

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS (DCA)

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JAPAN ELECTS FIRST FEMALE PRIME MINISTER

Context

- The Prime Minister extended congratulations to Sanae Takaichi, **Japan's newly-elected and first woman Prime Minister**.
 - ♦ He emphasized that partnership between India and Japan plays a **vital role in ensuring peace, stability, and prosperity across the Indo-Pacific region**.

Similarities and Differences between Indian and Japanese Political Systems

- **Parliamentary System:** India is a parliamentary republic, while Japan is a parliamentary constitutional monarchy. In both systems, the Prime Minister is the real executive authority.
 - ♦ India has bicameral Parliament – Lok Sabha (House of the People) and Rajya Sabha (Council of States).
 - ♦ Japan has a bicameral Diet – House of Representatives (Shugiin) and House of Councillors (Sangin).
- **Written Constitution & Fundamental Rights:** India and Japan possess written constitutions, both constitutions emphasize the protection of fundamental rights and human freedoms.
 - ♦ Japan has a unitary Constitution with centralized authority and no federal division.
 - ♦ The Japanese constitution is very rigid as compared to India's flexible constitution.
- **Judicial Independence:** The two countries maintain an independent judiciary.
 - ♦ The appointment of Chief Justice and Judges differ in both countries.
- **Executive Accountability:** In both systems, the council of ministers/cabinet, headed by the Prime Minister, is accountable to the lower house of the legislature.

Priority Areas Identified During the 15th India-Japan Annual Summit 2025

- **Economic security:** Collaboration on semiconductors, critical minerals, AI, supply chains.
- **MSMEs (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises):** Japanese MSMEs supporting "Make in India, Make for the World"; aiming at a 10-trillion-yen (approx. US\$68 billion) investment target.
- **Defence equipment & technology transfer:** The **Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation** was revised for the first time in 17 years in 2025.

- ♦ It elevates defense and security ties to the next level, taking into account the contemporary geopolitical realities and security configurations in the region.
- **People-to-people exchanges:** An Action Plan for India-Japan Human Resource Exchange and Cooperation.
 - ♦ It lays out a roadmap for talent mobility and deepening people-to-people ties through exchanges of more than 500,000 personnel in five years.
- **Multilateral and minilateral cooperation:** India and Japan as partners in global issues, in fora like the United Nations, G20, and the Indo-Pacific region.

Brief on India-Japan Relations

- **Establishment of Relations:** After WWII, India opted for a separate Peace Treaty with Japan, signed in 1952, marking the start of formal diplomatic relations.
- **Growth in Bilateral Ties:** India-Japan bilateral relations were elevated to Global Partnership in 2000, Strategic and Global Partnership in 2006, and Special Strategic and Global Partnership in 2014.
- **Strategic Synergy:** India's Act East Policy and Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) align closely with Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) policy.
- **Collaboration on Global Initiatives:** Japan and India cooperate in initiatives like the International Solar Alliance (ISA), Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), and Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT).
 - ♦ Both countries work together in multilateral frameworks like the Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Quad and the India-Japan-Australia Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI).
- **Defence and Security:** Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation (2008), Defence Cooperation and Exchanges MoU (2014), Information Protection Agreement (2015), Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services Agreement (2020), and co-development of the UNICORN naval mast (2024).
 - ♦ **Exercises:** Malabar (with the US and Australia), Milan (multilateral naval), JIMEX (bilateral maritime), Dharma Guardian (Army), and Coast Guard cooperation are held regularly.
 - ♦ 2024-25 saw the participation of service chiefs in India and Japan, strengthening interoperability.
- **Bilateral Trade:** Bilateral trade reached \$22.8 billion in 2023-24.

