARNINGS: UNION COMMERCE MINISTER PIYUSH GOYAL

- The concept of **Education as a Service (EaaS)** refers to delivering education globally through **international students, digital platforms, research collaborations, and overseas campuses**.
- India aims to leverage its **large education ecosystem, skilled faculty, and digital infrastructure** to attract more foreign

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students and expand educational services abroad.
- Promoting EaaS can help diversify India's **services export portfolio**, which is currently dominated by IT and business services.
- The initiative also aligns with broader national goals such as **knowledge diplomacy, global academic partnerships, and strengthening India's soft power**.
- By positioning itself as a **global education hub**, India can generate foreign exchange, enhance international collaboration, and contribute to human capital development worldwide.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Education as a Service (EaaS)

Education as a Service refers to the **delivery of educational services across borders**, either physically or digitally.

Modes include:

- **International students studying in domestic institutions**
- **Online and distance education platforms**
- **Joint degree programmes and research collaborations**
- **Foreign campuses of domestic universities**

It is considered part of **global trade in services under the education sector**.

Education in Global Services Trade

Education services fall under **Mode 2 and Mode 3 of international services trade**:

- **Mode 2 – Consumption Abroad:** Students travel to another country for education.
- **Mode 3 – Commercial Presence:** Educational institutions establish campuses abroad.

These are recognized under the **General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)** of the **World Trade Organization.

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020

National Education Policy 2020 aims to transform India into a **global knowledge superpower**.

Key provisions supporting internationalization include:

- Encouraging **foreign universities to set up campuses in India**
- Promoting **international student mobility**
- Supporting **global academic collaborations**
- Expanding **online and digital education**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Export Potential:** Education services can significantly **increase India's services export earnings**.
- **Global Education Hub:** India aims to attract **more international students to Indian universities**.
- **Digital Education:** Expansion of **online learning platforms and EdTech services** can enable cross-border education delivery.
- **Soft Power:** Educational exchanges enhance **India's cultural and intellectual influence globally**.
- **Diversification of Services Exports:** EaaS can complement India's strong **IT and business process outsourcing sectors**.
- **Knowledge Economy:** Strengthening education exports supports India's transition toward a **knowledge-driven economy**.
- **Research Collaboration:** Encourages **international partnerships in research, innovation, and technology development**.
- **Policy Support:** Alignment with **NEP 2020 reforms and internationalization of higher education**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

I. **General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS):**
   A. Agreement under the World Trade Organization.
   B. Governs **international trade in services**, including education.
II. **Four Modes of Services Trade (GATS):**
   A. Cross-border supply
   B. Consumption abroad
   C. Commercial presence
   D. Presence of natural persons
III. **National Education Policy 2020:**
   A. Target: **Increase Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education to 50% by 2035**.
IV. **Education Export Channels:**
   A. International students
   B. Online education platforms
   C. Overseas campuses
   D. Academic collaborations
V. **India's Strengths in Education:**
   A. Large network of **universities and institutes**
   B. Growing **EdTech sector**
   C. English-language higher education
VI. **Soft Power Tool:**
   A. Educational exchanges often strengthen **diplomatic and cultural ties between nations**.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Education services are included under the scope of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).
2. Under GATS, students travelling abroad to pursue education fall under the "Consumption Abroad" mode of services trade.
3. The National Education Policy 2020 encourages internationalization of higher education in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

3.SELF-RELIANCE IS KEY TO NAVAL READINESS AMID GLOBAL UNCERTAINTIES: RAKSHA MANTRI AT SAGAR SANKALP

- The Raksha Mantri stressed that **self-reliance in defence production and technology** is crucial for India to respond effectively to evolving global security challenges.
- Speaking during the **'Sagar Sankalp' naval interaction**, he highlighted the strategic importance of the **Indian Navy in safeguarding maritime interests and ensuring regional stability**.
- The statement reflects India's ongoing push for **indigenisation of defence equipment, domestic manufacturing, and technological innovation**.
- Self-reliance is also linked to reducing dependence on foreign defence imports while building a **robust domestic defence industrial ecosystem**.
- The initiative aligns with national programmes aimed at **strengthening defence preparedness, boosting indigenous research and development, and securing maritime interests in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Self-Reliance in Defence (Indigenisation)

India has historically been among the **largest importers of defence equipment**. To address this, the government has promoted policies to strengthen **domestic defence production and innovation**.

Major initiatives include:

- Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
- Make in India in defence manufacturing
- **Positive Indigenisation Lists** restricting import of certain defence equipment
- Expansion of **Defence Research and Development (DRDO) projects**

These measures aim to develop **indigenous capabilities in weapons systems, platforms, and technologies**.

India's Maritime Security

India's maritime interests are closely linked to the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**, which is vital for:

- **Global trade routes**
- **Energy security**
- **Strategic geopolitical influence**

The Indian Navy plays a key role in:

- Securing **sea lines of communication (SLOCs)**
- Conducting **maritime surveillance and security operations**
- Supporting **humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR)** missions.

SAGAR Vision

India's maritime strategy is guided by the concept of **SAGAR – Security and Growth for All in the Region**.

