



Daily PIB Summary

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I.COMMUNITY-LED RAINWATER CONSERVATION TRANSFORMS PRAKASAM DISTRICT



- Villages in Prakasam district adopted **community-led water conservation techniques** such as check dams and percolation tanks.
- The initiative improved **groundwater recharge and water availability**.
- It enhanced **agricultural output and livelihood security** in drought-prone areas.
- Demonstrates the effectiveness of **participatory governance and local resource management**.
- Aligns with national priorities of **water conservation and sustainable development**.
- Reduces dependence on erratic rainfall and mitigates **climate vulnerability**.
- Overall, it highlights a scalable model for **grassroots environmental governance and resilience building**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Rainwater Conservation

- I. Involves collection and storage of rainwater for:
 - A. Groundwater recharge
 - B. Irrigation and domestic use
- II. Techniques include:
 - A. Check dams
 - B. Farm ponds
 - C. Percolation tanks

Water Stress in India

- I. Many regions face:
 - A. Groundwater depletion
 - B. Irregular rainfall patterns
- II. Particularly acute in:
 - A. Semi-arid regions like parts of Andhra Pradesh

Community Participation

- I. Local communities play a key role in:
 - A. Planning
 - B. Implementation
 - C. Maintenance of water structures
- II. Ensures sustainability and ownership.

Policy Linkages

- I. Supports initiatives like:
 - A. **Jal Shakti Abhiyan**
 - B. **Atal Bhujal Yojana**
- II. Focus on **water conservation and groundwater management**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Community Leadership:** Local participation drives success of conservation efforts.
- **Water Security:** Improved groundwater levels and year-round availability.
- **Agricultural Impact:** Increased productivity and crop diversification.
- **Climate Resilience:** Reduces vulnerability to drought and erratic rainfall.
- **Sustainability:** Promotes eco-friendly and low-cost solutions.
- **Challenges:** Maintenance, funding, and scaling across regions.
- **Way Forward:** Institutionalize community participation and expand best practices nationwide.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Prakasam District:** Located in Andhra Pradesh
- **Rainwater Harvesting:** Collection and storage of rainwater
- **Key Structures:** Check dams, percolation tanks, farm ponds
- **Jal Shakti Abhiyan:** Water conservation campaign
- **Atal Bhujal Yojana:** Groundwater management scheme
- **Issue:** Groundwater depletion
- **Benefit:** Improved irrigation and water availability

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Rainwater harvesting helps in groundwater recharge.
2. Community participation improves sustainability of water conservation projects.
3. Atal Bhujal Yojana focuses on urban water supply management.

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)

2.DOORDARSHAN–ICCR MoU: EXPANDING GLOBAL FOOTPRINT OF INDIA’S CULTURAL DIPLOMACY



Indian Council for Cultural Relations

- The MoU enables collaboration to **broadcast Indian cultural programmes globally.**
- It strengthens India’s **soft power projection through media and culture.**
- Facilitates dissemination of **art, heritage, language, and traditions** to international audiences.
- Enhances India’s engagement with **diaspora and foreign communities.**
- Supports the government’s vision of **cultural diplomacy as a strategic tool.**
- Leverages digital and broadcast platforms for **wider global outreach.**
- Overall, it integrates **media, culture, and foreign policy objectives.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Prasar Bharati

- I. Prasar Bharati is India’s **public service broadcaster.**
- II. Established under the **Prasar Bharati Act, 1990.**

- III. Operates:
 - A. Doordarshan (TV)
 - B. All India Radio (AIR)

ICCR

- I. Indian Council for Cultural Relations functions under the **Ministry of External Affairs.**
- II. Established in **1950.**
- III. Promotes:
 - A. Cultural exchange
 - B. Educational cooperation
 - C. International cultural relations

Cultural Diplomacy

- I. Use of culture to:
 - A. Strengthen international relations
 - B. Build mutual understanding
- II. Tools include:
 - A. Media, art, language, festivals

Soft Power

- I. Refers to the ability to influence through:
 - A. Culture
 - B. Values
 - C. Policies
- II. India’s strengths:
 - A. Yoga, Ayurveda, cinema, classical arts

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Strategic Collaboration:** Partnership between Prasar Bharati and ICCR.
- **Global Outreach:** Broadcasting Indian cultural content worldwide.