- ♦ **Imports from Japan continue to outweigh exports.** India's main exports are chemicals, vehicles, aluminium, and seafood; imports include machinery, steel, copper, and reactors.
- **Investment:** Japan is India's **fifth-largest source of FDI**, with \$43.2 billion cumulative investment up to 2024.
 - ♦ Japan has consistently ranked India as the most promising long-term investment destination.
- **Space Collaboration:** ISRO and JAXA collaborate in X-ray astronomy, satellite navigation, lunar exploration, and the Asia Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum (APRSAPF).
 - ♦ In 2016, they signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) for peaceful space exploration and use.
- **Emerging Focus Areas:** Digital cooperation (semiconductors, startups), clean energy, supply chain resilience, industrial competitiveness, and skill development.
- **Development and Infrastructure Cooperation:** Japan has been India's largest ODA donor since **1958**, supporting critical infrastructure and human development projects.
 - ♦ ODA disbursement stood at about JPY 580 billion (\$4.5 billion) in 2023-24.
 - ♦ The flagship Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail is the flagship project symbolising advanced technology transfer and skill development.
- **Tourism:** 2023-24 was celebrated as the Year of Tourism Exchange, with the theme "Connecting Himalayas with Mount Fuji".
- **Diaspora:** About 54,000 Indians live in Japan, mainly IT professionals and engineers.

Areas of Concern

- **Trade Imbalance:** There is a significant trade imbalance, with Japan exporting more to India than India exports to Japan, creating a need for better reciprocal trade.
- **Geopolitical Tensions:** Regional security issues, such as China's influence in the Indo-Pacific, pose challenges for India-Japan relations, requiring careful diplomatic balancing.
- **Cultural and Language Barriers:** Despite strong ties, differences in language, culture, and business practices pose challenges to deeper integration.
- **Limited People-to-People Exchanges:** The scale of people-to-people interactions is still limited, impacting deeper mutual understanding.
- **Infrastructure Constraints:** Despite improvements, some areas in India still lack the

infrastructure necessary to support large-scale Japanese investments effectively.

- **Different Economic Priorities:** India's focus on rapid economic growth may sometimes contrast with Japan's emphasis on sustainable development and technology.

Way Ahead

- **Enhance Trade and Investment:** Focus on reducing the trade imbalance by increasing Indian exports to Japan and encouraging Japanese investment in India's manufacturing and technology sectors.
- **Boost People-to-People Connections:** Increase cultural exchanges, tourism, and educational collaborations to deepen mutual understanding.
- **Technology and Innovation Partnership:** Leverage Japan's expertise in technology and India's growing digital sector to collaborate in AI, robotics, renewable energy, and space exploration.
- **Address Environmental Concerns:** Increase cooperation on environmental sustainability, climate change, and disaster resilience to support both countries' green energy goals.

Conclusion

- India's economic and military potential, coupled with Japan's unique ability to undertake projects of enormous scope and scale, provides a compelling rationale for strategic collaboration against rising threats in the Indo-Pacific.

Source: PIB

LEAD EXPOSURE: MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND ECONOMIC THREAT

In News

- New study in Communications Earth & Environment reveals that lead exposure remains a major public health and economic threat.

About

- The estimated annual global cost from childhood lead exposure is \$3.4 trillion, or over 2% of global GDP (2019), with low- and middle-income countries bearing the brunt due to informal recycling and weak regulations.
- Lead production is around 16 million tonnes/year, mainly used in batteries, paints, and consumer goods.

Causes of Lead Exposure

- **Industrial emissions:** Battery recycling, smelting, and manufacturing release lead into air and soil.

- **Paints and pigments:** Despite bans, lead-based paints are still used in homes and toys.
- **Contaminated water:** Lead leaches from old plumbing systems and poorly regulated water sources.
- **Spices and cosmetics:** Adulteration in turmeric and traditional cosmetics like kohl has been documented.

Health Impacts

- **Cognitive impairment:** Reduced IQ, learning disabilities, and behavioral disorders.
- **Physical health issues:** Anaemia, kidney damage, and developmental delays.
- **Long-term consequences:** Increased risk of cardiovascular diseases and reduced economic productivity.

Recommendations and Solutions

- Experts and government bodies have proposed several measures to address the crisis:
 - ♦ **Eliminate unsafe** and illegal lead sources.
 - ♦ **Establish nationwide blood lead level** testing, especially in high-risk areas.
 - ♦ **Educate communities** about sources of exposure and safe practices.
 - ♦ **Formalize and regulate** battery and e-waste recycling sectors.
 - ♦ **Invest in epidemiological studies** to identify hotspots and track progress.