Introduced by Narendra Modi in **2015**, the vision focuses on:

- Ensuring **maritime security and cooperation in the Indian Ocean**
- Promoting **economic and developmental partnerships**

- Enhancing **regional stability and collective security**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Strategic Message:** The Raksha Mantri emphasized that **self-reliance in defence production is essential for national security**.
- **Naval Readiness:** The **Indian Navy's operational capability** is critical for addressing emerging maritime challenges.
- **Indigenisation Push:** Greater emphasis on **domestic manufacturing of warships, submarines, and defence technologies**.
- **Global Uncertainty:** Changing geopolitical dynamics and supply-chain disruptions underline the need for **strategic autonomy in defence**.
- **Maritime Importance:** India's geographic location makes the **Indian Ocean Region central to its security and economic interests**.
- **Industrial Ecosystem:** Strengthening **defence startups, private sector participation, and indigenous R&D**.
- **Regional Stability:** India aims to play a proactive role in ensuring **peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region**.
- **Operational Preparedness:** Continued investment in **modernisation, advanced technology, and naval infrastructure**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

I. **SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region):**
    A. Maritime strategic vision announced in **2015**.
II. **Positive Indigenisation List:**
    A. Issued by the **Ministry of Defence**.
    B. Restricts import of certain defence items to encourage **domestic manufacturing**.
III. **Indian Navy:**
    A. One of the **three branches of the Indian Armed Forces**.
    B. Responsible for **maritime security and naval warfare**.
IV. **Key Indigenous Naval Platforms:**

A. INS Vikrant – India's first **indigenously built aircraft carrier**.
B. Indigenous **Scorpene-class submarines** built in India.
V. **Indian Ocean Region Importance:**
A. Handles **major share of global oil shipments and trade routes**.
VI. **Defence Manufacturing Goal:**
A. India aims to significantly increase **indigenous defence production and exports**.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The SAGAR doctrine focuses on promoting maritime security and cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region.
2. Positive Indigenisation Lists are issued to promote domestic manufacturing by restricting the import of certain defence equipment.
3. INS Vikrant is India's first indigenously built aircraft carrier.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

4.KEY INTERVENTIONS FOR WOMEN'S ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT IN INDIA

- Women's economic empowerment has become a key development priority in India's policy framework.
- The government has introduced multiple initiatives to enhance **financial access, employment opportunities, and entrepreneurial support for women**.
- Major programmes focus on strengthening **Self Help Groups (SHGs), expanding digital and financial inclusion, and promoting women-led enterprises**.
- These interventions aim to address structural barriers such as **limited access to credit, skill gaps, and gender disparities in labour force participation**.
- Enhancing women's economic participation contributes to **poverty reduction, household welfare, and sustainable economic growth**.
- The approach aligns with India's commitment to **inclusive development and achieving gender equality goals under global development frameworks**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Women and Economic Participation in India

Women's participation in the labour force remains relatively low due to factors such as:

- **Limited access to finance and productive resources**
- **Social and cultural constraints**

- **Skill gaps and lack of employment opportunities**
- **Unequal distribution of unpaid care work**

Improving women's economic participation is critical for **inclusive growth and human development**.

Institutional Framework for Women Empowerment

India has adopted several policy measures and programmes to enhance women's economic participation.

Key ministries involved include:

- Ministry of Women and Child Development
- Ministry of Rural Development
- Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

These ministries implement schemes related to **livelihoods, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, and skill development**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Self Help Groups (SHGs):** Strengthening women-led SHGs through programmes like Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission to improve access to credit and livelihoods.
- **Financial Inclusion:** Promoting women's access to banking through initiatives such as Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana.
- **Entrepreneurship Support:** Encouraging women entrepreneurs through schemes like Stand-Up India Scheme and Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana.
- **Skill Development:** Enhancing employability through training under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana.
- **Digital Empowerment:** Expanding women's participation in the digital economy through initiatives such as Digital India.
- **Agricultural Participation:** Supporting women farmers through better access to **credit, markets, and technology**.

- **Social Protection:** Providing maternity benefits and welfare through programmes like Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana.
- **Gender Equality Goals:** Aligning policies with global commitments to **women's empowerment and gender equality**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

I. **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM):**
   A. Focus on **mobilizing rural poor women into Self Help Groups**.
II. **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana:**
   A. Launched in **2014** to ensure **universal access to banking services**.
III. **Stand-Up India Scheme:**
   A. Provides **bank loans between ₹10 lakh and ₹1 crore** for women and SC/ST entrepreneurs.
IV. **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY):**
   A. Loans for **micro and small enterprises**.
V. **Women's Economic Empowerment:**
   A. Considered essential for achieving **inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction**.
VI. **Relevant Sustainable Development Goal:**
   A. **SDG 5 – Gender Equality**
VII. **Self Help Group (SHG):**
   A. Small group (usually **10–20 women**) that pools savings and accesses credit collectively.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission focuses on mobilizing rural women into Self Help Groups for livelihood promotion.
2. The Stand-Up India Scheme provides bank loans specifically to women and SC/ST entrepreneurs.

3. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana aims to ensure universal access to banking services.

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)