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SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION (SCO) DEFENCE MINISTERS' MEETING

Context

- India has refused to sign a joint declaration at the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' meeting** in Qingdao, China.

About

- India is not satisfied with the language of the joint document and there was **no mention of cross-border terrorist activities specially recent Pahalgam Terror attack**.
- The refusal to endorse the document **resulted in the conclave ending without a joint communique**.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

- Shanghai Five** emerged in **1996** from a series of border demarcation and demilitarization talks between **4 former USSR republics and China**.
 - Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan** were members of the **Shanghai Five**.
 - With the accession of **Uzbekistan** to the group in **2001**, the Shanghai Five was renamed the SCO.
- Objective:** To enhance regional cooperation for efforts to curb terrorism, separatism, and extremism in the Central Asian region.
- Members:** China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Iran, Belarus and the four Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan.
 - India became a full member in **2017** and assumed the rotating **chairmanship in 2023**.
 - Member countries contribute around **30 per cent of the global GDP** and about **40 percent of the world's population**.
- Observer status:** Afghanistan and Mongolia.
- Language:** The SCO's official languages are Russian and Chinese.
- Structure:** The supreme decision-making body of the SCO is the **Council of Heads of States (CHS)** which meets once a year.
 - The Organization has **2 standing bodies** — the Secretariat in Beijing and the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) in Tashkent.

Significance for India

- Regional Security:** The SCO serves as a platform for addressing security concerns, including

terrorism, separatism, and extremism, which are critical issues for India.

- Through SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), India collaborates on intelligence sharing and counter-terrorism efforts.
- Balancing China and Pakistan:** While both are SCO members, the forum allows India to assert its position and prevent the formation of anti-India narratives.
- Energy Security:** Central Asia is rich in oil, gas, and uranium. SCO membership allows India to strengthen energy ties with these countries.
- Economic Cooperation:** The organization facilitates economic collaboration among member states, which enhance trade and investment opportunities for India, particularly with Central Asian countries.
- Central Asia:** The **SCO is especially important for India** because its membership and focus emphasize **Central Asia**—a region where **India is keen to ramp up ties** but faces an inherent constraint with its outreach.

Challenges

- China-Pakistan Axis:** The strong partnership between China and Pakistan within the SCO complicates India's strategic positioning, as at times it limits India's influence in regional security discussions.
- Geopolitical Tensions:** Ongoing border disputes and geopolitical tensions with China and Pakistan spill over into SCO discussions, making it difficult for India to engage constructively.
- Focus on Security over Economic Development:** The SCO's primary focus on security issues sometimes overshadow economic and developmental cooperation, which are crucial for India's interests in the region.
- Institutional limitations:** Decision-making within SCO is consensus-based, slowing progress on key issues.

Conclusion

- SCO is a strategic platform for India to engage with Eurasian powers, promote regional stability, secure economic and energy interests, and enhance counter-terrorism cooperation.
- Despite challenges, India uses SCO to promote its vision of "Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)" and as a counterbalance to Western alliances.

Source: AIR

CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF HISTORIC DIALOGUE BETWEEN SREE NARAYANA GURU AND MAHATMA GANDHI

Context

- PM Modi inaugurated the centenary celebration of the **historic conversation between Sree Narayana Guru and Mahatma Gandhi** at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
 - The dialogue was held on **March 12, 1925, at Sivagiri Mutt in Kerala.**

About

- The conversation between Sree Narayana Guru and Mahatma Gandhi is remembered for its **deep engagement with key issues** of the time;
 - Vaikom Satyagraha,
 - the question of religious conversions,
 - the principle of non-violence,
 - the abolition of untouchability, and
 - the upliftment of marginalised communities.

Views of Sree Narayana Guru and Mahatma Gandhi

Issue	Sree Narayana Guru	Mahatma Gandhi
Religious Conversions	Opposed conversions; stressed reform within Hinduism.	Opposed conversions; promoted staying within Hindu fold.
Non-Violence	Practical approach; supported it but not absolute.	Treated non-violence as a core, universal principle.
Untouchability	Denied any religious basis; demanded total abolition.	Called it a sin; sought gradual reform from within.
Upliftment of Marginalised	Emphasized education and economic self-reliance.	Focused on moral upliftment and spiritual dignity.