Source: DTE

EVOLVING DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY IN INDIA

Context

- Economists from the RBI have updated the poverty line established by the Rangarajan Committee in 2014, for 20 major states of India using the latest Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) 2022-23.

What is a Poverty Line?

- A poverty line is a **threshold level of income or consumption** used to determine whether an individual or household is poor.
- Anyone living below this threshold is considered unable to afford basic necessities such as **food, shelter, clothing, education, and healthcare**.
- It helps the government;
 - ♦ to gauge the extent of poverty and **shape welfare policies** for the poor.
 - ♦ to **understand whether a set of policies has actually worked** over time to reduce poverty and improve wellbeing.

Rangarajan Committee (2014) for Poverty Estimation

- It was constituted in **2012** and submitted its report in **2014**.
- The Committee recommended separate consumption baskets for rural and urban areas.
 - ♦ The Rangarajan Committee set the rural poverty line at **₹972 per month (₹32 per day)**.
 - ♦ The urban poverty line was set at **₹1,407 per month (₹47 per day)**.
- These estimates pegged **29.5 percent** of the Indian population as poor in 2011-12.
- The government did not take a call on the report of the Rangarajan Committee, therefore, poverty is measured using the **Tendulkar poverty line**.

RBI's Updated Poverty Estimates

- The RBI researchers updated the 2012 poverty lines by constructing a new price index based on the **Rangarajan Poverty Line Basket (PLB)**, instead of using the Consumer Price Index (CPI), whose consumption weights differ from PLB.
- **Food expenditure weights:**
 - ♦ **Rural PLB:** 57% (54% in CPI-Rural)
 - ♦ **Urban PLB:** 47% (36% in CPI-Urban)

Tendulkar Committee (2009)

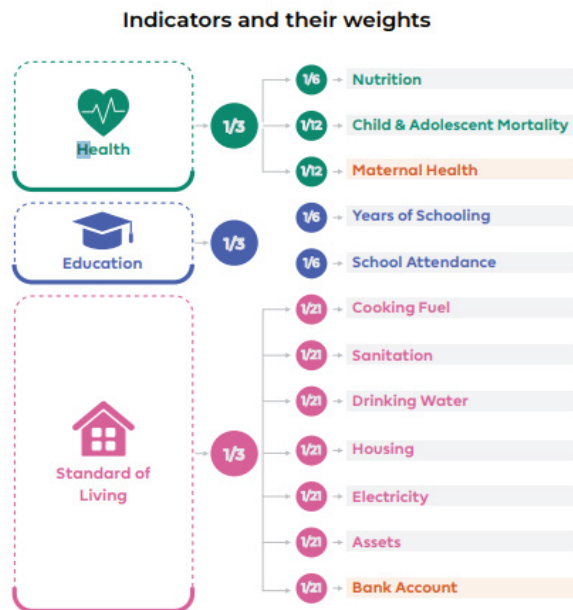
- It was constituted in **2005** and submitted its report in **2009**.
- The Committee recommended a shift away from calorie consumption based poverty estimation and incorporation of private expenditure on health and education while estimating poverty.
- Instead of monthly household consumption, consumption expenditure was broken up into per person per day consumption, resulting in the figure of **Rs 32** and **Rs 26** a day for urban and rural areas.
- **The national poverty line for 2011-12** was estimated at **Rs. 816** per capita per month for rural areas and **Rs. 1,000** per capita per month for urban areas.

Key findings of latest update

- Odisha and Bihar have made the biggest improvement over the last decade.
 - ♦ **Odisha:** Rural poverty fell from 47.8% to 8.6%.
 - ♦ **Bihar:** Urban poverty fell from 50.8% to 9.1%.
- **Lowest Rural Poverty (2022-23):** Himachal Pradesh (0.4%).
- **Lowest Urban Poverty (2022-23):** Tamil Nadu (1.9%).
- **Highest Poverty:** Chhattisgarh (Rural 25.1%, Urban 13.3%).