- **Soft Power:** Strengthens India's cultural diplomacy.
- **Diaspora Engagement:** Connects with global Indian communities.
- **Digital Integration:** Uses modern media platforms for wider reach.
- **Challenges:** Content localization and global competition.
- **Way Forward:** Expand multilingual content and partnerships with global broadcasters.

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

Answer: (a)

3. INDIAN RAILWAYS TO INTRODUCE COMPOSITE SLEEPERS: A STEP TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE TRACK INFRASTRUCTURE



- **Prasar Bharati:** Public broadcaster (Doordarshan + AIR)
- **ICCR:** Established in 1950 under MEA
- **Prasar Bharati Act:** 1990
- **Soft Power:** Influence through culture and values
- **Cultural Diplomacy:** Tool for international relations
- **AIR:** All India Radio
- **Objective:** Promote Indian culture globally

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Prasar Bharati operates both Doordarshan and All India Radio.
2. ICCR functions under the Ministry of External Affairs.
3. Cultural diplomacy relies solely on economic incentives.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- Composite sleepers are made from **recycled materials like plastic, rubber, and fiber composites.**
- They offer longer lifespan and require **less maintenance compared to traditional wooden sleepers.**
- Helps reduce dependence on **timber, aiding environmental conservation.**
- Improves **track stability, safety, and operational efficiency.**
- Supports India's push for **green infrastructure and sustainable development.**
- Can be particularly useful in **extreme weather and high-moisture conditions.**

- Overall, it reflects modernization of railway infrastructure with a focus on **innovation and sustainability**.

B. Green infrastructure goals

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Railway Sleepers

- I. Structural components placed under rails to:
 - A. Maintain gauge
 - B. Distribute load
 - C. Provide stability

Types of Sleepers

- **Wooden sleepers:** Traditional, but less durable and eco-sensitive
- **Concrete sleepers:** Widely used, durable but heavy
- **Composite sleepers:** New generation, lightweight and eco-friendly

Advantages of Composite Sleepers

- I. Made from:
 - A. Recycled plastics and industrial waste
- II. Features:
 - A. High durability
 - B. Resistance to corrosion, termites, and moisture
 - C. Lower lifecycle cost

Sustainability Aspect

- I. Reduces:
 - A. Deforestation
 - B. Waste accumulation
- II. Aligns with:
 - A. Circular economy principles

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Technological Innovation:** Adoption of composite materials in railway tracks.
- **Environmental Benefit:** Reduces use of timber and promotes recycling.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Longer lifespan and reduced maintenance needs.
- **Safety Enhancement:** Better stability and resilience in diverse conditions.
- **Economic Impact:** Lower lifecycle costs and improved efficiency.
- **Challenges:** Initial cost, scalability, and standardization.
- **Way Forward:** Expand adoption, encourage domestic manufacturing, and ensure quality standards.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Indian Railways:** One of the largest rail networks globally
- **Composite Sleepers:** Made from recycled plastic, rubber, fibers
- **Function:** Support rails and maintain track stability
- **Traditional Types:** Wooden and concrete sleepers
- **Key Advantage:** Durability and eco-friendliness
- **Environmental Benefit:** Reduces deforestation
- **Concept:** Circular economy in infrastructure

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Composite sleepers are made using recycled materials such as plastic and rubber.
2. Composite sleepers completely replace the need for track maintenance.
3. Railway sleepers help maintain track gauge and stability.

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.KANDLA PORT PUSHES METHANOL BUNKERING: GREEN SHIFT IN INDIA'S MARITIME SECTOR



DEENDAYAL PORT AUTHORITY
KANDLA

- Methanol bunkering enables ships to use **methanol as an alternative marine fuel**.
- It supports decarbonisation of the maritime sector by reducing **greenhouse gas emissions**.
- The initiative strengthens India's position in **green shipping and sustainable port infrastructure**.
- Helps comply with **global environmental norms in shipping**.
- Enhances India's competitiveness in **international maritime trade**.
- Promotes development of **alternative fuel ecosystems and infrastructure**.
- Reflects a governance push toward **clean energy transition in logistics and transport sectors**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Kandla Port (Deendayal Port)

