



Sanskriti IAS



DAILY
CURRENT AFFAIRS

Important Current News for UPSC & UPPSC

12th Jan 2026

TOPICS:-

- 1. ABhairav Battalions – India's New Modern Warfare Force**
- 2. International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)**
- 3. Pradhan Mantri-Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY)**
- 4. Hatti Tribe**
- 5. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB)**
- 6. Ethylene Glycol (EG)**
- 7. Other Important News of the day**
- 8. Uttar Pradesh Related News**

DELHI CENTRE:
636, Mukherjee Nagar
New Delhi-110009

PRAYAGRAJ CENTRE:
1/1/8A, Stanley Rd,
Maharana Pratap Chauraha,
Civil Lines, Prayagraj, UP - 211002

9555-124-124
sanskritiias.com

BHAIRAV BATTALIONS – INDIA’S NEW MODERN WARFARE FORCE

Why in News

- Bhairav Battalions, the Army’s newly raised modern warfare units, will participate for the first time in the Army Day Parade on 15 January in Jaipur.
- Two battalions participating:
 - **2 Bhairav Battalion** (Southern Command) – *“Desert Falcons”*
 - ◆ War cry: **“Raja Ramchandra ki Jai”**
 - **4 Bhairav Battalion** (South Western Command)

THE HINDU

Bhairav Battalions to make Army Day Parade debut in Jaipur on January 15

The Army's newly raised modern warfare force, the Bhairav Battalions, will participate in the Army Day Parade for the first time in Jaipur...



Background & Rationale

- Raised by **Army Headquarters** after:
 - Studying **global conflicts**
 - Learning from **India’s operational experience**, including **Operation Sindoor**.
- Designed in response to:
 - **Hybrid warfare**
 - **Rapid technological change**
 - Growing importance of **unmanned systems**.

Scale & Deployment

- **15 Bhairav Battalions** already raised
- Deployed across **border formations**
- **Plan:** Raise **~25 battalions** in total in the near future

Role in Army Restructuring

- Part of broader **force transformation** aligned with:
 - New technologies
 - Evolving military doctrines
 - Emerging operational requirements.
- Each battalion has around **250 personnel** from infantry, artillery, signals, and air defence.

Key Features of Bhairav Battalions

- **High-speed, offensive formations**
- Capable of executing **Special Forces-type tasks**
- Operate across:
 - Tactical
 - Operational depth
- Intended to **bridge the gap** between:
 - Para Special Forces
 - Regular Infantry units

Focus on Unmanned & Drone Warfare

- Army creating a pool of **over 1 lakh drone operatives**
- Capabilities include:
 - Handling multiple drone platforms
 - Conducting **real combat operations**
 - Targeting **enemy bases and formations inside hostile territory**
- Reflects shift towards: **Precision strikes; Stand-off warfare; Reduced troop exposure**



INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY (IRENA)

News On AIR

IRENA assembly ends with call for faster renewable transition

The sixteenth session of the International Renewable Energy Agency Assembly concluded on January 12th, following three days of deliberations...



Why in News

- India delivered its **national statement** at the **16th IRENA Assembly** held in **Abu Dhabi**.

About IRENA

- An **intergovernmental organisation** established in **2009** to promote global **renewable energy transition**.

Key Functions

- Acts as the **principal global platform** for cooperation on renewable energy policies and technologies.
- Serves as a **knowledge hub** for renewable energy finance, resources, and capacity-building.

Membership & Governance

- Has **171 members**, including **170 countries and the European Union**.
- **India is a founder member**, actively contributing to global clean energy governance.
- **Assembly** is the supreme decision-making body with **one representative per member**.
- **Council** has **21 rotating members**, ensuring equitable regional representation.

Important Facts

- **Headquarters: Abu Dhabi**, United Arab Emirates.
- Recognised as an **official observer organisation of the United Nations**.

PRADHAN MANTRI-RASHTRIYA KRISHI VIKAS YOJANA (PM-RKVY)

The Indian Express

Govt to merge agricultural schemes, link funds to state reforms

The schemes that will be brought under Krishi Vikas Yojana are: Krishonnati Yojana to boost farmers' income, National Mission on Natural...



Why in News

- The Union Agriculture Ministry proposed **merging three schemes** into **PM-RKVY**.
- The schemes that will be brought under Krishi Vikas Yojana are: **Krishonnati Yojana to boost farmers' income**, **National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)**, and **National Bee and Honey Mission (NBHM)**.

What it is

- A Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**.

Objectives

- Accelerate **agricultural growth** and improve **farmers' income levels**.
- Encourage **public investment** in agriculture and allied sectors.

