

Welfare (2)

• World Zoonoses Day: India's 'One Health' approach

Body: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (One Health mission)

Detail: 'One Health' links human, animal and environmental health to pre-empt zoonotic spillovers (rabies, avian flu, Nipah); World Zoonoses Day marks Pasteur's first rabies vaccine (6 July 1885)

Exam hook: Zoonoses = animal-to-human diseases; One Health = integrated surveillance; World Zoonoses Day 6 July

• Focus on Non-Communicable Diseases and the 'metabolic nexus'

Body: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Detail: NCDs (diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, fatty liver, cancer) now cause the majority of deaths in India; driven by lifestyle/metabolic risk; tackled via NP-NCD screening and Ayushman Arogya Mandirs

Exam hook: NCDs = non-infectious lifestyle diseases; ~60%+ of Indian deaths; 'metabolic nexus' links obesity–diabetes–fatty liver

Defence (8)

• BRO advances Project BRAHMANK for strategic border connectivity

Body: Border Roads Organisation (BRO), under Ministry of Defence

Detail: BRO builds and maintains roads in border/high-altitude areas; works via projects (e.g. Himank, Vartak, Beacon); ensures rapid military mobility along the LAC/LoC and connects remote frontier villages

Exam hook: BRO = under MoD (not Surface Transport); motto 'Shramena Sarvam Sadhyam'; key to Sela Tunnel, Atal Tunnel logistics

• DRDO gets enhanced Delegation of Financial Powers (DFP-2026)

Body: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), under MoD

Detail: Reform raises financial powers of DRDO project directors/lab directors to speed up R&D and indigenous defence tech; DRDO is India's premier military R&D agency (est. 1958, HQ New Delhi)

Exam hook: DRDO develops Agni/Prithvi missiles, Tejas systems, Akash, Pinaka; Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence R&D

• New Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) takes over

Body: Indian Army

Detail: The COAS is the professional head of the Army (a four-star General); the Army is organised into 7 operational commands (+ Army Training Command, ARTRAC, Shimla); India also has a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) heading the Dept of Military Affairs

Exam hook: 7 Army commands; Eastern & Western the operational heavies; CDS ≠ COAS; Field Marshal is ceremonial 5-star (Manekshaw, Cariappa)

• Indian Air Force structure and Vice Chief role decoded

Body: Indian Air Force (IAF)

Detail: IAF headed by Chief of the Air Staff (Air Chief Marshal); organised into 7 commands (5 operational + Training + Maintenance); frontline jets Rafale, Su-30MKI, Tejas; motto 'Nabha Sparsham Deeptam'

Exam hook: IAF ranks Air Chief Marshal → Air Marshal → Air Vice Marshal; Western Air Command (Delhi) largest; only 5-star = Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh

• INS Trikand foils piracy attempt in the Gulf of Aden

Body: Indian Navy

Detail: Frigate INS Trikand (Talwar-class), on anti-piracy patrol, thwarted a merchant-vessel hijack; India is a 'net security provider' in the Indian Ocean Region; Gulf of Aden links the Red Sea (Suez) to the Arabian Sea

Exam hook: Gulf of Aden choke-point near Bab-el-Mandeb; Indian Navy anti-piracy escort since 2008; INS Trikand = Talwar-class (Russian-origin) frigate

• Defence Acquisition Council clears ~Rs 52,000 crore of deals

Body: Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by the Defence Minister

Detail: DAC granted Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for major buys; it is the apex body for capital defence procurement under DAP-2020; most under 'Buy (Indian-IDDMM)' to boost indigenisation

Exam hook: DAC chair = Raksha Mantri; AoN = first procurement step; DAP-2020 prioritises Indian-Designed-Developed-Manufactured (IDDMM)

• Indian Navy twin voyages: Singapore port call & INS Sudarshini in New York

Body: Indian Navy

Detail: Mission-based deployments and sail-training ship INS Sudarshini's goodwill visits project maritime diplomacy and 'bridges of friendship'; part of SAGAR / MAHASAGAR vision for the IOR

Exam hook: Naval diplomacy = soft power; SAGAR = Security & Growth for All in the Region; INS Sudarshini = sail-training ship (Kochi)

• 65,000 ordnance staff redeployed after OFB split into 7 DPSUs

Body: Ministry of Defence

Detail: The erstwhile Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) was corporatised (2021) into 7 Defence PSUs (e.g. Munitions India, Advanced Weapons & Equipment India, Yantra India) to boost efficiency, accountability and exports

Exam hook: OFB → 7 DPSUs in 2021; aim = corporate autonomy + defence exports; India targets Rs 50,000 cr defence exports

Sci/Tech (4)

• Space-weather alert: CMEs, geomagnetic storms and Aditya-L1's role

Body: ISRO / Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA)

Detail: Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) and solar flares hurl charged particles that trigger geomagnetic storms, auroras and satellite/grid disruption; India's Aditya-L1 studies the Sun from the L1 Lagrange point

Exam hook: Aditya-L1 = India's 1st solar mission, at Sun-Earth L1 (~1.5 million km); CME ≠ solar flare; L1 gives uninterrupted solar view

• GAGAN: India's satellite-based navigation augmentation in focus

Body: ISRO + Airports Authority of India (AAI)

Detail: GAGAN (GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation) is India's SBAS that improves GPS accuracy/integrity for aviation; distinct from NavIC (India's own regional navigation constellation, IRNSS)

Exam hook: GAGAN = SBAS (first for equatorial region); NavIC = 7-satellite regional system (~1,500 km beyond borders); both aid civil aviation & positioning

• ARCI 3D-prints crack-free bi-metallic superalloy part

Body: ARCI Hyderabad, under Dept of Science & Technology (DST)

Detail: Laser powder-bed fusion joined stainless steel (SS316L) to a nickel superalloy (Inconel IN718) crack-free, cutting superalloy imports; superalloys hold strength at extreme heat (jet engines, turbines)

Exam hook: Additive manufacturing = layer-by-layer (opposite of machining); superalloys resist 'creep' at high temperature; ARCI under DST

• OSAT chip facility at Sanand advances Semiconductor Mission

Body: India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), MeitY

Detail: OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly & Test) / ATMP plants at Sanand (Gujarat) package and test chips; part of building an end-to-end chip ecosystem; complements fabs

Exam hook: OSAT/ATMP = assembly-test-marking-packaging (back-end); ISM under MeitY; Gujarat & Assam key semiconductor hubs