Shift Toward Multidimensional Poverty

- The Government of India now prioritises **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** over income-based poverty lines.
- NITI Aayog**, has been responsible for constructing an index for monitoring the performance of States and Union Territories in addressing multidimensional poverty.



- According to NITI Aayog, **24.82 crore** people escaped from multidimensional poverty between **2013–14 and 2022–23**, lowering the poverty rate from **29.17% to 11.28%**.

Concluding remarks

- India has witnessed a sharp decline in poverty, with states like Odisha and Bihar showing remarkable improvement.
- However, debates continue over the appropriate methodology and definition of poverty, whether it should be assessed through **monetary thresholds** or through **multidimensional indices**.
- The evolving poverty metrics highlight India's broader transformation, from measuring **“how much people earn”** to evaluating **“how well people live.”**

Source: IE

IMPACT OF A CORONAL MASS EJECTION ON THE LUNAR EXOSPHERE

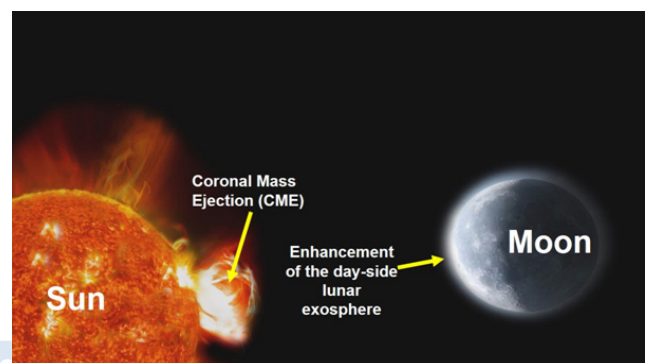
Context

- The Chandrayaan-2 mission has made the first-ever observation of the effects of the **Sun's**

Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) on the Moon using its onboard scientific instruments.

About the observation

- The finding was made by **Chandra's Atmospheric Composition Explorer-2 (CHACE-2)**, a payload onboard Chandrayaan-2's orbiter.
- CHACE-2 recorded a **sharp rise in total pressure and molecular density** in the Moon's sunlit exosphere.
- ♦ **CMEs** are the events when the Sun ejects significant quantities of its building material, comprising mostly **Helium and Hydrogen ions**.



Composition of Lunar Exosphere

- The Moon's atmosphere is **extremely thin**, classified as an exosphere, implying that the gas atoms and molecules in the lunar environment rarely interact despite their coexistence.
- The boundary of the exosphere is the surface of the Moon and hence the Moon's exosphere falls under the category of **‘surface boundary exosphere’**.
- The lunar exosphere is **formed by processes** such as:
 - ♦ Solar radiation,
 - ♦ Solar wind (ions of hydrogen, helium, and trace heavier elements), and
 - ♦ Meteorite impacts that release surface atoms into space.
- Unlike Earth, the **Moon lacks a magnetic field**, making it directly exposed to CMEs.

Chandrayaan-2

- Chandrayaan-2 was India's **second lunar mission**, launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in **2019**, using the **GSLV-MkIII-M1 rocket**.
- It comprises** an orbiter, lander (Vikram), and rover (Pragyan).
- CHACE-2 Payload Objective:** To study the composition, distribution, and variability of the lunar neutral exosphere.

Significance of the observation

- It provides valuable **insight into lunar exospheric dynamics and space weather** effects on airless celestial bodies.
- Enhances understanding of **Sun–Moon interactions**, contributing to better space weather prediction models.
- Provides critical knowledge for **future lunar missions and habitats**, especially for human presence on the Moon by 2040.
- Reinforces India's growing capability in **planetary science and space environment monitoring**.

Source: AIR

CAQM INVOKES STAGE-II OF GRADED RESPONSE ACTION PLAN (GRAP) IN ENTIRE NCR

In News

- The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has invoked Stage-II of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in the entire National Capital Region (NCR) as Delhi's air quality slipped into the "Very Poor" category (AQI 301–400) ahead of winter.
 - ♦ Stage-II of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) limits the use of diesel generators, ban on coal and firewood etc.

