

Daily Current Affairs





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10 MCQ QUIZ

**Love yourself first,
and everything else
falls into line.**

— *Lucille Ball*

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BY BHUNESH SIR

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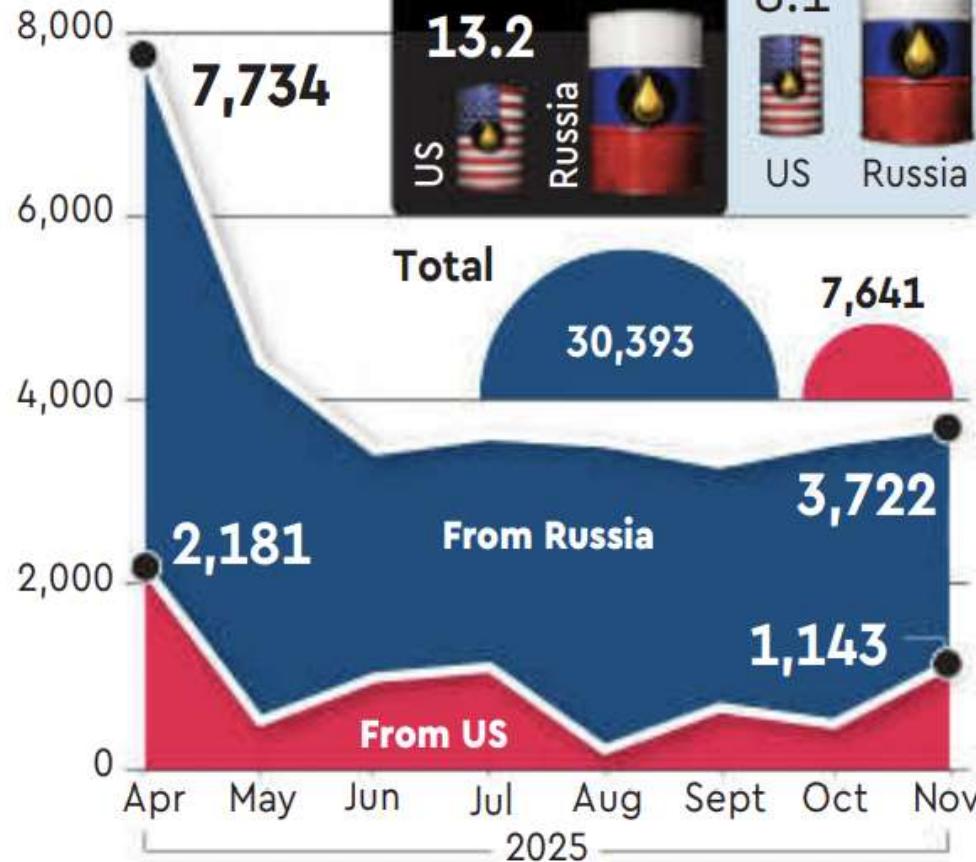
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AT IT AGAIN

India's crude oil imports (\$ million, April-November, 2025)



Share in crude oil imports (Nov, %)

13.2



Total

30,393

From Russia

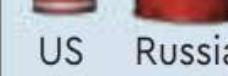
From US

Apr-Nov (%)

