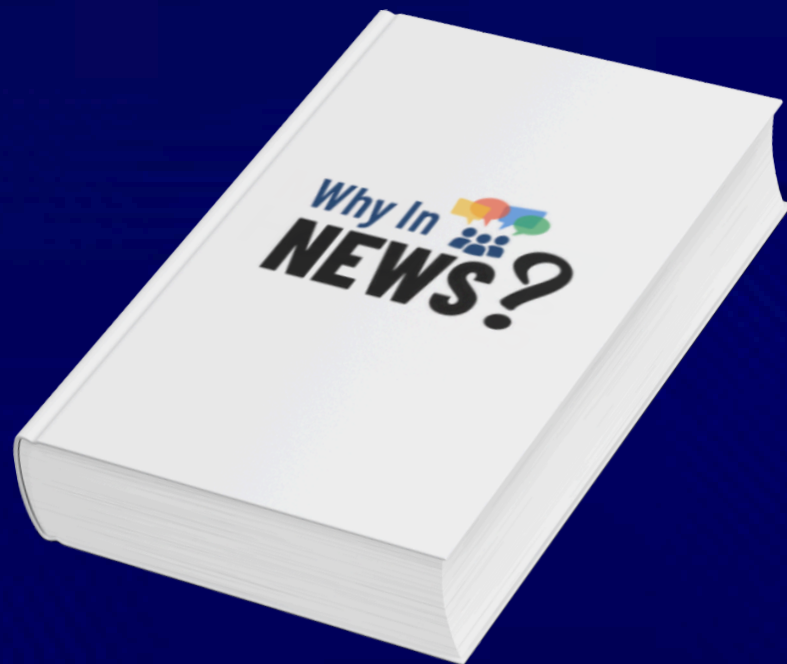


Why In **NEWS?**



English

Weekly Compilation
[13th - 18th October, 2025]



Source: NEXT IAS Magazine

Operation Rainbow

Why in News?

- The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized around 9 kg of narcotic substances in Delhi under Operation Rainbow.

About Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI):

- Established: December 1957
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Parent Body: Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), Ministry of Finance
- Head: Director General

Objectives:

- Collect intelligence and combat **smuggling activities** at the national level.
- Initially focused on **gold smuggling**; now tackles a wide range of **economic and narcotics-related crimes**.

International Cooperation:

- Maintains liaison with foreign agencies and **INTERPOL** to counter transnational smuggling networks.



Source: NEXT IAS Magazine

Soaps and Detergents

Why in News?

- Soaps and detergents are essential for daily use, health, industry, and the environment.

Soap:

- **Definition:** Sodium (Na) or Potassium (K) salt of fatty acids made from vegetable oils or animal fats.
- **Formula:** RCOONa (solid) / RCOOK (liquid).
- **Example:** Coconut oil \rightarrow Lauric acid \rightarrow Soap ($\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{22}\text{COONa}$).
- **Total Fatty Matter (TFM):** Indicates quality; higher TFM = better cleaning & gentler on skin.

How Soap Cleans:

- **Amphiphilic molecules:**
 - Hydrophilic end \rightarrow attracts water.
 - Hydrophobic end \rightarrow attracts oil/grease.
- Loosens grease during scrubbing; rinsed away with water.
- Acts as a **surfactant**, reducing water's surface tension for effective cleaning.

Detergents:

- **Origin:** Developed during World War I due to shortage of oils/fats.
- **Chemistry:** Sodium salts of alkyl benzene sulphonic acids or alkyl sulphates.
- **Examples:** Sodium Lauryl Sulphate (SLS), Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonates (LABS).

Types of Detergents:

- **Anionic:** Used in washing powders; produce good foam.
- **Cationic:** Used in fabric softeners, conditioners, antiseptics.
- **Non-ionic:** Mild; used in dishwashing liquids and baby products.



Source: NEXT IAS Magazine

Kodali Karuppur Silk Sari

Origin:

- It is named after Karuppur village near Kumbakonam, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.

Historical Significance:

- Favoured by Maratha kings of Thanjavur (18th–19th century).
- Woven for queens and nobility; part of bride trousseaus in Baroda, Kolhapur, and Satara.

Craft & Technique:

- Combines Jamdani weaving and dye painting.
- Original dye painting process is complicated and time-consuming.
- Modern sarees use block printing and natural colors due to labor intensity.

Decline:

- Craft declined after the fall of royal patronage.
- Current sarees have lost original allure.

Legal Status:

- No Geographical Indication (GI) tag currently.



Stay Tuned!