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Important Current News for UPSC & UPPSC


25th May 2026

TOPICS:-

- 1. Machkund Hydroelectric Project**
- 2. BHAVYA Scheme**
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MACHKUND HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

III The Hindu

Fire breaks out at Machkund Hydroelectric Project on A.P.-Odisha border

Fire at Machkund Hydroelectric Project prompts evacuation; four employees rescued as smoke engulfs facility amid technical malfunction.

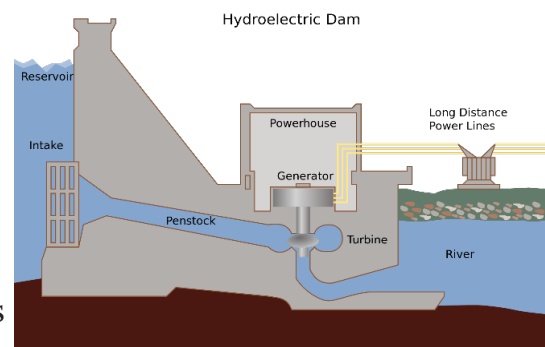


Why in News

- A major fire recently broke out at the **Machkund Hydroelectric Project** located on the **Odisha–Andhra Pradesh border**.

Geographical Significance

- The project is situated in **Koraput district of Odisha** near the **Duduma Falls** in the **Eastern Ghats**.
- It is built on the **Machkund River**, which is a tributary of the **Godavari River system**.
- The project is supported by the **Jalaput Dam** and its associated **reservoir system**.



Historical Background

- The project was originally proposed by **Maharaja Vikram Dev Varma of Jeypore** during the **1920s**.
- Construction of the project began in **1948**, and commercial operations started in **1955**.
- It was inaugurated by **Dr. Rajendra Prasad**, the **first President of India**.

Inter-State Governance Dimensions

- The project is a joint venture of the governments of **Odisha** and **Andhra Pradesh**.
- Initially, power sharing followed a **70:30 ratio** between **Andhra Pradesh** and **Odisha** respectively.
- The arrangement was later revised to an equal **50:50 sharing formula** between both states.
- The **installed hydropower generation** capacity of the project is **120 MW**.

BHAVYA SCHEME

BS Business Standard

Centre launches Bhavya scheme to set up 100 industrial parks across country



According to the minister, the Centre expects states to provide a favourable environment to encourage industrial development.

Why in News

- The Union Government recently released guidelines for the **BHAVYA (Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna) Scheme**.

Industrial Development Focus

- **BHAVYA** is a **Central Sector Scheme** aimed at developing world-class industrial parks across India.
- The scheme seeks to create investment-ready industrial ecosystems with **plug-and-play infrastructure**.
- It supports integrated manufacturing zones with **multimodal logistics connectivity** and reliable utilities.
- The scheme aligns with the objectives of **Make in India** and **PM Gati Shakti** initiatives.

Implementation Framework

- The scheme will be implemented through **Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs)** incorporated under the **Companies Act, 2013**.
- It provides support for both **greenfield** and eligible **brown-field industrial parks**.
- The implementation period is fixed from **2026–27 to 2031–32**.

Regional and Economic Relevance

- The scheme targets the development of **100 industrial parks** across the country.
- Minimum land requirement is **100 acres** for non-hilly states.
- For **Northeastern States, Union Territories, hilly states, and smaller states**, the minimum land requirement is **25 acres**.
- The **“plug-and-play”** model ensures ready-to-use sites with utilities, land access, and approvals already available.



RUMEN FLUKE DISEASE



Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep (SCOPS)
<https://www.scops.org.uk> › internal-parasites › liver-fluke



Rumen fluke

Rumen fluke and liver fluke parasites have a very similar lifecycle involving the same mud snail. The main difference is that, once ingested by livestock, ... [Read more](#)

Why in News

- Around 70 cattle recently died in **Kendrapada district of Odisha** due to **rumen fluke infection** locally called “**Kurmi**”.

Biological Characteristics

- Rumen flukes are **parasitic worms** that infect **ruminant animals** worldwide.
- The adult parasites inhabit the **rumen or stomach**, while larval stages occur in the **small intestine**.
- The parasite uses **snails** as its **intermediate host**.
- The disease caused by the parasite is known as **paramphistomosis**.

Transmission and Symptoms

- Infection spreads through contaminated water or vegetation carrying **larval** stages.
- Major symptoms include severe **diarrhoea**, rapid weight loss, and swelling below the jaw called “**bottle jaw**”.
- Infected cattle often show **reduced milk yield** and **loss of body mass** despite normal feeding.

Veterinary and Economic Relevance

- The disease is common in **tropical and subtropical** countries due to favourable climatic conditions.
- **Intestinal damage** caused by massive **larval infestation** is the main cause of mortality.
- Treatment involves **anthelmintic medicines**, which are drugs used to eliminate parasitic worms.
- Proper pasture **management and grazing control** are essential preventive measures.

ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK (AIIB)

Why in News

- The **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)**

 Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

[AIIB Launches Energy, Food Security and Economic Resilience Facility](#)

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) today launched an Energy, Food Security and Economic Resilience Facility to support members...



recently launched a **\$10 billion fund facility** for countries affected by the **Middle East conflict**.

Institutional Framework

- AIIB is a multilateral development bank established in **2016**.
- Its headquarters is located in **Beijing, China**.
- The bank focuses on sustainable infrastructure development and regional connectivity.
- AIIB currently has **111 approved members** worldwide.

India's Role and Strategic Relevance

- India is a **Founding Member** of AIIB.
- India is the **second-largest shareholder** in the institution after China.
- AIIB financing supports infrastructure, energy, transport, and urban development projects in India.

Governance Structure

- The institution is governed by a **Board of Governors** consisting of representatives from member nations.
- A non-resident **Board of Directors** supervises strategy, policy, and budget matters.
- The bank's President is elected for a **five-year term** and can be re-elected once.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (PAC)

TH The Hindu

[Reconstituted PAC meets; BJP objects to panel taking up issues suo motu](#)

The reconstituted Public Accounts Committee (PAC) convened on Friday (May 22, 2026), during which BJP members objected to PAC chairperson...



Why in News

- The reconstituted **Public Accounts Committee (PAC)** recently convened to examine selected subjects.

Constitutional and Parliamentary Relevance

- PAC is the oldest parliamentary committee in India and was established in **1921**.
- It is one of the key instruments of **parliamentary financial control** over the executive.
- The committee examines audit reports prepared by the **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)**.

Composition and Structure

- PAC consists of **22 members**, including **15 from Lok Sabha** and **7 from Rajya Sabha**.

- Ministers are not allowed to become members of the committee.
- The Chairperson is appointed by the **Speaker of Lok Sabha**.
- By convention, the Chairperson belongs to the **Opposition party** since 1967–68.

Functions and Accountability Mechanism

- PAC ensures that money sanctioned by **Parliament** is spent legally and efficiently.
- It investigates cases involving **financial irregularities** and wastage of public funds.
- The committee strengthens transparency and accountability in public expenditure.
- PAC is constituted annually, and members serve a **one-year term**.

IDU MISHMI TRIBE

Why in News

 Down To Earth

[The Idu Mishmi of Arunachal have a unique cosmology rooted in conservation. What happens when it shifts?](#)

Explore how the Idu Mishmi of Arunachal Pradesh weave conservation into cosmology, from sacred forests and hunting taboos to festivals and...



- The **Idu Mishmi tribe** of Arunachal Pradesh was recently highlighted for its conservation-oriented cosmology.

Geographical and Cultural Identity

- The tribe primarily inhabits the **Dibang Valley, Lower Dibang, and Lohit districts** of Arunachal Pradesh.
- They reside mainly in the **Mishmi Hills** near the Tibet border.
- The tribe is recognised for its unique artistic clothing patterns and hairstyles.
- Their language, **Idu Mishmi**, is listed as endangered by **UNESCO**.

Ecological and Conservation Dimensions

- Traditionally, the tribe follows an **animistic belief system** closely linked with nature conservation.
- Tigers are considered **“elder brothers”** in Idu mythology due to shared ancestral beliefs.
- The belief system called **Iyu-ena** prohibits hunting of many animals, especially tigers.
- The tribe’s traditional ecological ethics contribute to biodiversity conservation in Arunachal Pradesh.

Social and Economic Features

- The tribe is known for weaving and craftsmanship traditions.
- Their society is **patriarchal and patrilineal**, with property inherited by sons.
- Major festivals include **Reh** and **Ke-Meh-Ha** festivals.
- They prepare a traditional rice beer known as **Ebu**.

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

**Places in
News**

GURINDERVIR SINGH'S 100 METRES NATIONAL RECORD

 Newsonair

[Gurindervir Singh wins men's 100 metre Gold with new national record at Federation Cup](#)

Gurindervir Singh has clinched the gold medal in the men's 100m event at the 2026 Athletics Federation Cup, with a new national record...



Why in News

- **Gurindervir Singh** set the Indian men's **100 metres national record** with a timing of **10.09 seconds** at the **Federation Cup Athletics Championships** in Ranchi on **23 May 2026**.

Competition Highlights

- Gurindervir Singh won the **gold medal** in the final.
- Animesh Kujur secured silver with **10.20 seconds**.
- **Pranav Pramod** of **Reliance Foundation** won bronze with **10.29 seconds**.
- The Federation Cup is a major senior-level athletics competition used for national rankings and qualification standards.

Athlete Profile and Significance

- He is a **25-year-old athlete from Punjab** and serves in the **Indian Navy**.
- He also holds India's national records in the **60 metres** and **4×100 metres relay**.
- His timing qualified him for the **2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow** and the **Asian Games**.
- The **100 metres sprint** is a core athletics event in the **Olympics, Commonwealth Games, and Asian Games**.