About Vaikom Satyagraha

- Cause:** The movement was initiated against the **practice of untouchability**.
 - In Vaikom in the **erstwhile Travancore princely State**, members of the lower castes, particularly Dalits, were denied the right to walk on roads leading to the Vaikom Shiva Temple.
- Leadership:** It was led by **T.K. Madhavan, K. Kelappan**, and other prominent leaders.
 - Mahatma Gandhi also supported the cause, sending his advice, although he did not physically participate in the protests initially.
 - E.V. Ramasamy Periyar**, a prominent social reformer and leader of the Self-Respect Movement, also lent support to the movement.

About Sree Narayana Guru

- Sree Narayana Guru** was a **philosopher, spiritual leader and social reformer** in India.
 - He led a reform movement against the injustice in the **caste-ridden society** of Kerala in order to promote **spiritual enlightenment and social equality**.
 - He founded institutions like the **Sharada Mutt at Sivagiri** to promote education, spirituality, and social upliftment.
 - His slogan, **"One Caste, One Religion, One God for All,"** is a cornerstone of his philosophy and a widely recognized saying in Kerala.
- Important work:** **Daiva Dasakam, Nivritti Panchakam, and Atmopadesa Satakam.**

Legacy of the Dialogue

- The Gurus' decisive stance spurred **Gandhi to prioritize the Harijan mission** in India's freedom struggle.
- Their meeting reinforced the principle that **true social upliftment demands peaceful protest**.
- The emphasis on **education and economic progress** became central to both reformers' visions.

Source: DD NEWS

INDIAN ASTRONAUT IN SPACE AFTER 41-YEAR GAP

Context

- Recently, an **Indian Astronaut with three others** from the USA, Hungary and Poland, soared into

space aboard the **Axiom-4 mission** (NASA's fourth all-private astronaut mission).

- ♦ **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla** became the **first Indian** to reach the **International Space Station (ISS)** and **only the second Indian in space** after Rakesh Sharma's 1984 mission.

International Space Station (ISS)

- It serves as a **permanently crewed orbital laboratory** where astronauts from around the world live and work while **orbiting Earth approximately every 90 minutes**.
- It is located about 400 km from the Earth and moving at 28,000 kmph.

Key Facts About the ISS

- **Launched:** The first module was launched in 1998; it has been continuously inhabited since 2000.
- **Partnership:** Operated by an international coalition of space agencies—NASA (**USA**), Roscosmos (**Russia**), ESA (**Europe**), JAXA (**Japan**), and CSA (**Canada**).
- **Purpose:** ISS program unites international flight crews, various launch vehicles, worldwide operations and training facilities, communication networks, and the global scientific research community.

How the Axiom-4 Mission Boosts India's Future Space Programme?

- **Critical Inputs for Gaganyaan:** Axiom-4 involves scientific experiments, team coordination, and real-time problem-solving — skills **essential for Gaganyaan, India's first indigenous crewed mission**.
- **Scientific Collaboration and Innovation:** The Ax-4 mission includes over 60 experiments from 31 countries, with India contributing to studies on **muscle atrophy** and **stem cell behavior in microgravity**.
 - ♦ These align with **ISRO's growing interest in space medicine** and **long-duration missions**, including diabetes management, muscle health, and cancer research
 - ♦ It is vital for **understanding human physiology in space** and preparing for **future lunar or Martian expeditions**.
- **Strengthening Global Partnerships:** The mission underscores **India's deepening ties with international space agencies**.

- ♦ Axiom-4 demonstrates India's readiness to engage in commercial and scientific space diplomacy, coordinated with **NASA, SpaceX, and Axiom Space**.

Source: TH

RBI'S REVISED PSL GUIDELINES FOR SMALL FINANCE BANKS

In News

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has relaxed **priority sector lending (PSL) norms for Small Finance Banks (SFBs)**.

Do you know?

- Priority sector lending (PSL) is an **RBI-mandated policy requiring banks** to allocate a **fixed portion of their loans to key sectors** that face credit shortages but are crucial for inclusive economic growth.
- It comprises loans to agriculture, MSMEs, export credit, education, housing, social infrastructure, renewable energy, weaker sections and other segments.
 - ♦ In March 2025, the RBI had issued **revised PSL guidelines for banks, enhancing limits for loans** such as housing and education, even as the PSL target for urban cooperative banks (UCBs) was brought down from 75 per cent to 60 per cent.