32.4



US



Russia

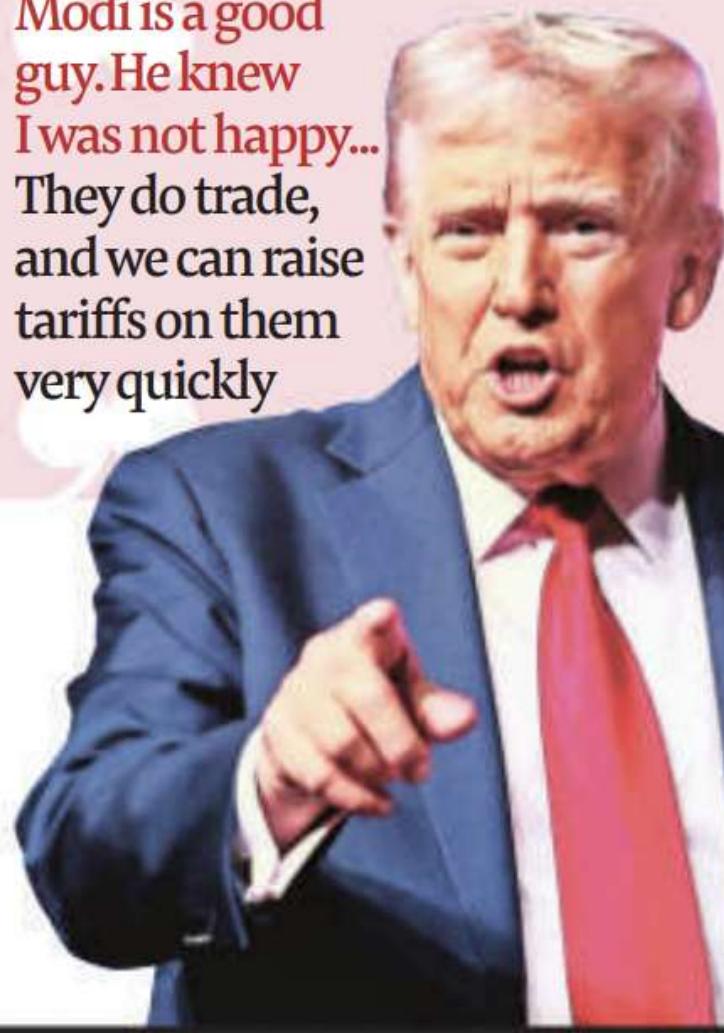
7,641

3,722

1,143

DONALD TRUMP, US PRESIDENT

Modi is a good guy. He knew I was not happy... They do trade, and we can raise tariffs on them very quickly



Coast Guard adds pollution control vessel to its fleet

Samudra Pratap, built with over 60% indigenous content, will substantially enhance the Coast Guard's capability in fire-fighting, maritime safety, environmental protection, and surveillance

Saurabh Trivedi

NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned the Indian Coast Guard Ship *ICGS Samudra Pratap*, the first of two indigenously designed pollution control vessels (PCVs) for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), in Goa on Monday. The Minister described the ship, built with over 60% indigenous content, as a symbol of India's maturing defence industrial ecosystem.

The vessel was built by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL). The Defence Ministry said *Samudra Pratap* is India's first homegrown pollution control vessel and the largest ship in the Coast Guard's fleet so far. Its induction substantially enhances the ICG's capability in pollution response, fire-fighting, maritime safety, environmental protection, and extended surveillance across the country's vast maritime zones.

Commissioning the



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during the commissioning of Indian Coast Guard Ship *Samudra Pratap* in Goa on Monday. ANI

ship, Mr. Singh reiterated the government's goal to increase indigenous content in warships to 90%. He said the vessel integrated multiple roles on a single platform, making it effective not only for pollution control but also for coastal patrol and maritime security in today's complex maritime environment.

The ship is equipped with advanced pollution detection systems, special-

ised pollution response boats, modern firefighting equipment, and aviation facilities including a helicopter hangar, enabling greater operational reach even in rough sea conditions.

Protecting marine life

Mr. Singh noted that these capabilities would ensure rapid detection and containment of pollution incidents, helping protect coral reefs, mangroves, fisheries, and marine biodiversity, directly supporting coastal communities and the blue economy. Emphasising that marine environmental protection is both a strategic necessity and a moral responsibility, the Defence Minister praised the ICG's role in oil spill response, maritime law enforcement, and coastal cleanliness.

Women officers

In a notable first, *Samudra Pratap* will have two women officers aboard. Mr. Singh hailed it as a proud step towards a more inclusive and gender-neutral Coast Guard, highlighting the growing role of women in frontline maritime operations.

Reaffirming the government's commitment to modernising the ICG, he stressed the need for an intelligence-driven and integration-centric force to address emerging technology-led threats. He expressed confidence that *Samudra Pratap* will significantly strengthen India's maritime governance.