**Science and
Technology**

PYRITE

Why in News

- Scientists recently discovered a **rare sunflower-shaped** form of **pyrite** inside lignite coal reserves in **Gujarat**.

Mineralogical Features

- Pyrite is a naturally occurring **iron disulfide mineral** with chemical formula **FeS₂**.
- It is the most common sulfide mineral and possesses a brass-yellow metallic lustre.
- The name originates from the Greek word “**pyr**”, meaning fire, because it emits sparks when struck.
- Pyrite is commonly known as “**Fool’s Gold**” because of its resemblance to gold.



Geological Distribution

- Pyrite occurs in **igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks** as well as hydrothermal deposits.
- It commonly forms in **oxygen-poor sedimentary** environments such as coal beds and black shales.
- **Oxidised pyrite** zones near the surface are called **gossans**, which appear rust coloured.
- Flattened fossil-like structures formed by pyrite replacement are called **pyrite dollars**.

Economic Importance

- Pyrite is an important source of **iron and sulfur** for industrial use.
- It is used in the production of **sulfuric acid** and **iron sulfate**.
- Iron sulfate derived from pyrite is used in water treatment, fertilizers, nutritional supplements, and treatment of **iron-deficiency anaemia**.
- Some pyrite deposits contain microscopic gold, making them economically viable as gold ores.

Global Production Trends

- **Italy** and **China** are currently among the world’s largest producers of pyrite.
- Historically, **Spain** was the leading producer of pyrite globally.

Defence

ORESHNIK MISSILE

Why in News

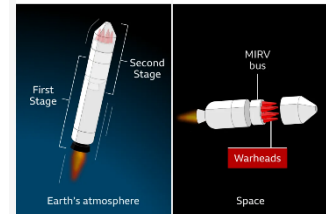
- Russia recently used the **Oreshnik hypersonic ballistic missile** during attacks on Kyiv.

Strategic Features

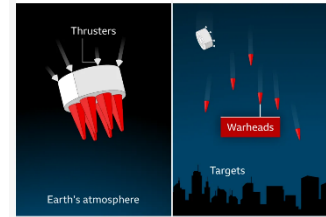
- Oreshnik is a Russian-made **intermediate-range hypersonic ballistic missile**.
- It is based on the **RS-26 Rubezh** missile platform.
- The missile can carry both **nuclear and conventional warheads**.
- It was first reportedly used against **Dnipro, Ukraine, in November 2024**.

How Russia's Oreshnik is believed to work

- ➊ Oreshnik uses rocket engines to accelerate to Earth's upper atmosphere before dropping its burnt out first stage rockets
- ➋ Multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle (MIRV) bus carrying six warheads released from second stage and travels through space to target area



- ➌ MIRV bus uses thrusters to position itself and direct each warhead to specific target
- ➍ MIRV bus releases six warheads that can be independently targeted before dropping to Earth itself



Source: Reuters

Technical Specifications

- The missile has a reported range of around **5,000 km**.
- It travels at nearly **Mach 10**, making interception extremely difficult.
- It carries **MIRVs (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicles)** for striking multiple targets simultaneously.
- It is deployed through a **mobile transporter launcher** for rapid movement and concealment.

Global Security Relevance

- Its range enables strikes across **Europe** and parts of **North America**.
- Hypersonic missile technology has intensified strategic competition among major powers.
- **MIRV capability** complicates existing **missile defence systems** and nuclear deterrence strategies.

UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS

UTTAR PRADESH DEFENCE AND FDI CONCLAVE 2026

Hindustan Times

[Uttar Pradesh plans Defence and FDI Conclave 2026 to boost aerospace hub vision | Hindustan Times](#)



The proposed conclave will be held in Lucknow and will special focus on setting up defence industries, attracting investments, and promoting...

Why in News

- Uttar Pradesh will organise the **Defence and FDI Conclave 2026** in **Lucknow** to promote the state as a major defence and aerospace manufacturing hub.

Defence Corridor Focus

- The conclave will promote investments in the **Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC)**.
- UPDIC nodes include **Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Agra, Aligarh, and Chitrakoot**.
- The initiative supports **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and indigenous defence production.

Policy and Investment Features

- The state will highlight its **expressway connectivity**, industrial land availability, and skilled workforce.
- Uttar Pradesh will promote its **single-window clearance system** and investor-friendly policies.
- Discussions will include the **UP Aerospace and Defence Unit and Employment Promotion Policy-2024**.

Key Institutions and Companies

- Major **DPSUs** expected to participate include **HAL, BEL, and BEML**.
- Organisations such as **DRDO, NAL, and BIS** are also proposed participants.
- Companies like **Boeing, Airbus, Lockheed Martin, Tata Group, Adani Group, Skyroot Aerospace, and ideaForge** may attend.

Expected Outcomes

- The conclave aims to attract **FDI**, sign investment **MoUs**, and expand defence manufacturing infrastructure.
- It also seeks to strengthen testing facilities, logistics infrastructure, and high-tech employment opportunities in Uttar Pradesh.