Small Finance Banks (SFBs)

- **About:** They are operational under the regulation of the RBI in India, under the purview of the apex bank's Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006, as amended from time to time.
 - ♦ SFBs are registered as public limited companies under the Companies Act, 2013 and governed by Banking Regulations Act, 1949; RBI Act, 1934.
 - ♦ They are subject to **RBI's prudential norms** for commercial banks, including CRR and SLR.
- **Objectives:** SFBs aim to provide savings vehicles and credit to underserved sectors like small businesses, farmers, micro-industries, and the unorganized sector through cost-effective, technology-driven operations.
- **Eligibility:** Eligible promoters include resident individuals with 10 years of banking/finance

experience, resident-owned companies/societies, and existing NBFCs, MFIs, and LABs. Promoters must have a strong track record (5+ years).

- **Scope:** Small Finance Banks offer basic banking services such as Savings Accounts, Current Accounts, Fixed Deposits, Recurring Deposits, Loans, etc.
- **Capital Requirements:** Minimum paid-up equity capital is INR 100 crore, with promoters contributing at least 40% initially (reducing to 26% within 12 years). Foreign shareholding follows the FDI policy for private sector banks.

Key Changes announced by RBI

- PSL loans target for SFBs has been lowered to 60 per cent of their loans from 75 per cent earlier from the current financial year.
- The **additional component (35 per cent) of PSL** will be reduced to 20 per cent, thereby making the overall PSL target as 60 per cent of ANBC (adjusted net bank credit) or Credit Equivalent of Off-Balance Sheet Exposures (CEOBE), whichever is higher from financial year 2025-26 onwards.
- **SFBs will continue to allocate 40 per cent** of their ANBC or CEOBE, whichever is higher, to different sub-sectors under PSL as per the extant PSL prescriptions, while the balance 20 per cent can be allocated to any one or more sub-sectors under the PSL where the bank has competitive advantage.

Source: BS

BIHAR TO GET ITS FIRST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Context

- Bihar is set to host its **first nuclear power plant**, making it one of the first six states to benefit from the Government of India's National Nuclear Energy Mission.

About

- The announcement comes as part of a broader push to diversify India's energy mix, strengthen regional energy security, and integrate advanced technologies like **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)**.
- The Government has also approved a **1,000 MW battery storage capacity project** in Bihar, aimed at enhancing grid stability and supporting renewable energy integration.
- The government will provide **viability gap funding of Rs 18 lakh per MW** for this initiative.

What is Nuclear Energy?

- Nuclear energy is the **energy released during nuclear reactions**, either through fission (splitting of atomic nuclei) or fusion (merging of atomic nuclei).
- **In nuclear fission**, heavy atomic nuclei, such as those of uranium or plutonium, are split into lighter nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy.
 - ♦ This process is utilized in nuclear power plants to generate electricity.

What are Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)?

- Small modular reactors (SMRs) are advanced nuclear reactors with a power capacity of up to **300 MW(e) per unit**, roughly one-third the generating capacity of traditional nuclear power plants.
 - ♦ **Small** – physically a fraction of the size of a conventional nuclear power reactor.
 - ♦ **Modular** – making it possible for systems and components to be factory-assembled and transported as a unit to a location for installation.
 - ♦ **Reactors** – harnessing nuclear fission to generate heat to produce energy.
- **There are four main types** of SMR i.e., light water, high temperature gas, liquid metal, and molten salt.

Advantages of SMR

- **Enhanced Safety Features:** SMRs utilize passive safety mechanisms, such as natural convection and gravity-driven cooling, which help prevent overheating without relying on external power or human intervention.
- **Flexibility:** The modular nature of SMRs allows for incremental power additions, which is ideal for growing energy needs.
- **Suitability for Remote and Off-Grid Areas:** SMRs compact design makes them adaptable for smaller grid systems and applications like district heating and water desalination.
- **Cost-Effective Construction:** Prefabrication in controlled environments reduces on-site construction time and costs.

Government Initiatives for Enhancing India's Nuclear Capacity

- India aims to increase its nuclear installed capacity from the present **8,180 MW to 22,480 MW by 2031–32**.

- Construction and commissioning of 10 Reactors with a total capacity of 8,000 MW is ongoing across the states of **Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh.**
- **International Collaboration:** In-principle approval has been granted for setting up $6 \times 1,208$ MW nuclear power reactors in Kovvada, Andhra Pradesh, in cooperation with the United States.

