



Daily PIB Summary

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1. NHRC, INDIA ORGANISES AN OPEN HOUSE DISCUSSION ON 'SAFEGUARDING HUMAN RIGHTS AGAINST DIGITAL ARREST SCAMS'



Key Highlights

- I. Organized by the **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India.**
- II. Theme:
 - A. **"Safeguarding Human Rights Against Digital Arrest Scams."**
- III. Conducted in **hybrid mode** with participation from government officials, law enforcement agencies, cyber experts, legal professionals, academia, and civil society.
- IV. Focused on strengthening public awareness, cyber safety, and protection of citizens from emerging digital crimes.

BACKGROUND

What is a Digital Arrest Scam?

A **Digital Arrest Scam** is a type of **cyber fraud** in which fraudsters impersonate officials from agencies such as:

- Police
- Central investigative agencies
- Customs
- Telecom authorities

They falsely claim that the victim is involved in illegal activities and threaten them with **"digital arrest"**, compelling them to transfer money or disclose sensitive personal and financial information.

Note: There is **no legal concept of a "digital arrest"** under Indian law.

ABOUT NHRC

National Human Rights Commission

Established

- **12 October 1993**

Established Under

- Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993

Nature

- Statutory body.

Headquarters

- New Delhi

Functions

- Protect and promote human rights.
- Inquire into human rights violations.
- Review constitutional and legal safeguards.
- Promote human rights awareness and research.

- Enables citizens to report cybercrime complaints online.

IMPACT OF DIGITAL ARREST SCAMS

Human Rights Concerns

- Violation of the right to privacy.
- Financial exploitation.
- Psychological trauma.
- Identity theft.
- Loss of dignity and security.

Vulnerable Groups

- Senior citizens.
- Students.
- Women.
- Individuals with limited digital literacy.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES AGAINST CYBER FRAUD

Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)

- Functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Coordinates efforts to combat cybercrime.

National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal

Cyber Crime Helpline

- **1930** for immediate reporting of financial cyber frauds.

SIGNIFICANCE

Protection of Human Rights

- Safeguards citizens from digital exploitation and fraud.

Cyber Awareness

- Promotes responsible and safe use of digital technologies.

Digital Trust

- Strengthens public confidence in digital governance.

Inter-Agency Coordination

- Encourages collaboration among government agencies, law enforcement, and civil society.

CHALLENGES

- Increasing sophistication of cyber fraud.
- Low levels of cyber awareness.
- Cross-border nature of cybercrime.
- Rapid technological advancements.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen digital literacy campaigns.
- Improve cybercrime investigation capabilities.
- Promote timely reporting of cyber fraud.
- Enhance coordination among regulatory and law enforcement agencies.
- Encourage responsible digital behaviour among citizens.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organiser:** National Human Rights Commission.
- **Theme:** Safeguarding Human Rights Against Digital Arrest Scams.
- **Established:** 1993.
- **Legal Basis:** Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- **Nature:** Statutory body.
- **Cyber Helpline:** 1930.
- **Key Agency:** Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C).

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **NHRC**
 - A. Established: **12 October 1993**.
 - B. Statutory body under the **Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993**.
 - C. Headquarters: **New Delhi**.
- II. **Human Rights**
 - A. Defined under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, as rights relating to life, liberty, equality, and dignity guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in

international covenants enforceable by Indian courts.

- III. **Digital Arrest Scam**
 - A. A cyber fraud where criminals impersonate government officials to extort money.
 - B. **No provision for "digital arrest" exists under Indian law.**
- IV. **Cyber Crime Helpline: 1930.**
- V. **National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal**
 - A. Operated under the **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)**, Ministry of Home Affairs.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is a statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
2. A "digital arrest" has legal recognition under the Code of Criminal Procedure in India.
3. The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

2. INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE CORE OF INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT



What is Infrastructure?

- Infrastructure refers to the **physical and organizational facilities** that support economic activity and improve the quality of life.

Major Components

- Transport (Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports)
- Energy Infrastructure
- Urban Infrastructure
- Digital Infrastructure
- Water and Sanitation
- Logistics Infrastructure

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVES

PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan

- I. Launched in **2021**.
- II. A GIS-based digital platform integrating infrastructure planning across ministries.
- III. Aims to:
 - A. Improve multimodal connectivity.

- B. Reduce logistics costs.
- C. Eliminate project delays through coordinated planning.

