



Daily PIB Summary

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1. ICAR FORMS TASK FORCE TO BOOST AGRICULTURAL RESILIENCE AMID GLOBAL GEOPOLITICAL SHIFTS



- The task force aims to assess vulnerabilities in India's **agricultural supply chains and production systems**.
- It will recommend strategies to enhance **resilience against global disruptions** like conflicts and trade shocks.
- The initiative reflects concerns over **food security, input availability, and price volatility**.
- It aligns with India's goal of ensuring **self-sufficiency and sustainable agriculture**.
- The move strengthens **policy preparedness in the face of global uncertainties**.
- It also emphasizes **research-driven decision-making and innovation in agriculture**.
- Overall, it integrates agriculture into the broader framework of **economic and strategic security**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

ICAR

- I. Indian Council of Agricultural Research is the apex body for **agricultural research and education**.
- II. Functions under the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**.
- III. Plays a key role in:
 - A. Crop improvement
 - B. Agricultural innovation
 - C. Extension services

Agricultural Resilience

- I. Refers to the ability of agriculture to:
 - A. **Withstand shocks** (climate, economic, geopolitical)
 - B. **Recover quickly** and sustain productivity

Geopolitical Context

- I. Global disruptions due to:
 - A. Conflicts affecting **fertilizer and food supply chains**
 - B. Trade restrictions and price volatility
- II. Impact on:
 - A. Input costs
 - B. Export-import dynamics

Food Security Framework

- I. Ensuring:
 - A. Availability
 - B. Accessibility
 - C. Affordability of food
- II. Linked to schemes like:

- A. **Public Distribution System (PDS)**
- B. **National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Strategic Initiative:** Formation of task force for agricultural resilience.
- **Policy Focus:** Address global supply chain disruptions.
- **Research Role:** ICAR to provide scientific and evidence-based inputs.
- **Food Security:** Ensures stable availability of essential commodities.
- **Economic Impact:** Mitigates risks of price volatility and inflation.
- **Challenges:** Climate change, input dependency, and market uncertainties.
- **Way Forward:** Diversify crops, strengthen supply chains, and promote sustainable practices.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **ICAR:** Apex agricultural research body in India
- **NFSA, 2013:** Legal framework for food security
- **PDS:** Distribution of subsidized food grains
- **Agricultural Resilience:** Ability to withstand shocks
- **Key Risk Factors:** Climate change, geopolitical conflicts
- **Fertilizer Dependency:** India imports key inputs like potash
- **Food Security Pillars:** Availability, accessibility, affordability

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. ICAR functions under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
2. Agricultural resilience refers only to resistance against climate change.
3. National Food Security Act, 2013 aims to ensure food security in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.INS SUNAYNA ARRIVES AT MALÉ: BOOSTING INDIA-MALDIVES MARITIME COOPERATION UNDER IOS SAGAR



- The deployment reflects India's commitment to **regional maritime**

security in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

- It strengthens bilateral ties with Maldives through **defence diplomacy and cooperation**.
- The IOS SAGAR initiative promotes **collaborative security and mutual assistance among littoral states**.
- It enhances **interoperability and trust between navies**.
- The move aligns with India's broader **Neighbourhood First policy**.
- It contributes to ensuring **safe sea lanes and regional stability**.
- Overall, it reinforces India's role as a **net security provider in the IOR**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

INS Sunayna

- I. INS Sunayna is an **offshore patrol vessel (OPV)** of the Indian Navy.
- II. Used for:
 - A. Maritime surveillance
 - B. Search and rescue operations
 - C. Anti-piracy missions

IOS SAGAR Initiative

- I. IOS stands for **Indian Ocean Ship (IOS)** deployment under **SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region)** vision.
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Regional cooperation
 - B. Capacity building
 - C. Maritime security

India–Maldives Relations

- I. Maldives is a key maritime neighbour in the **Indian Ocean Region**.
- II. Cooperation areas include:
 - A. Defence and security
 - B. Disaster relief
 - C. Infrastructure development

Strategic Importance of Maldives

- I. Located near **major sea lanes of communication (SLOCs)**.
- II. Critical for:
 - A. Trade routes
 - B. Regional security dynamics