◆ Commissioning & Basics

- Indian Coast Guard (ICG) commissioned a new Pollution Control Vessel (PCV) named **Samudra Pratap**.
👉 भारतीय तटरक्षक बल (ICG) ने 'समुद्र प्रताप' नामक नया प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पोत (PCV) कमीशन किया।
- It was commissioned by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in Goa.
👉 इसका उद्घाटन रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह द्वारा गोवा में किया गया।

◆ Indigenous Content & Shipbuilding

- Built by **Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)** with **over 60% indigenous content**.
👉 यह पोत गोवा शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड (GSL) द्वारा 60% से अधिक स्वदेशी सामग्री से बनाया गया है।
- It is **India's first indigenously designed pollution control vessel**.
👉 यह भारत का पहला स्वदेशी रूप से डिजाइन किया गया प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पोत है।
- Largest ship in the **Indian Coast Guard fleet** so far.
👉 यह अब तक ICG के बेड़े का सबसे बड़ा जहाज है।

◆ Roles & Capabilities

- Enhances capability in:
 - 👉 निम्न क्षमताओं में वृद्धि करता है:
 - Pollution response | प्रदूषण प्रतिक्रिया
 - Fire-fighting | अग्निशमन
 - Maritime safety | समुद्री सुरक्षा
 - Environmental protection | पर्यावरण संरक्षण
 - Extended surveillance | विस्तारित निगरानी
 - Multi-role platform suitable for **coastal patrol & maritime security**.
- 👉 यह एक मल्टी-रोल प्लेटफॉर्म है जो तटीय गश्त और समुद्री सुरक्षा में सक्षम है।

◆ Advanced Technology

- Equipped with **pollution detection systems, specialised response boats, and modern fire-fighting systems**.
 - 👉 इसमें प्रदूषण पहचान प्रणाली, विशेष प्रतिक्रिया नौकाएँ, और आधुनिक अग्निशमन उपकरण हैं।
- Includes **aviation facilities & helicopter hangar** for rough sea operations.
 - 👉 इसमें हेलिकॉप्टर हैंगर सहित विमानन सुविधाएँ हैं, जिससे ऊबड़-खाबड़ समुद्र में भी संचालन संभव है।

◆ Environmental & Strategic Importance

- Helps protect **coral reefs, mangroves, fisheries & marine biodiversity**.
 - 👉 यह कोरल रीफ, मैंग्रोव, मत्स्य संसाधन और समुद्री जैव विविधता की रक्षा करेगा।
- Supports **coastal communities & Blue Economy**.
 - 👉 यह ब्लू इकॉनॉमी और तटीय समुदायों को सहयोग देता है।

Topic

Pollution Control Vessel (PCV)

Goa Shipyard Limited

Blue Economy

ICG Roles

Indigenous Defence

Marine Protection

Helicopter Hangar

Women in Armed Forces

Important Facts (Exam-oriented)

Oil spill response, chemical dispersal, maritime firefighting

PSU under Ministry of Defence

Sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth

Search & Rescue, EEZ surveillance, anti-smuggling, pollution control

Linked with *Atmanirbhar Bharat*

Supports India's commitments under MARPOL Convention

Enhances surveillance & disaster response

Part of gender inclusion reforms

Exam	Year / Date	Question Theme	Model Answer
UPSC CSE Prelims	2018	Roles of Indian Coast Guard	Pollution control, maritime safety, EEZ protection
UPSC CSE Prelims	2020	Blue Economy	Sustainable ocean resources
UPSC CSE Mains (GS-III)	2021	Indigenous defence production	Atmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India
State PSC (RAS/UPPSC)	2022–23	Coastal security	Role of Navy & Coast Guard
SSC CGL	2022	Goa Shipyard	Defence PSU
Banking (IBPS PO)	2021	Environmental protection	Oil spill & coastal ecology
Railway NTPC	2020	Women in Armed Forces	Gender inclusion initiatives

- With reference to **Indian Coast Guard Ship ‘Samudra Pratap’**, consider the following statements:
 - It is India’s first indigenously designed pollution control vessel.
 - It is built by Goa Shipyard Limited with more than 60% indigenous content.
 - It is primarily meant for naval combat operations.
 - Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- Answer Options**
 - A) 1 and 2 only
 - B) 2 and 3 only
 - C) 1 only
 - D) 1, 2 and 3

Stepping in with Maoism in rapid retreat

Maoism seems to be on its last legs with mass surrenders by Maoists in various states and regions since October 2020. While the movement has declined since 2011-12, and faced a setback in 2016, it changed the form of its organisation as well as struggle in August 2018. The People's War (PW) of the CPI(Maoist) decided to split into smaller formations to prevent re-centralisation of party forces. It also decided to remain in defensive mode unless the situation warranted attacking the security forces.