Key Features

- Follows a **state-led and decentralized planning approach**.
- Promotes **crop diversification, horticulture, livestock, fisheries, and organic farming**.
- Strengthens **post-harvest infrastructure** to reduce agricultural losses.

Funding Pattern

- **General States:** 60% Centre and 40% State contribution.
- **NE & Hilly States:** 90% Centre and 10% State contribution.
- **Union Territories:** Fully funded by the Centre.

HATTI TRIBE

Hindustan Times
https://www.hindustantimes.com › india news

Month long Hati's tribal festival 'Boda Tyohar' commenced ...
4 days ago — The month-long festival "Boda Tyohar", which commenced on Friday is also called "Magho ko Tyohar". The festival is a part of the primitive ... [Read more](#)

Why in News

- The **Boda Tyohar** festival was celebrated with traditional **ferveur in Himachal Pradesh**.

Location & Identity

- Reside along the **Himachal–Uttarakhand border**, in **Giri and Tons river basins**.

Social & Cultural Features

- Named after traditional markets called **Haat**.
- Practice **polyandry (Jodidara)**, legally recognised in Himachal Pradesh.
- Governed by a traditional council known as **Khumbli**.



Status

- Granted **Scheduled Tribe status in 2023** in Himachal Pradesh.

CENTRAL GROUND WATER BOARD (CGWB)

Why in News

- CGWB's 2025 report flagged **Andhra Pradesh** for widespread groundwater contamination.



About CGWB

- A **national apex scientific body** under the **Ministry of Jal Shakti**.

Key Functions

- Responsible for **groundwater assessment, monitoring, regulation, and sustainable management**.

Important Facts

- Established in **1970**; headquarters at **Bhujal Bhawan, Faridabad**.
- Implements **National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM)**.

ETHYLENE GLYCOL (EG)

Why in News

- **Toxic contamination** detected in paediatric cough syrup.



About

- Chemical formula **C₂H₆O₂**.
- **Colourless, odourless, sweet-tasting liquid** used in **antifreeze and de-icing solutions**.
- Has **low freezing point** and **high boiling point**, making it industrially useful.
- **Highly toxic if ingested**, especially dangerous for **children**.

Production

- Produced by **hydration of ethylene oxide**.

Uses

- Used in **antifreeze, coolants, polyester, solvents, resins**.

Major Health Impacts

- Brain & Nervous System
 - Causes **seizures, coma, cerebral oedema**, possible **permanent brain damage**.
- Heart & Lungs
 - Leads to **arrhythmias, heart failure, pulmonary oedema**, respiratory distress.

- Kidneys
 - Oxalate crystals damage renal tubules causing **oliguria, anuria, renal failure.**
- Systemic Effects
 - Results in **hypocalcaemia, muscle spasms, shock, multi-organ failure.**

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

Places in News

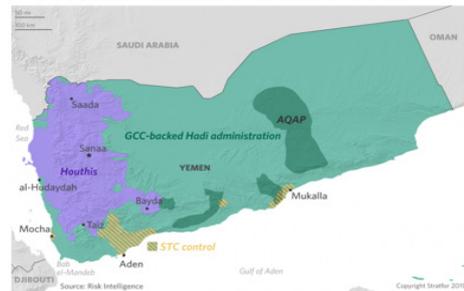
SOUTHERN TRANSITIONAL COUNCIL (STC) & “STATE OF SOUTH ARABIA”

Why in News

- **Southern Transitional Council (STC)** announced a **new Constitution** for the proposed **“State of South Arabia”**.

Civil War Upon A Civil War

The secessionist Southern Transitional Council now holds strong influence over important cities in Yemen's south, moving it toward its long-term goal of an independent South Yemen.



Political Background

WHAT IS SOUTHERN TRANSITIONAL COUNCIL (STC)

- A **secessionist political-military group** seeking **independence of southern Yemen.**
- Aims to revive **former South Yemen** as a **sovereign state named South Arabia.**

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

- Located at the **south-western tip of the Arabian Peninsula** in the **Middle East.**
- Lies at the crossroads of **West Asia, Africa, and Indian Ocean region.**

BORDERING COUNTRIES

- **Saudi Arabia** lies to the **north.**
- **Oman** lies to the **east.**

BORDERING WATER BODIES

- **Red Sea** to the **west.**
- **Gulf of Aden** to the **south.**
- **Arabian Sea** to the **southeast.**

BAB EL MANDEB



Strategic Importance

BAB EL-MANDEB STRAIT

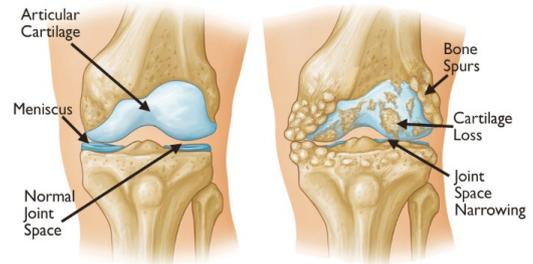
- Controls access to **Bab el-Mandeb**, linking **Red Sea and Gulf of Aden**.
- One of the **world's most critical maritime chokepoints** for global energy trade.
- Vital for **India–Europe shipping routes** and **global oil transportation**.