National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)

- I. Launched in **2019**.
- II. Long-term infrastructure investment programme.
- III. Covers sectors such as:
 - A. Roads
 - B. Railways
 - C. Energy
 - D. Urban Development
 - E. Water Resources
 - F. Digital Infrastructure

National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)

- Facilitates monetisation of existing public infrastructure assets.
- Mobilizes private sector investment for new infrastructure creation.

Bharatmala Pariyojana

- I. Flagship highway development programme.
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Economic corridors.
 - B. Border roads.
 - C. Coastal connectivity.
 - D. Expressways.

Sagarmala Programme

- I. Port-led development initiative.
- II. Aims to:
 - A. Modernize ports.
 - B. Improve coastal connectivity.
 - C. Reduce logistics costs.

UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik)

- Regional Connectivity Scheme.
- Enhances affordable air travel and regional airport connectivity.

Smart Cities Mission

- I. Promotes sustainable urban development.
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Smart mobility.
 - B. Efficient public services.
 - C. Digital governance.
 - D. Citizen-centric urban planning.

SIGNIFICANCE

Economic Growth

- Infrastructure investment generates employment and stimulates economic activity.

Logistics Efficiency

- Reduces transportation costs and improves supply chains.

Investment Promotion

- Attracts domestic and foreign investment.

Regional Development

- Improves connectivity in remote and underdeveloped regions.

Ease of Doing Business

- Enhances industrial competitiveness through better infrastructure.

CHALLENGES

- Land acquisition delays.
- Financing constraints.
- Environmental and social concerns.
- Inter-agency coordination.
- Maintenance of infrastructure assets.

WAY FORWARD

- Accelerate project implementation.
- Strengthen Public-Private Partnerships (PPP).
- Promote green and climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Enhance digital monitoring through GIS and technology platforms.
- Improve long-term infrastructure financing mechanisms.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Flagship Planning Platform:** PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.
- **Investment Programme:** National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP).
- **Asset Monetisation:** National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP).
- **Road Connectivity:** Bharatmala Pariyojana.
- **Port-led Development:** Sagarmala Programme.
- **Regional Aviation:** UDAN Scheme.
- **Urban Development:** Smart Cities Mission.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **PM Gati Shakti**
 - A. Launched: **2021**.
 - B. GIS-based integrated infrastructure planning platform.
- II. **National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)**
 - A. Launched: **2019**.
 - B. Long-term infrastructure investment programme.
- III. **National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)**
 - A. Monetises brownfield public infrastructure assets to fund new projects.
- IV. **Bharatmala Pariyojana**
 - A. Focuses on economic corridors, border roads, and expressways.
- V. **Sagarmala Programme**
 - A. Promotes port-led development and coastal economic growth.
- VI. **UDAN**
 - A. Regional Connectivity Scheme to improve affordable air travel.
- VII. **Smart Cities Mission**
 - A. Launched in **2015** for sustainable and technology-driven urban development.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. PM Gati Shakti is a GIS-based platform for integrated infrastructure planning.
2. The National Monetisation Pipeline focuses on monetising existing public infrastructure assets.
3. Sagarmala Programme is aimed at promoting port-led development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

3.SOUND WAVES CAN BE USED IN REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN NEXT-GENERATION COMPUTING



Key Highlights

- Sound waves can be used as carriers of information.
- The technology relies on **phonons** instead of only electrons.
- Potential to significantly reduce energy consumption in computing devices.
- May enable faster, more efficient, and sustainable computing architectures.

BACKGROUND

What are Phonons?

Phonon

- I. A **phonon** is the quantum (smallest unit) of mechanical vibrations or sound waves propagating through a solid material.
- II. Similar to how:
 - A. **Photons** carry light.
 - B. **Electrons** carry electric charge.
 - C. **Phonons** carry vibrational energy.

HOW DOES PHONONIC COMPUTING WORK?

- I. Traditional computers use the movement of **electrons** through semiconductor circuits.
- II. Phononic computing uses **acoustic (sound) waves** to:
 - A. Transmit information.
 - B. Perform logical operations.
 - C. Control signal propagation.

Advantages

- Lower energy loss.
- Reduced heat generation.
- Improved energy efficiency.
- Potential integration with quantum and nanoelectronic devices.

APPLICATIONS

Energy-Efficient Computing

- Development of ultra-low-power processors.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- Supports energy-efficient AI hardware.