However, the adoption of this strategy, the party split into some smaller formations (CC), members and DK special social committee members (since August 2018) and the Central Party (CP), Nandhala Kshavaya Rau (alias Basavaraj) was killed in May 2020 with the Central Party's military power was wiped out in a gun battle with the security forces in what is now the Kurnool district in Chhattisgarh. Some defected, particularly PW members.

Venugopal alias Soma formed a posse of 100 rebels to re-organise and asked to consult with other senior leaders. When the government refused to such conditional talks, he surrendered along with 60 rebels with weapons and 100 others with another senior cadre under the name 'Rupesh' in-charge of the north and west sub-command of CC and surrendered with PW members and their weapons in Jagdalpur. CC members from Chhattisgarh and persons from the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA) battalion 1, Madvi Hidma, was killed in the Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh.

Another CC member (from Chhattisgarh), Bhupesh, also surrendered recently to another special zone, Maharashtra-Madhyas Pradesh-Chhattisgarh.

The PLA's Bihar commander and the secretary South-Bihar division, have also surrendered, some of the cadres



B.K. Xu

is a former IPS officer

of West-Bihar and others are still holding out. The central military commandos head of the CRPF, Dabir Singh alias Dabir and alias Deepak, is for continuing the fight. In October, the Ministry of Home Affairs announced that the 10 districts in India were Left Wing Extremism-affected districts, with only three in Chhattisgarh the others.

How is the government going to address the forces which prevent the Maoists to organise the masses against the state? Some of the cadres who surrendered have been absorbed in the tribal rights in the areas is still ongoing. While the surrendered cadres are being given benefits to government schools for basic education and rehabilitation. Many surrendered cadres are being absorbed in agriculture and their skills can be tapped.

First, the network of medical facilities should be extended to tribal areas so that the villagers have access to health care. Anemia is a health issue among the tribals of DK. General malaria is also a major health concern. Pesticides and lack of drinking water has led to outbreaks of dysentery. The incidence of snake bites which are not uncommon in the jungles. Health centres can cater to the needs of tribals in areas freed from the Maoist influence.

Second, tribal groups depend on agriculture and their produce for their basic needs. Maoists dug ponds and created orchards to win the tribals over and to induct them into the movement. They also forced contractors to pay a fixed price for picking *tendu* (pata) leaves. Later, they took up land leveling to raise paddy and even even more sugar. The government should now ensure the supply of good seeds (including fish seeds) and construct basic infrastructure facilities by constructing check dams, while the minimum support price of many items of

forest produce is notified by the government's annual processing units need to be established so that tribals can access them easily. The focus should be on increasing economic activities and improving living.

Third, more educational infrastructures should be established in DK. This model has been quite successful in the past. It is not practical to open schools in villages that were sparsely populated and the Maoists never tried to impose any kind of education on the tribals through their schools. Most of the surrendered cadres are literate and need to be sent to government schools for basic education and rehabilitation. Many surrendered cadres are being absorbed in agriculture and their skills can be tapped.

While the S & K policy prioritises employment, jobs and housing, it must not be forgotten that most Maoists were not employed in any capacity while in the Maoist movement. It is necessary to have a reverse vasectomy procedure to ensure that the health care facility must be provided free of cost in district hospitals. Similarly, the women who have joined should also be assisted with reproductive technology.

It is interesting to note that joined the Maoist movement were those who wanted to escape forced marriages by their families. Therefore, the basic needs to be spread through the ayan (elderly people) of villages to respect a community with respect to marriage.

The State government is keen to implement the *Swajiv Nidhi* ('Your good village') scheme to provide the benefits of government services to 250 villages which fall within five kilometers of the remote security camps (about 50). However, with the help of the concerned ministers of MoS, this scheme must be extended to previously affected villages.

The government needs to ensure consistent development in the affected tribal areas

With inputs from Rajagopal Srikrishna and M. Soundararaj Perveza

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The government needs to ensure consistent development in the affected tribal areas

With inputs from Rajagopal Srikrishna and M. Soundararaj Perveza

A brewing storm over 'defections'

The focus is on the Telangana Speaker's verdict on BRS MLAs who defected

STATE OF PLAY

M. Balaji

www.mbalajithoottukkudi.com

+91 98400 20000



Telangana

be filed only by a person duly authorised to do so and in accordance with the procedure laid down in the B-Form, the legislator was elected, or whether any other person took the locus standi to file such a petition without specifying the capacity in which it is filed.