What is GRAP?

- Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) is a set of emergency measures implemented in Delhi-NCR to control air pollution based on the **Air Quality Index (AQI) levels**.
- It was formulated by the Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority (EPCA) and enforced by CAQM from 2021.
- GRAP is divided into four stages corresponding to AQI levels:
 - ♦ Stage I – Poor (AQI 201–300)
 - ♦ Stage II – Very Poor (AQI 301–400)
 - ♦ Stage III – Severe (AQI 401–450)
 - ♦ Stage IV – Severe+ (AQI >450)

Why Do Air Quality Deteriorate in NCR during Winters?

- Stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana.
- Low wind speed and temperature inversion trapping pollutants.
- Vehicular emissions, construction dust, and Diwali fireworks add to the load.
- Urban heat island effect and regional topography aggravate stagnation of pollutants.

About CAQM

- **Constituted under:** The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas Act, 2021.
- **Jurisdiction:** Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.
- **Purpose:** To coordinate and implement region-wide measures for air quality improvement, replacing the earlier EPCA.

Source: TH

NEWS IN SHORT

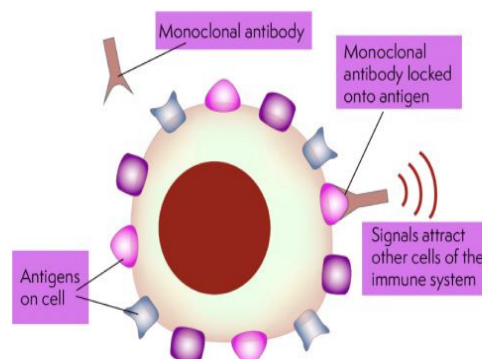
NEW MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY SHOWS EARLY PROMISE AGAINST MALARIA

Context

- A novel monoclonal antibody (mAb) named **MAM01**, has demonstrated strong, dose-dependent protection against malaria in an early clinical trial.

What are Monoclonal Antibodies (mAbs)?

- Monoclonal antibodies are lab-engineered proteins designed to **target specific antigens** (foreign substances like viruses, bacteria, or cancer cells).
- They are derived from a single clone of a **B-cell** and hence are **identical in structure and specificity**.
- mAbs mimic the natural immune response but are **highly specific**, making them powerful tools in treating diseases.



Function of Monoclonal Antibodies

- MAM01 targets a highly conserved region of the **Plasmodium falciparum circumsporozoite protein (CSP)**, which enables it to block infection before the malaria parasite reaches the bloodstream.

What is Malaria?

- **Malaria** is a life-threatening disease spread to humans by some types of mosquitoes. It is mostly found in tropical countries.
- **Transmission:** It is caused by **plasmodium protozoa**. The plasmodium parasites spread through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes. Blood transfusion and contaminated needles may also transmit malaria.
- **Types of parasites:** There are 5 Plasmodium parasite species that cause malaria in humans and 2 of these species – **P. falciparum** and **P. vivax** – pose the greatest threat. The other malaria species which can infect humans are **P. malariae**, **P. ovale** and **P. knowlesi**.
 - ♦ **P. falciparum** is the **deadliest malaria parasite** and the most prevalent on the African continent. **P. vivax** is the dominant malaria parasite in most countries outside of sub-Saharan Africa.
- **Symptoms:** Fever and flu-like illness, including chills, headache, muscle ache and fatigue.

Source: DD News

INDIA'S KABUL MISSION IS UPGRADED TO EMBASSY**In News**

- India has upgraded its Technical Mission in Kabul to a full-fledged Embassy with immediate effect, following the recent visit of the Taliban administration's acting Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi to India.

Background

- India had shut its embassy in Kabul and withdrew the existing staff in August 2021 when law and order had broken down as the Taliban overthrew the government of President Ashraf Ghani.
- The Indian consulates in Mazaar-i-Sharif, Jalalabad, Kandahar and Herat had also been closed as the conflict intensified in early 2021.
- India had sent a technical team to Kabul to run the mission on June 23, 2022 which was meant to facilitate humanitarian assistance and provide consular assistance.
- Multiple major powers such as Iran, China, Russia, Gulf countries and Central Asian republics have engaged the Taliban but Russia alone has granted recognition to the Taliban as the de jure ruler of Afghanistan.