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Strategic Outreach:** Strengthens India–Maldives maritime partnership.
- **Security Cooperation:** Enhances joint surveillance and capacity building.
- **Regional Stability:** Supports safe and secure Indian Ocean Region.
- **Diplomatic Significance:** Reinforces Neighbourhood First policy.
- **Operational Role:** Demonstrates Indian Navy's blue-water capabilities.
- **Challenges:** Geopolitical competition and regional sensitivities.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen cooperation through joint exercises and infrastructure support.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **INS Sunayna:** Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV)
- **Malé:** Capital of Maldives

- **SAGAR:** Security and Growth for All in the Region
- **IOS:** Indian Ocean Ship deployment concept
- **IOR:** Indian Ocean Region
- **SLOCs:** Sea Lanes of Communication
- **Neighbourhood First:** India's foreign policy approach

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. INS Sunayna is an offshore patrol vessel of the Indian Navy.
2. SAGAR doctrine focuses on regional cooperation and maritime security.
3. Maldives is located outside the Indian Ocean Region.

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)

3. PLISFPI: CATALYSING INDIA'S FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR THROUGH PRODUCTION-LINKED INCENTIVES



- PLISFPI incentivizes companies based on **incremental sales of processed food products.**
- It promotes **branding, innovation, and expansion of food processing capacities.**
- The scheme aims to reduce **post-harvest losses and improve value chains.**
- It enhances India's potential as a **global food processing hub.**
- Encourages investment in **ready-to-eat, marine products, and processed fruits & vegetables.**
- Strengthens **farmer-industry linkages and rural employment generation.**
- Reflects governance focus on **agri-value addition, exports, and income diversification.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

PLISFPI Scheme

- I. Launched in **2021** under the broader **PLI framework**.
- II. Target sectors include:
 - A. Ready-to-eat/ready-to-cook foods
 - B. Marine products
 - C. Processed fruits and vegetables

Food Processing Sector in India

- I. Acts as a bridge between:
 - A. **Agriculture and industry**
- II. Contributes to:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Reduction in wastage
- III. India is one of the largest producers of:
 - A. Fruits, vegetables, milk, and cereals

Objectives of PLISFPI

- Increase **value addition in agriculture**
- Enhance **export competitiveness**
- Promote **global food brands from India**

Policy Linkages

- I. Supports:
 - A. **Make in India**
 - B. **Atmanirbhar Bharat**
- II. Complements schemes like:
 - A. **PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM-FME)**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Incentive Mechanism:** Based on incremental production and sales.
- **Value Addition:** Encourages processing of agricultural produce.
- **Export Promotion:** Boosts global competitiveness of Indian food brands.
- **Rural Impact:** Generates employment and increases farmer income.
- **Supply Chain Strengthening:** Reduces post-harvest losses.
- **Challenges:** Infrastructure gaps, logistics issues, and quality standards.
- **Way Forward:** Improve cold chain infrastructure and promote innovation.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PLISFPI Launch:** 2021
- **Ministry:** Food Processing Industries
- **PLI Concept:** Incentives based on incremental production
- **Target Products:** Ready-to-eat foods, marine products, processed fruits & vegetables
- **PM-FME Scheme:** Supports micro food processing enterprises
- **Key Goal:** Value addition and export growth
- **Sector Role:** Links agriculture with industry

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. PLISFPI provides incentives based on incremental sales of processed food products.
2. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
3. Food processing sector helps reduce post-harvest losses.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. 'BOB SAMVAD' LAUNCHED: AI-POWERED MULTILINGUAL PLATFORM TRANSFORMS BANKING INTERACTIONS



- 'bob SAMVAD' leverages **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** to enable seamless multilingual communication between customers and bank staff.

- It improves **accessibility for diverse linguistic groups**, promoting financial inclusion.
- The initiative enhances **efficiency, accuracy, and speed of customer service** in bank branches.
- It reflects the growing adoption of **AI in financial services and governance**.
- The platform supports **digital transformation in public sector banking**.
- It also reduces dependency on manual processes and improves **customer satisfaction**.
- Overall, it aligns with India's push for **technology-driven financial inclusion and smart governance**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Bank of Baroda

- Bank of Baroda is one of India's leading **public sector banks**.
- Established in **1908** and headquartered in Vadodara.
- Provides a wide range of **banking and financial services**.