The Speaker has held that since objections around the issue repeatedly arise during discussions in the Assembly, particularly where one MLA sought the disqualification of another, it is necessary to rule on the matter.

The Speaker also dismissed the petition of the BRS MLA, K. Ravindra Reddy, who sought disqualification of his colleague, K. Krishnamurthy Reddy.

The Speaker is acting as the chairman of the Tribunal to rule on disqualification petitions filed by the BRS. He did not state in what capacity he filed the petition or how he acquired the right to do so. The question is whether the constituency from which the respondent was elected is the same as that of the respondent of the petitioners (the BRS legislator) to rule on disqualification petitions.

The Speaker did not factor in the observations made by the Supreme Court of India, in the *Speaker of Odisha Legislative Assembly vs. State of Odisha* case, which held that the locus standi of a non-member of the House in authorising a petition to rule on a disqualification petition is that of the member.

The Speaker has held that not only a member of the House, but any person interested would also

be entitled to bring to the notice of the Speaker the fact that a Member of the House had incurred disqualification under the Constitution of India.

The observation assumes importance as all the petitioners who sought disqualification p

leasant to bring to the notice of the Speaker the fact that a Member of the House had incurred disqualification under the Constitution of India.

The observation assumes importance as all the petitioners who sought disqualification

pleased with the Speaker are Members of the Assembly respectively.

The manner in which the petition has been dismissed does not sit well with the BRS and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which described the verdict "unfortunate". The parties have alleged that the Speaker was acting as the buffer of the Chief Minister, A. Revanth Reddy, who has been instrumental in the Chief Minister's claims that there was no scope for disqualification of the BRS MLAs, Telangana Venkata Rao, Gudem Mahipati Reddy, and K. Krishnamurthy Reddy.

The Speaker has held that

it is the duty of the Speaker to rule on the petition.

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◆ Overall Export Trend

- India's exports showed **resilience** in November, despite rising **U.S. tariffs**.
👉 अमेरिकी टैरिफ बढ़ने के बावजूद, नवंबर में भारत के निर्यात में लचीलापन देखा गया।
- Not only did **total exports grow**, but **shipments to the U.S. also rebounded**.
👉 कुल निर्यात ही नहीं, बल्कि अमेरिका को निर्यात भी फिर से बढ़ा।

◆ Method of Analysis

- Data compares Sept–Nov 2025 with **average of same months in 2023–24**.
👉 सितंबर–नवंबर 2025 की तुलना 2023–24 के समान महीनों के औसत से की गई।
- Focus on products where **India's export dependence on the U.S. is high**.
👉 ध्यान उन वस्तुओं पर था जहाँ अमेरिका पर निर्भरता अधिक है।

◆ Products Not Hit / Less Hit by Tariffs

- **Telecom instruments (especially smartphones)** exports to U.S. surged by 237%.
👉 टेलीकॉम उपकरण (विशेषकर स्मार्टफोन) का निर्यात 237% बढ़ा।
- **Electrical machinery** exports increased by 15%.
👉 इलेक्ट्रिकल मशीनरी के निर्यात में 15% वृद्धि हुई।

◆ Products Negatively Impacted by Tariffs

- **Pearls & precious stones** exports declined by ~78.5%.
👉 मोती व कीमती पत्थरों का निर्यात लगभग 78.5% घटा।
- **Gold jewellery**: -39%
👉 स्वर्ण आभूषण: -39%
- **Cotton fabrics**: -23%
👉 कॉटन फैब्रिक: -23%
- **Marine products (to U.S.)**: -17%
👉 समुद्री उत्पाद (अमेरिका को): -17%

◆ Diversification Strategy (Key Insight)

- Exporters diversified markets to offset U.S. tariff impact.
👉 निर्यातकों ने बाजारों का विविधीकरण कर अमेरिकी झटके की भरपाई की।
- **Marine exports overall grew ~17%**, despite flat U.S. shipments.
👉 अमेरिका को स्थिर निर्यात के बावजूद समुद्री उत्पादों का कुल निर्यात ~17% बढ़ा।

◆ Key Markets Beyond the U.S.