Recent Developments in Nuclear Energy in India

- A significant new uranium deposit was discovered around **India's oldest uranium mine in Jaduguda (Jharkhand).**
- **Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (RAPP-7) Achieves Criticality:** On September 19, 2024, **Unit-7 of RAPP** reached criticality, a key milestone in nuclear reactor operations, indicating the start of a self-sustained fission chain reaction.
 - This is the **third** indigenous nuclear reactor to achieve this status.
- **The Kakrapar Atomic Power Station Units 3 & 4, each of 700 MWe, started commercial operation in FY 2023–24.**
 - These are among the first indigenously designed **Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs)** of this scale.
- India's first **500 MWe PFBR at Kalpakkam** achieved key milestones in 2024, including primary sodium filling, commissioning of sodium pumps, and core loading.

Nuclear Energy Mission

- **Capacity Target:** 100 GW by 2047 (Current capacity: 8 GW).
- **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):** 20,000 crore allocation for R&D and indigenous SMR development.
 - Goal: Five operational SMRs by 2033.
- **Private Sector Participation:** Proposed amendments to key legislations:
 - Atomic Energy Act, 1962: Framework for nuclear energy development and regulation.
 - Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010: Ensuring compensation mechanisms for nuclear incidents.
- **Capacity Expansion:** 10 new reactors (totaling 8 GW) under construction across Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh.

- **Approval for a 6x1208 MW** nuclear plant in Andhra Pradesh in collaboration with the USA.
- **Nuclear Partnerships:** Collaboration with the private sector to develop Bharat Small Reactors (BSRs) and Bharat Small Modular Reactors (BSMRs).

Source: IE

NEWS IN SHORT

PM CHAIRS 48TH PRAGATI MEETING

In News

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 48th PRAGATI meeting focused on accelerating critical infrastructure projects in Mines, Railways, and Water Resources.

Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation (PRAGATI)

- It is an interactive platform designed to address citizens' grievances while monitoring and reviewing key government programmes and projects at both Central and State levels.

Monitors and reviews key programmes and projects by the Government of India.

Addresses issues flagged by State Governments, ensuring their concerns are heard.

Enhances transparency and improves accountability in project implementation.

Built-in feature to maintain decisions for follow-up and continuous review.

Facilitates real-time collaboration and exchange among various stakeholders.

Enables the PMO's office to resolve implementation issues and expedite project completion.

Tackles bottlenecks in projects caused by interdependencies across government bodies.

Operates with a three-tier IT-based system involving the PMO, GoI Secretaries, and State Chief Secretaries.

- Launched in 2015.

Salient Features of PRAGATI and Progress

- Since 2015, PRAGATI has played a key role in advancing India's infrastructure and social development by enabling strategic project selection, strong leadership, and digital governance.

- It has helped overcome challenges, enhanced collaboration among states, and supported major social initiatives, significantly accelerating the nation's development progress.

Source: PIB

INDIA & VIETNAM HOLD 13TH POLITICAL CONSULTATION

In News

- India and Vietnam held the 13th Political Consultation and 10th Strategic Dialogue in New Delhi.

Outcomes of meeting

- They reviewed progress under the **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**, guided by the **Joint Vision (2020)** and **2024–2028 Plan of Action**.
- Discussions covered a wide range of areas including defence, maritime security, trade, energy, technology, culture, and education.
- Both sides condemned terrorism and highlighted cooperation through development initiatives and scholarships.
- India appreciated Vietnam's support against terrorism, while Vietnam thanked India for organizing the exposition of Lord Buddha's Holy Relics, attended by over 14 million people.

Historical Linkages

- India and Vietnam share a historically close and warm relationship.
- The foundations of their ties date back to their independence movements, with **Mahatma Gandhi and President Ho Chi Minh** exchanging messages.
- India played a role in the International Commission for Supervision and Control after the 1954 Geneva Accord and established full diplomatic relations with **Vietnam in 1972**.
- The partnership has evolved steadily, guided by the **"Joint Vision for Peace, Prosperity and People"** adopted during a virtual summit in December 2020.

Trade, Economic and Development Cooperation

- India and Vietnam maintain active trade and economic relations, with bilateral trade around USD 14.8–14.9 billion in 2023–2024.
- India exports engineering goods, agricultural products, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals to Vietnam, while importing electronics, machinery, chemicals, coffee, tea, and textiles.
 - ♦ Trade is supported by the ASEAN-India Trade

Agreement and regular business delegations, fairs, and exhibitions.