Quantum Technologies

- Can assist in quantum information processing.

Nanoelectronics

- Enables miniaturized computing components.

Communication Systems

- High-frequency signal processing and sensing.

SIGNIFICANCE

Reduced Energy Consumption

- Addresses the growing power requirements of data centres and computing devices.

Sustainable Computing

- Contributes to environmentally sustainable digital technologies.

Improved Device Performance

- Reduces heat generation, improving reliability and lifespan.

Future Technologies

- Supports advancements in quantum computing and neuromorphic computing.

CHALLENGES

- Complex fabrication of phononic devices.
- Efficient control and manipulation of sound waves at the nanoscale.
- Integration with existing semiconductor technologies.
- Commercial scalability.

WAY FORWARD

- Increase investment in phononics research.
- Develop hybrid electronic-phononic devices.
- Strengthen collaboration between academia and industry.
- Promote indigenous semiconductor and advanced materials research.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Carrier of Information:** Phonons (sound waves).
- **Objective:** Reduce energy consumption in computing.
- **Key Benefit:** Lower heat generation than conventional electronics.
- **Potential Applications:** AI, quantum computing, nanoelectronics, and communication technologies.
- **Emerging Field:** Phononics.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Phonon**
 - A. Quantum of lattice vibration or sound energy in a solid.
- II. **Photon**

A. Quantum of electromagnetic radiation (light).

III. **Electron**

A. Negatively charged subatomic particles responsible for electric current.

IV. **Phononics**

A. Branch of science dealing with the generation, transmission, and control of phonons for information processing and thermal management.

V. **Key Advantage of Phononic Computing**

A. Lower energy consumption and reduced heat generation compared to conventional electronic computing.

VI. **Potential Uses**

- A. Low-power processors.
- B. Quantum computing.
- C. AI hardware.
- D. Nanoelectronics.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. A phonon is the quantum of lattice vibrations in a solid.
2. Phononic computing seeks to use sound waves for information processing.
3. One of the major advantages of phononic computing is reduced energy consumption and heat generation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

4.24 INDIAN SEAFARERS BROUGHT TO SAFETY THROUGH COORDINATED EFFORTS OF INDIAN COAST GUARD AND OMANI AUTHORITIES FOLLOWING ATTACK ON MERCHANT VESSEL NEAR OMAN



Key Highlights

- I. 24 Indian seafarers were safely rescued after an attack on a merchant vessel near Oman.
- II. The rescue was coordinated by:
 - A. Indian Coast Guard.
 - B. Omani maritime authorities.
- III. Demonstrates effective international maritime cooperation.
- IV. Reinforces India's role as a **net security provider** in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

ABOUT THE INDIAN COAST GUARD (ICG)

Indian Coast Guard

Established

- 1 February 1977

Legal Basis

- Coast Guard Act, 1978

Ministry

- Ministry of Defence.

Motto

- "Vayam Rakshamah" (We Protect).

Headquarters

- New Delhi.

FUNCTIONS OF THE INDIAN COAST GUARD

- Maritime search and rescue (SAR).
- Maritime law enforcement.
- Protection of India's maritime zones.
- Anti-smuggling and anti-piracy operations.
- Marine environmental protection.
- Assistance to fishermen in distress.
- Coastal security coordination.

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR)

What is SAR?

- Search and Rescue (SAR) refers to coordinated operations aimed at locating and assisting persons in distress at sea.

India's SAR Framework

- Coordinated by the Indian Coast Guard.
- Covers India's designated Search and Rescue Region (SRR) under international maritime agreements.

SIGNIFICANCE

Safety of Seafarers

- Ensures timely rescue of Indian citizens working in international shipping.

Maritime Security

- Strengthens surveillance and response capabilities in the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean Region.

Regional Cooperation

- Demonstrates effective collaboration between India and Oman.

Blue Economy

- Safe sea lanes are essential for trade, fisheries, and maritime commerce.

CHALLENGES

- Rising maritime security threats.
- Piracy and armed attacks on merchant vessels.