- I. Located in **Gujarat**, one of India's **major ports**.
- II. Handles large volumes of:
 - A. Petroleum
 - B. Chemicals
 - C. Cargo trade

Methanol as Marine Fuel

- I. Alternative fuel with:
 - A. Lower carbon emissions than conventional fuels
 - B. Cleaner combustion properties
- II. Can be produced from:
 - A. Natural gas
 - B. Biomass (green methanol)

Bunkering

- I. Process of:
 - A. Supplying fuel to ships
- II. Infrastructure needed for:
 - A. Storage
 - B. Handling
 - C. Safety compliance

Global Maritime Context

- I. International Maritime Organization (IMO) targets:
 - A. Reduction in shipping emissions
- II. Shift towards:
 - A. LNG, methanol, hydrogen fuels

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Green Initiative:** Adoption of methanol as alternative marine fuel.
- **Strategic Port Role:** Kandla emerges as a green shipping hub.
- **Environmental Impact:** Reduces carbon emissions in maritime transport.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Creation of bunkering facilities.
- **Global Alignment:** Supports IMO decarbonisation targets.
- **Challenges:** High initial investment and fuel supply chain development.
- **Way Forward:** Promote green fuel production and expand bunkering network.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Kandla Port:** Major port in Gujarat (Deendayal Port)
- **Methanol:** Cleaner alternative fuel
- **Bunkering:** Refueling ships
- **IMO:** International Maritime Organization
- **Green Methanol:** Produced from renewable sources
- **Emission Goal:** Reduce carbon footprint of shipping
- **Alternative Fuels:** LNG, methanol, hydrogen

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Methanol can be used as an alternative marine fuel.

2. Bunkering refers to the process of unloading cargo from ships.
3. The International Maritime Organization sets global standards for shipping emissions.

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.NDA & NA EXAM (II) 2025 FINAL RESULTS DECLARED: ENTRY INTO INDIA'S PREMIER DEFENCE ACADEMIES



- The NDA & NA exam is a premier national-level examination for recruitment into the **Army, Navy, and Air Force wings**.
- Conducted by UPSC, it involves **written examination followed by SSB interview**.

- Final selection is based on **merit, medical fitness, and overall performance**.
- The results enable entry into **structured military training and leadership development**.
- It plays a key role in maintaining **quality officer intake in the armed forces**.
- The process ensures **transparency, meritocracy, and national-level competition**.
- Reflects India's robust institutional framework for **defence human resource development**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)

- I. Union Public Service Commission is a constitutional body under **Article 315**.
- II. Conducts:
 - A. Civil Services Examination
 - B. NDA & NA Examination
 - C. Other recruitment exams

National Defence Academy (NDA)

- I. National Defence Academy is located at Khadakwasla.
- II. Trains cadets for:
 - A. Army
 - B. Navy
 - C. Air Force
- III. Known for **joint services training**.

Indian Naval Academy (INA)

- Indian Naval Academy is located at Ezhimala.
- Trains officers for the **Indian Navy**.

Selection Process

- Written Examination (UPSC)
- Services Selection Board (SSB) Interview
- Medical Examination

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Institutional Process:** Conducted by UPSC ensuring merit-based selection.
- **Defence Training:** Entry into NDA and INA for officer training.
- **Joint Services Model:** NDA provides integrated training for three services.
- **Leadership Development:** Focus on discipline, strategy, and leadership skills.
- **National Importance:** Ensures steady inflow of officers into armed forces.
- **Challenges:** High competition and rigorous selection standards.
- **Way Forward:** Continued modernization of training and selection systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **UPSC:** Constitutional body under Article 315
- **NDA Location:** Khadakwasla, Pune
- **INA Location:** Ezhimala, Kerala
- **Exam Stages:** Written + SSB Interview + Medical
- **Purpose:** Officer recruitment for armed forces

- **Training Model:** Joint services training (NDA)
- **SSB:** Assesses personality and leadership qualities

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Union Public Service Commission is a constitutional body under Article 315.
2. National Defence Academy provides joint training for Army, Navy, and Air Force cadets.
3. Indian Naval Academy is located in Visakhapatnam.

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)