Defence

- India and Vietnam have strong defence and security cooperation, guided by key agreements such as the 2009 MoU on Defence Cooperation and the 2015 Joint Vision on Defence Cooperation.
- In June 2022, they adopted a new "Joint Vision Statement on Defence Partnership towards 2030" and signed a MoU on Mutual Logistics Support.
- India recently gifted a missile corvette (INS Kirpan) to Vietnam and is nearing a \$700 million deal for BrahMos supersonic missiles
- Both nations conduct regular bilateral naval exercises (e.g., **PASSEX**), the joint military exercise **VINBAX**, **port calls**, and **collaboration on maritime domain awareness**.

Source: AIR

TRIGEMINAL NEURALGIA

Context

- Trigeminal Neuralgia (TN), a rare and intensely painful neurological condition, is increasingly gaining public awareness due to rising cases and delayed diagnosis.

What is Trigeminal neuralgia?

- Trigeminal neuralgia is a **chronic pain disorder** involving the trigeminal nerve, which branches across the eye, cheek, and jaw.
- While humans have **two trigeminal nerves**, pain usually affects only one side of the face.
 - ♦ The condition is also called **tic douloureux**, meaning "painful tic."
- The pain from TN can be **so severe and unpredictable** that it leads to suicidal thoughts in some patients. Hence it is also called 'suicide disease'.

Causes of Trigeminal Neuralgia

- The pain in TN typically arises due to **disruption or irritation of the trigeminal nerve**, especially where it enters the brainstem.
- **This is most often caused by**, Compression by a blood vessel, Multiple sclerosis (MS), Tumours, Nerve damage from surgery or trauma etc.

Treatment

- **Medications:** Anticonvulsants like carbamazepine
- **Surgery:** Microvascular decompression
- **Minimally invasive:** Gamma knife radiosurgery, radiofrequency ablation.

Source: BS

AGROFORESTRY FOR RESILIENT RAINFED LANDSCAPES

In News

- Recently, a workshop on “Agroforestry for Resilient Rainfed Landscapes” was held in New Delhi.

Agroforestry

- It is a **land management system** that integrates trees with crops and/or animals, promoting ecological and socio-economic benefits.
- It is a nature-based solution that boosts productivity, income, food security, and climate resilience, especially for smallholder farmers.
 - Trees like fruit, fodder, or nitrogen-fixing varieties provide added value and sustainability.

Status and Benefits

- Currently, agroforestry covers **8.65% of India's total geographical area**, totalling about 28.42 million hectares.
- Agroforestry can help reduce wood imports, sequester carbon, and convert fallow lands into productive areas.
- It addresses food, energy, employment, and environmental needs, aligning with global goals like the Paris Agreement, Bonn Challenge, UN SDGs, UNCCD, and national missions like Doubling Farmers' Income and the Green India Mission.

Related Steps in India

- The GROW (Greening and Restoration of Wasteland with Agroforestry) report and portal, launched by NITI Aayog.
 - It uses GIS and remote sensing to assess agroforestry suitability across India.
 - It developed an Agroforestry Suitability Index (ASI) to guide greening and restoration efforts, especially of wastelands
- India introduced the **world's first National Agroforestry Policy in 2014** and it promotes agroforestry to boost productivity, profitability, and sustainability.

Source: PIB

THE FIRST QUANTUM COMPUTING VALLEY OF INDIA

Context

- The first Quantum Computing Valley of India will be launched in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh by January 2026.

About

- The park is designed to **employ lakhs of professionals, supporting research, innovation, and industrial growth.**
- It will be **accessible to states, government bodies, and institutions across India.**
- The goal is to **ensure quantum technology benefits all** of human society.
- The project aligns with the **National Quantum Mission (NQM).**
- Focus:** Productivity enhancement and wealth creation via quantum technologies.

National Quantum Mission (NQM)

- The government approved the NQM in **2023** from **2023-24 to 2030-31.**
- Aim:** To seed, nurture and scale up **scientific and industrial R&D** and create a vibrant & innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology (QT).
 - This will accelerate QT led economic growth, nurture the ecosystem in the country and make India one of the leading nations in the development of **Quantum Technologies & Applications (QTA).**
- The Mission objectives include developing intermediate-scale **quantum computers with 50-1000 physical qubits in 8 years** in various platforms like superconducting and photonic technology.
- Significance:** NQM has the potential to **elevate the country's Technology Development ecosystem** to a level of global competitiveness.
 - The Mission would greatly **benefit various sectors** including communication, health, financial, energy with applications in drug design, space, banking, security etc.
 - The Mission will also provide a **huge boost to National priorities** like Digital India, Make in India, Skill India and Stand-up India, Start-up India, Self-reliant India and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Source: PIB