- U.S. still dominant buyer (2025) with >30% market share.
👉 2025 में अमेरिका 30% से अधिक हिस्सेदारी के साथ प्रमुख खरीदार बना रहा।
- China: Marine exports grew by 23%.
👉 चीन को समुद्री निर्यात 23% बढ़ा।
- Spain: Over \$50 million marine exports (Sept–Nov 2025).
👉 स्पेन को \$50 मिलियन से अधिक का समुद्री निर्यात।
- Europe surge:
👉 यूरोप में तेज़ वृद्धि:
 - Belgium: +124%
 - Netherlands: +56%
 - Germany: +65%
 - Italy: +23%

◆ Ready-made Garments & Currency Effect

- Ready-made cotton garments exports to Europe also increased.
👉 रेडीमेड कॉटन गारमेंट्स का यूरोप को निर्यात भी बढ़ा।
- Weak Rupee (~₹90) helped exporters find new markets.
👉 कमज़ोर रुपया (~₹90) निर्यात को नए बाज़ारों में बढ़ाने में सहायक रहा।

Topic	Exam-Relevant Facts
Export Diversification	Key trade strategy to reduce country-specific risk
U.S. Tariffs	Tool of protectionism; affects labour-intensive sectors
Smartphones Exports	Linked with Make in India & PLI Scheme
Marine Products	Major forex earner; linked with Blue Economy
FTAs	India has FTAs with UAE, ASEAN, Japan, Korea
Weak Rupee	Boosts exports, increases import cost
Europe as Market	EU diversification strategy post-tariff shocks

Which of the following best explains why India's total exports to the U.S. increased despite higher tariffs?

- A) Decline in gold exports
- B) Surge in smartphone exports
- C) Increase in marine exports to U.S.
- D) Fall in cotton prices

A shift in India's trade gaze

The data (charts) were sourced from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. For this analysis, only the top 20 exported products and the top 20 countries they were exported to, in any given month, were considered to narrow the focus

CHART 1A: % change in exports to the U.S. between Sept.-Nov. 2025 and the 2023-24 average for the same months

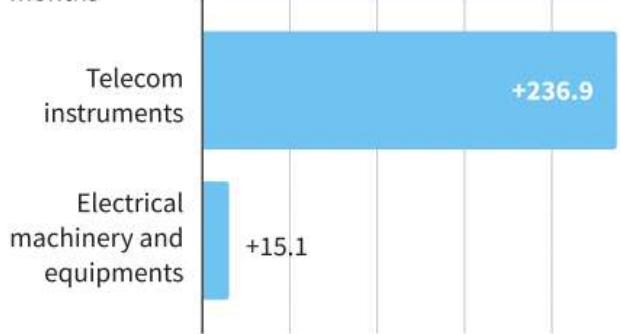


CHART 1B:

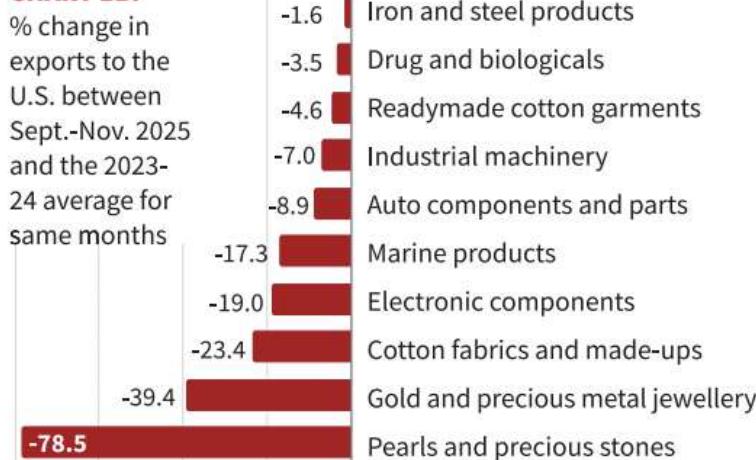


CHART 2A: % change in total exports between Sept.-Nov. 2025 and the 2023-24 average for the same months



TABLE 3A:

Value of India's marine exports (in \$ million) to various countries between September to November of 2025. The % change in marine exports between Sept.-Nov. 2025 and the 2023-24 average for same months are also provided