Artificial Intelligence in Banking

- I. AI applications include:
 - A. Chatbots and virtual assistants
 - B. Fraud detection
 - C. Customer service automation
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Operational efficiency
 - B. Personalization of services

Financial Inclusion in India

- I. Aims to provide:
 - A. **Accessible and affordable financial services**
- II. Supported by initiatives like:
 - A. **Jan Dhan Yojana**
 - B. Digital payment systems

Digital Banking Transformation

- I. Increasing shift towards:
 - A. **Automation and AI integration**
 - B. Customer-centric services

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Technological Innovation:** AI-based multilingual platform for banking interactions.
- **Customer Accessibility:** Supports multiple languages, improving inclusivity.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Reduces wait times and improves service quality.
- **Digital Transformation:** Strengthens AI adoption in public sector banks.
- **Financial Inclusion:** Bridges communication gaps for diverse customers.
- **Challenges:** Data privacy, cybersecurity risks, and digital literacy gaps.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen AI governance, enhance security, and expand digital infrastructure.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Bank of Baroda:** Established in 1908
- **Headquarters:** Vadodara, Gujarat
- **bob SAMVAD:** AI-powered multilingual conversational platform

- **AI Use in Banking:** Customer service, fraud detection, automation
- **Jan Dhan Yojana:** Financial inclusion initiative
- **Key Benefit:** Improved accessibility and efficiency
- **Concern:** Data privacy and cybersecurity

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. 'bob SAMVAD' is an AI-powered platform launched by Bank of Baroda.
2. Artificial Intelligence in banking is used only for fraud detection.
3. Financial inclusion aims to provide accessible financial services to all sections of society.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. REGULARISATION OF UNAUTHORISED COLONIES IN DELHI: 'AS-IS WHERE-IS' APPROACH EXPLAINED



- The scheme seeks to grant **ownership rights to residents of unauthorised colonies** without altering existing structures.
- It addresses long-standing issues of **tenure insecurity and lack of civic services**.
- Regularisation enhances **access to formal credit, infrastructure, and urban governance**.
- It improves **urban planning integration and service delivery**.
- The initiative has major implications for **housing, urban development, and social equity**.
- It also impacts **municipal revenues through property taxation**.
- Overall, it reflects a governance approach focused on **inclusive urbanisation and legal empowerment**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Unauthorised Colonies

- I. Settlements developed **without approval of planning authorities**.
- II. Common in rapidly urbanizing cities like Delhi.
- III. Issues include:
 - A. Lack of legal ownership
 - B. Poor infrastructure and services

PM-UDAY Scheme

- I. Full form: **Pradhan Mantri Unauthorised Colonies in Delhi Awas Adhikar Yojana**.
- II. Launched in **2019**.
- III. Provides:
 - A. **Property ownership rights**
 - B. Digital mapping and documentation

'As-is Where-is' Basis

- I. Means:
 - A. Colonies are regularised **in their existing form**
 - B. No demolition or structural changes required
- II. Ensures faster implementation and avoids displacement.

Urban Governance Context

- I. Delhi has multiple authorities:
 - A. Delhi Development Authority
 - B. Municipal corporations
- II. Regularisation helps integrate colonies into a formal **urban planning framework**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Legal Empowerment:** Grants ownership rights to residents.
- **Inclusive Urbanisation:** Integrates informal settlements into formal systems.
- **Administrative Simplicity:** 'As-is where-is' avoids structural modifications.
- **Economic Impact:** Enables access to bank loans and increases property value.
- **Governance Benefit:** Expands tax base and improves service delivery.
- **Challenges:** Infrastructure deficits and environmental concerns.
- **Way Forward:** Upgrade services, ensure planned development, and strengthen urban governance.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PM-UDAY:** Launched in 2019 for Delhi's unauthorised colonies
- **'As-is Where-is':** Regularisation without altering existing structures
- **DDA:** Key urban planning authority in Delhi
- **Unauthorised Colonies:** Built without official approval
- **Benefit:** Legal ownership and access to services
- **Urban Issue:** Rapid unplanned urbanisation
- **Outcome:** Improved governance and property rights

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The PM-UDAY scheme provides ownership rights to residents of unauthorised colonies in Delhi.
2. 'As-is where-is' basis requires demolition of illegal structures before regularisation.
3. Delhi Development Authority is involved in urban planning in Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)