

# Manthan HEADLINES



English

**Weekly Compilation  
[6th-12th April, 2025]**

## India Urges BRICS Support for USD 1.3 Trillion 'Baku to Belém' NDC Push at BRICS Meet in Brasilia.

### Context

- India urged BRICS nations to support the '**Baku to Belém Roadmap**'.

### What is the Baku to Belém Roadmap?

- Strategic framework adopted at COP29 (2024).
- **Focus areas:**
  - Define a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance post-2025.
  - Ensure predictable, adequate, and accessible climate finance.
  - Support low-carbon, climate-resilient development in developing nations.
  - Enable effective implementation of NDCs.

### Why BRICS Matters for Climate Action?

- **BRICS (including newly added members) represents:**
  - 47% of the global population.
  - 36% of global GDP (PPP).
- **Shared challenges and development goals make BRICS cooperation critical for:**
  - A just and equitable global climate transition.
  - Amplifying the voice of the Global South.



Source: HT



# Poland, Baltic states exit Mine Ban Treaty, citing rising threats from Russia's war on Ukraine

## Context

- Poland, Finland, and Baltic states plan to quit the **1997 Ottawa Convention** due to rising threats from Russia.

## About Ottawa Convention

- **Full Name:** Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction
- **Type:** International treaty banning anti-personnel landmines
- **Adopted:** 1997 (Oslo)
- **Opened for Signature:** 1997 (Ottawa)
- **Came into Force:** March 1, 1999

## Key Provisions

- Prohibits use, production, stockpiling, and transfer of anti-personnel landmines
- Requires destruction of existing stockpiles
- Mandates assistance to mine victims and affected communities
- Obligates clearance of mined areas



Source: HT

# Women hold 39.2% of bank accounts in India, 42.2% in rural areas: MOSPI

## Context

- MoSPI, released the 26th edition of its publication titled **“Women and Men in India 2024: Selected Indicators and Data”**.

## Key Highlights

- Education**
  - Gender Parity Index (GPI) for primary and higher secondary enrolment increased in FY24 vs. FY23 & FY22.
- Labor Force Participation**
  - Female LFPR (15+ years) rose from 49.8% in 2017–18 to 60.1% in 2023–24.
- Financial Inclusion**
  - Women own 39.2% of all bank accounts.
  - Contribute 39.7% to total bank deposits.
  - 42.2% of rural account holders are women.
- Entrepreneurship & Economic Independence**
  - Rise in female-headed proprietary establishments across manufacturing, trade, and services (2021–22 to 2023–24).
- Startups with at least one woman director (DPIIT-recognized):**
  - 2017: 1,943, 2024: 17,405
  - 800%+ increase over 7 years.
- Political Participation**
  - Female voter turnout: 2019: 67.2%, 2024: 65.8% (slight decline).
- Violence Against Women**
  - 31.9% of married women (18–49 yrs) report spousal violence.
- Highest prevalence:**
  - Karnataka: 48.4%, Bihar: 42.5%, Manipur: 41.6%



Source: HT



# PM Modi gifts Brass Dokra Peacock-themed boat to Thai PM, silver-gold cufflinks to his spouse

## Context

- PM Modi gifted a **Dokra Brass Peacock Boat** with a Tribal Rider to the Thai Prime Minister.

## Overview

### Introduction

- Over 4,000 years old, dating back to the Indus Valley Civilization.
- Example:** The famous Dancing Girl sculpture from Mohenjo-daro.

### Origin

- Name "**Dhokra**" or "**Dokra**" derived from the Dhokra Damar tribes of West Bengal.

### Technique

- Unique use of the lost wax casting technique, where the mold is used only once and then broken, making each artifact one of a kind.

### Geographical Indication (GI) Tag

- GI Tag granted to Dokra of Bankura in West Bengal in 2008.

### Recent News

- PM Modi gifted a Dokra Brass Peacock Boat with a Tribal Rider to the Thai Prime Minister.



Source: HT

# India VIX's biggest jump in a single day signals rocky road ahead

## Context

- India VIX jumped 65% to 22.8, indicating **sharp rise in market volatility**.

## What is VIX?

- “**VIX**” is a trademark owned by the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE).
- It measures the market's expectation of **near-term volatility**.
- Reflects rate and magnitude of price changes – commonly seen as a fear gauge.
- Expressed as annualized volatility (percentage).

## How is VIX Calculated?

- Based on option prices of a specific underlying index.
- Uses data from the order book (best bid and ask prices).
- Computed using CBOE methodology.

## India VIX

- Based on **NIFTY Index Option prices**.
- Measures expected market volatility for the next 30 days.
- Uses best bid-ask quotes of NIFTY Options.
- Employs **CBOE's methodology** with adjustments for NIFTY:
- Includes techniques like cubic splines for smoother calculations.



Source: HT



# IEPFA and IPPB Sign MoA to Launch Phase 2 of “Niveshak Didi” to Boost Rural Women’s Financial Literacy

## Context

- Phase 2 of the Niveshak Didi initiative launched via MoA between IEPFA and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB).

## About the Initiative

- Aimed at financial literacy, especially in rural and underserved areas.
- Women postal workers and community leaders trained as financial educators – called Niveshak Didis.

### Phase 1 (2018):

- Over 55,000 beneficiaries,
- 60% women participation, mostly from rural areas,
- Conducted by IPPB through Financial Literacy Camps.

### Phase 2:

- Rollout of 4,000+ new camps,
- Led by ~40,000 trained women postal workers,

### Key focus:

- Responsible investing, Fraud awareness, Savings habits, Digital banking tools.

### Institutions Involved:

- Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA):
- Statutory body under Ministry of Corporate Affairs (2016).
  - **Mandate:**
    - Promote financial literacy,
    - Protect investor rights,
    - Conduct awareness campaigns, especially in rural areas.



Source: PIB



**Stay Tuned!**