Importance of latest Developments

- The upgraded Embassy will enhance India's support for Afghanistan's development, humanitarian aid, and capacity-building efforts in line with the Afghan people's priorities.
- A chargé d'affaires will be appointed to head the embassy until a formal ambassador is named.

Source: TH

NET FDI INFLOW FELL BY 159%**Context**

- **Net Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into India fell 159%** in August 2025, this is the **second time** this financial year that outflows have exceeded inflows.

About

- Gross investments into India stood at \$6,049 million in August 2025, 30.6% lower than their level in August last year.
- Net FDI in the April-August 2025 period was \$10,128 million, more than 121% higher than in the same period of last year.

**Net Foreign Direct Investment**

- **Net FDI** is gross FDI, which is the total money coming in, minus the money being repatriated out by foreign companies doing business in India and the outward FDI by Indian companies.
 - ♦ **Net FDI = Gross FDI Inflows – (Repatriation by foreign firms + Outward FDI by Indian firms).**
- **Key Components:**
 - ♦ **Gross FDI Inflows:** Total new investments made by foreign entities into the country. It includes setting up factories, acquiring local companies, or expanding operations.
 - ♦ **Repatriation & Disinvestment:** Profits or capital that foreign companies send back to their home countries. Includes sale of assets or shares in domestic firms.
 - ♦ **Outward FDI:** Investments made by domestic companies in foreign countries (e.g., acquisitions, setting up subsidiaries).
- **Positive Net FDI:** Indicates more foreign investment is coming in than going out, often seen as a sign of economic attractiveness.

- **Low or Negative Net FDI:** May suggest capital is being withdrawn or domestic firms are investing more abroad than foreigners are investing locally.

Why Net FDI Matters?

- **Indicator of Investor Confidence:** Positive net FDI shows foreign investors trust the country's economic and policy environment.
- **Source of Stable Capital:** FDI is long-term and less volatile than portfolio flows, helping maintain economic stability and balance of payments.
- **Boosts Production and Employment:** Brings capital, technology, and management expertise, enhancing manufacturing, productivity, and job creation.
- **Supports External Sector and Currency:** Improves foreign exchange reserves, strengthens the rupee, and helps finance the current account deficit.

Source: TH

UDAN SCHEME

Context

- Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) scheme has completed 9 Years.

About

- It is a regional connectivity scheme launched in **2016**.
- The **first UDAN flight** operated between Shimla and Delhi in 2017.
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- **Aim:** To make air travel affordable and accessible to the common citizen by connecting unserved and underserved Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities to major hubs.
- **Implementation:**
 - ♦ **Viability Gap Funding (VGF):** Financial support to airlines to ensure affordable fares.
 - ♦ **Airfare Cap** to ensure affordability.
 - ♦ **Collaborative Governance** between Centre, States, Airport Authority of India (AAI), and private airport operators.

Achievements

- It has facilitated over **1.56 crore passengers** through **3.23 lakh flights** in nine years.

- **649 routes** have been operationalised connecting 93 unserved and underserved airports, including 15 heliports and 2 water aerodromes.
- The government has also introduced **Comprehensive Guidelines for Seaplane Operations last year** and launched **UDAN 5.5**, a special bidding round for seaplanes and helicopters.

Source: AIR

GALLANTRY AWARDS

Context

- President Droupadi Murmu approved **127 Gallantry awards and 40 Distinguished Service awards to the Armed Forces**.