CENTRE APPROVES SOUTH ASIA UNIT OF INTERNATIONAL POTATO CENTRE

Context

- The Centre cleared a proposal to set up the **South Asia regional centre of the Peru-based International Potato Center (CIP) in India.**

About

- **The CIP-South Asia Regional Centre (CSARC)** will come up in **Agra, Uttar Pradesh**.
- It will not only serve farmers in **potato-belt states like UP, Bihar and West Bengal** but also cater to **South Asian countries**.
- **Objective:** To increase food and nutrition security, farmers income, and job creation by improving potato and sweetpotato productivity, post-harvest management and value-addition.
- **China set up its regional CIP centre eight years ago** known as the **China Center for Asia Pacific (CCCAP)** serving the entire East Asia and the Pacific region.

Potato Cultivation

- India is the **world's second top producer and consumer of potato**; in 2020, it saw a production of 51.30 million tonnes.
- **At the top is China**, with its potato output in 2020 at 78.24 million tonnes.
 - ♦ Together, the two countries account for **over one-third of the global potato production (359.07 MT)**.
- **Among the states in India, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal** lead the production, followed by Bihar.
 - ♦ Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab are the other significant potato producers.

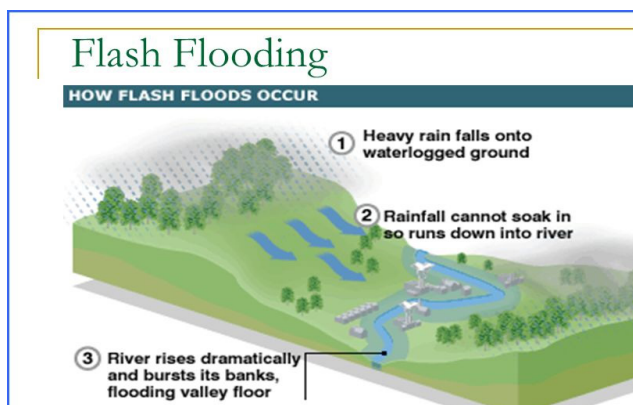
Source: IE

FLASH FLOODS**Context**

- **Flash floods** in the Punnappuzha river, witnessed a massive landslide, triggered panic in Wayanad district of Kerala.

What are Flash floods?

- Flash Floods are highly localized events **of short duration** with a very high peak and usually have **less than six hours between the occurrence of the rainfall and peak flood**.

**Causes of Flash Floods**

- **Intense Rainfall:** Heavy and concentrated rainfall over a short duration is the primary trigger.
- **Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs):** Sudden release of water from glacial lakes due to melting or avalanches.
- **Cloudbursts:** Localised, extremely heavy downpours (e.g., in hilly regions like the Himalayas).
- **Tropical Cyclones & Storms:** Sudden heavy rains from cyclonic systems (e.g., during monsoon or pre-monsoon).
- **Hilly Terrain:** Steep slopes cause fast runoff, leading to sudden water accumulation in valleys.
- **Encroachment of Riverbanks:** Reduces river capacity, causing spillover during sudden inflows.
- **Climate Change:** Increases the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, including cloudbursts and erratic rainfall.

Source: TH

PRIME MINISTERS MUSEUM AND LIBRARY (PMML)**Context**

- PM Modi chaired the 47th Annual General Meeting of the Prime Ministers Museum and Library (PMML) Society at Teen Murti Bhawan in New Delhi.

About

- **Origin:** It is housed at **Teen Murti Bhawan**, the former official residence of India's first Prime Minister, **Jawaharlal Nehru**.
 - ♦ Originally known as the **Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML)**, it was established in **1964** after the death of **Jawaharlal Nehru**.
 - ♦ On June 27th 1964, the Teen Murti Bhawan was converted into the **Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML)**.
 - ♦ Renamed in **2021** as the Prime Ministers Museum and Library to honour the contributions of all Indian Prime Ministers.
- **Design:** The Teen Murti Bhawan, which houses the PMML, was designed by British architect **Robert Tor Russell in 1929–30**.
- **Objectives:** To preserve, document, and disseminate the legacy and contributions of all **Prime Ministers of India**.
 - ♦ To act as a premier institution for research in modern Indian history.

Source: IE