Science & Technology

OSTEOARTHRITIS (OA)

Why in News

- Scientists identified protein **15-PGDH** linked to age-related cartilage degeneration.



What it is

- The **most common form of arthritis**, commonly called **wear-and-tear arthritis**.

Causes

- Caused by **progressive breakdown of joint cartilage**, reducing shock absorption.

Affected Joints

- Commonly affects **knees, hips, spine, fingers, and weight-bearing joints**.

Symptoms & Treatment

- Symptoms include **joint pain, stiffness after rest, and reduced mobility**.
- No permanent cure; treatment focuses on **pain relief and functional management**.

Environments

NELAPATTU BIRD SANCTUARY

Why in News

- The **Flamingo Festival** recently attracted visitors to the sanctuary near **Sullurpeta**.



Location

- Situated in **Andhra Pradesh**, close to the ecologically important **Pulicat Lake**.

Ecological Importance

- Pulicat Lake is the **second-largest brackish water lake in India**.
- One of India’s **key breeding sites for the Spot-billed Pelican**.

Flora & Fauna

- Dominated by **Barringtonia swamp forests** and dry evergreen scrub vegetation.
- Supports birds like **Black-headed ibis, Asian openbill, night heron, and cormorant**.

Key Fact

- Declared a bird sanctuary in **1976**.

Miscellaneous

‘KHUTBAT-E-MODI: FROM THE RAMPARTS OF THE RED FORT’

Why in News

- Book **‘Khutbat-e-Modi’** launched by Union Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan**.



About the Book

- Compilation of **Independence Day speeches of Narendra Modi**.
- Covers addresses delivered from **Red Fort between 2014–2025**.

Language & Objective

- Published in **Urdu** to promote **linguistic inclusion**.
- Reflects vision of **New India** and inclusive governance.

Key Themes

- Focus on **Antyodaya, Swachh Bharat Mission, governance reforms**.
- Emphasises **social justice, development, and public accountability**.

UTTAR PRADESH RELATED NEWS

Ashok Leyland EV Manufacturing Plant, Lucknow

ET The Economic Times

Ashok Leyland's Lucknow EV plant marks UP's industrial turnaround: Rajnath Singh

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated Ashok Leyland's new electric vehicle manufacturing unit in Lucknow. This facility marks a...



Why in News

- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated **Ashok Leyland EV manufacturing plant in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.**

What is the Project

- India's **first dedicated electric bus (e-Bus) manufacturing plant** by Ashok Leyland.
- Focuses exclusively on **electric mobility solutions** for public transportation.



Location

- Established in **Lucknow**, strengthening **industrial infrastructure of Uttar Pradesh.**
- Reinforces **Uttar Pradesh** as an emerging **EV manufacturing hub.**

Investment

- Developed with an investment of **approximately ₹1,000 crore**, indicating strong private-sector confidence.
- Reflects **long-term industrial commitment** towards clean mobility technologies.

Production Capacity

- Initial capacity of **2,500 electric vehicles annually.**
- Expandable up to **5,000 EV units per year** based on demand growth.

Type of Vehicles

- Manufacturing **electric buses (e-Buses)** for public transport systems.
- Supports **urban mass mobility transition** from fossil fuels to electricity.

Employment Generation

- Expected to generate **direct and indirect employment opportunities.**
- Boosts **ancillary industries, services, and local skill ecosystem.**

Electric Mobility and Climate Goals

- Contributes to **clean mobility transition** and **net-zero emission targets**.
- Reduces **dependence on petroleum-based transportation systems**.

Alignment with National Initiatives

- Supports **Make in India** by strengthening domestic manufacturing capacity.
- Reinforces **Atmanirbhar Bharat** through indigenous EV production ecosystem.
- Strengthens **India's position in electric vehicle manufacturing**.
- Accelerates **sustainable economic development** and **green industrialisation**.
- Positions **Uttar Pradesh** as a **key EV investment destination**.