- Vast maritime areas requiring constant surveillance.
- Need for enhanced international coordination.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen maritime domain awareness.
- Enhance cooperation with Indian Ocean littoral countries.
- Modernize Coast Guard assets and surveillance systems.
- Improve emergency response mechanisms for merchant shipping.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Rescued:** 24 Indian seafarers.
- **Location:** Near the coast of Oman.
- **Lead Agency:** Indian Coast Guard.
- **Partner:** Omani authorities.
- **Legal Framework:** Coast Guard Act, 1978.
- **Role:** Maritime security and search & rescue.
- **Significance:** Regional maritime cooperation and protection of Indian nationals.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)**
 - A. Established: **1 February 1977**.
 - B. Statutory basis: **Coast Guard Act, 1978**.
 - C. Ministry: **Ministry of Defence**.
 - D. Motto: "**Vayam Rakshamah**" (**We Protect**).
- II. **Search and Rescue (SAR)**

- A. Coordinated operations to assist persons in distress at sea.
 - B. India has a designated **Search and Rescue Region (SRR)** under the **International Maritime Organization** framework.
- III. **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**
- A. Strategically important for global trade and energy transportation.
 - B. India plays the role of a **Net Security Provider** in the region.
- IV. **Blue Economy**
- A. Sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, livelihoods, and marine ecosystem health.

5. APEDA FACILITATES FIRST EXPORT OF GI-TAGGED TEZPUR LITCHI FROM ASSAM TO DUBAI



PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Coast Guard functions under the Ministry of Defence.
2. The Indian Coast Guard derives its statutory powers from the Coast Guard Act, 1978.
3. One of the primary functions of the Indian Coast Guard is conducting Search and Rescue (SAR) operations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Key Highlights

- First export of **GI-tagged Tezpur Litchi** from Assam to Dubai.
- Facilitated by APEDA.
- Marks a significant milestone in promoting agricultural exports from the North Eastern Region.
- Strengthens India's exports of Geographical Indication (GI) products.

ABOUT TEZPUR LITCHI

Tezpur Litchi

Region

- Cultivated mainly in the **Assam**, particularly around **Tezpur**.

Characteristics

- Distinctive aroma and sweetness.
- Juicy pulp with high quality.
- Well-suited for premium export markets.

GI Tag

- Registered as a **Geographical Indication (GI)** under the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**.

ABOUT APEDA

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

Established

- 1986

Established Under

- **APEDA Act, 1985**

Ministry

- Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Functions

- Promotion of agricultural and processed food exports.
- Export infrastructure development.
- Quality certification and standards.
- Branding and market development.
- Capacity building for exporters.

WHAT IS A GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION (GI)?

A **Geographical Indication (GI)** is an intellectual property right that identifies a product as originating from a specific geographical region where its quality, reputation, or characteristics are essentially attributable to that location.

Benefits

- Protects traditional products.
- Prevents unauthorized use.
- Enhances export potential.
- Promotes rural livelihoods.

SIGNIFICANCE

Boost to Farmers' Income

- Provides access to premium international markets.

Promotion of GI Products

- Enhances global recognition of unique regional products.

North East Development

- Encourages export-led agricultural growth in the North Eastern Region.

Export Diversification

- Expands India's horticultural export basket.

Brand India

- Strengthens India's reputation for high-quality agricultural products.

CHALLENGES

- Maintaining export-quality standards.
- Cold-chain and logistics infrastructure.
- Compliance with international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures.
- Limited awareness among small farmers regarding export procedures.

WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen export-oriented horticulture clusters.
- Improve cold storage and logistics infrastructure.
- Promote branding of GI products in global markets.
- Enhance farmer training on quality standards and export compliance.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Product:** GI-tagged Tezpur Litchi.
- **Origin:** Assam.
- **Destination:** Dubai, UAE.
- **Facilitating Agency:** APEDA.
- **Legal Protection:** GI Act, 1999.
- **Objective:** Promote agricultural exports and improve farmer incomes.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- I. **APEDA**
 - A. Established: **1986**.
 - B. Established under the **APEDA Act, 1985**.

- C. Ministry: **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.

- II. **Geographical Indication (GI)**

- A. Protected under the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**.

- B. India became compliant with GI protection under the **World Trade Organization TRIPS Agreement**.

- III. **Tezpur Litchi**

- A. GI-tagged horticultural product of Assam.
- B. Known for its sweetness, aroma, and premium quality.

- IV. **Importance of GI Tags**

- A. Protect traditional products.
- B. Promote exports.
- C. Support rural livelihoods.
- D. Preserve cultural heritage.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. APEDA was established under the APEDA Act, 1985.
2. Geographical Indications in India are governed by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
3. Tezpur Litchi is a GI-tagged horticultural product from Assam.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

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