About Gallantry Awards

- **Gallantry Awards** are given by the Government of India to honour acts of bravery, sacrifice, and exceptional courage by **members of the armed forces, paramilitary forces, and civilians**.
- They are classified as **wartime (gallantry in the face of enemy)** and **peacetime awards**.
- **Administered by:** Ministry of Defence (for armed forces) and Ministry of Home Affairs (for police and civilians).
- **Awarded by:** President of India.
- These gallantry awards are **announced twice in a year** - first on the occasion of the Republic Day and then on the occasion of the Independence Day.
- **Wartime Gallantry Awards:** Param Vir Chakra (PVC), Mahavir Chakra (MVC) and Vir Chakra.
 - ♦ These were instituted on 26 January 1950, and were deemed to have effect from 15 August 1947, the date of India's independence.
- **Peacetime Gallantry Awards:** Ashok Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra.
 - ♦ The Government instituted three more gallantry awards on 4 January 1952, also with retrospective effect from 15 August 1947.
 - ♦ Originally, they were named as: Ashoka Chakra Class-I, Ashoka Chakra Class-II and Ashoka Chakra Class-III.



- **Order of Precedence:** Param Vir Chakra (PVC), Ashoka Chakra (AC), Maha Vir Chakra (MVC), Kirti Chakra (KC), Vir Chakra (VrC), Shaurya Chakra (SC).
- **All six awards can be conferred posthumously.**

Source: AIR

CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (CBI)

In News

- The Supreme Court transferred the investigation into the Karur stampede from the Tamil Nadu Police Special Investigation Team (SIT) and the Justice Aruna Jagadeesan Commission to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

- It is a central agency governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946 which traces its origins to the Special Police Establishment (SPE) formed in 1941 to weed out corruption in war-time procurements.
- It is functioning under Dept. of Personnel, Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Public Grievances, Government of India.
- It is the premier investigating police agency in India.
- It is an elite force playing a major role in preservation of values in public life and in ensuring the health of the national economy.
- It is also the nodal police agency in India, which coordinates investigations on behalf of Interpol Member countries.

Jurisdiction

- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) derives its authority from the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946.
- Initially created to investigate corruption in war-time procurement, the DSPE had jurisdiction limited to Union Territories, but under Section 5(1), its jurisdiction can be extended to States and Railway areas with the consent of the State Government as per Section 6.

- The CBI can only investigate cases notified by the Central Government under Section 3, and its officers (Sub-Inspector and above) have the same powers as a station house officer for investigation purposes.

Source: TH

POLICE COMMEMORATION DAY

Context

- **Police Commemoration Day** was observed on 21st October at the **National Police Memorial** to honour the valour and sacrifice of police personnel.

About

- On October 21, **1959**, Indian policemen were martyred in an ambush by Chinese troops at Hot Springs, Ladakh.
- The day commemorates **their supreme sacrifice and all police personnel** who have laid down their lives in the line of duty.
- **A memorial was erected at Hot Springs** and members of Police Forces from different parts of the country trek to Hot Springs to pay homage to the martyrs.
- **Since the year 2012, the Police Commemoration Day Parade** has been held at the National level at the Police Memorial.

National Police Memorial (NPM)

- **Dedicated by:** Prime Minister on Police Commemoration Day, **2018**.
- **Location:** Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
- The Memorial gives police Forces a sense of national identity, pride, unity of purpose, common history and destiny.
- It comprises a Central Sculpture, a Wall of Valour and a museum.
- **The Wall of Valour:** 30 feet tall granite sculpture stands at the police memorial with the names of over 35,000 martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

Do you know?

- 'Police' and 'Public Order' are state subjects under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, and various initiatives have been undertaken to modernise police forces.
- **SMART Policing:** The SMART Policing Initiative was introduced by the Prime Minister of India in 2014 to modernize and transform Indian policing in response to emerging security challenges.

- ♦ SMART stands for Strict and Sensitive, Modern and Mobile, Alert and Accountable, Reliable and Responsive, Tech-savvy and Trained.
- **Assistance to State & UTs for Modernization of Police (ASUMP) Scheme:** The erstwhile Scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces (MPF), ASUMP's objective is to strengthen police infrastructure at the cutting-edge level by equipping it with the latest technology, weaponry, communication equipment, etc
- **'CyTrain' portal:** It is a Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) platform, developed for capacity building of police officers/judicial officers through online courses on critical aspects of cybercrime investigation, forensics, prosecution, etc.
- **Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC):** Financial assistance under the CCPWC Scheme has been provided to the States/UTs for their capacity building.

Source: AIR