Partner	2025	Change
Total	2557.8	+16.8
U.S.	570.0	-17.3
China	556.6	+22.8
Belgium	124.5	+124.3
Italy	56.3	+23.3
Spain	51.8	-
UAE	42.6	-5.1
U.K.	31.7	-0.3
The Netherlands	31.4	+56.0
Germany	30.2	+65.3
Malaysia	28.0	+81.0
France	23.9	+41.2
Hong Kong	17.9	+8.1
South Korea	14.9	+466.6

CHART 2A: % change in total exports between Sept.-Nov. 2025 and the 2023-24 average for the same months

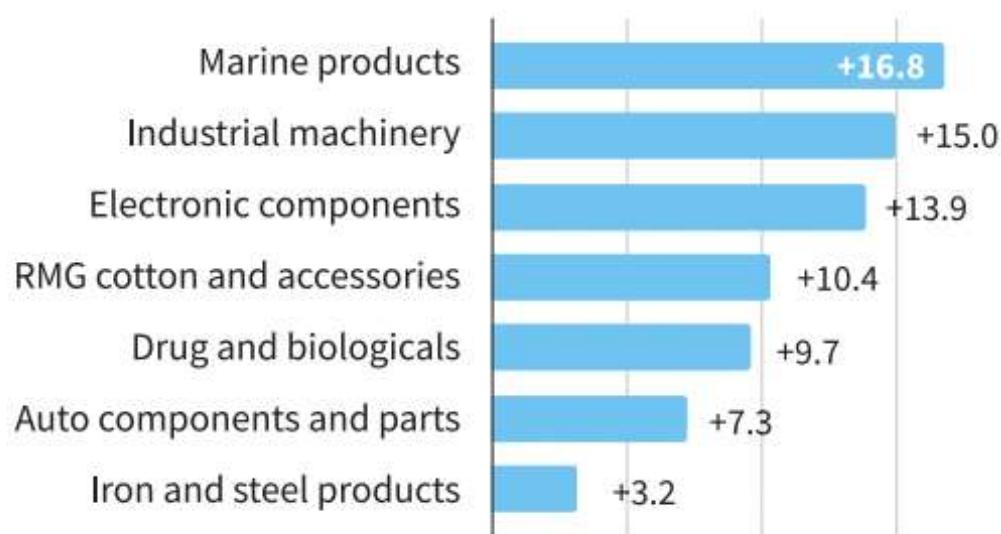
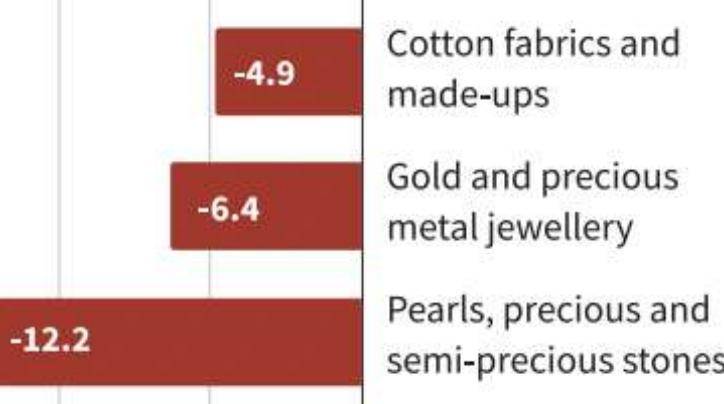


CHART 2B:

% change in total exports between Sept.-Nov. 2025 and the 2023-24 average for the same months



average for same months are also provided

Malaysia	2024	Total
France	23.9	+41.2
Hong Kong	17.9	+8.1
South Korea	14.9	+466.6

TABLE 3B:

This table provides the same information in Table 3A for readymade cotton garment exports

Partner	2025	Change
Total	1989.2	+10.4
U.S.	580.3	-4.6
U.K.	180.8	+15.5
UAE	163.5	+29.9
Germany	117.9	+20.0
The Netherlands	107.3	+16.4
France	87.4	+22.6
Australia	61.5	+1.1
Italy	57.8	+28.8
Spain	49.1	New
Saudi Arabia	40.3	+20.8
Belgium	31.4	+20.1
South Africa	13.9	-6.2
China	12.0	+29.1

Finland's battle against fake news starts in its preschool classrooms

Associated Press

HELSINKI

For decades, the Nordic nation has woven media literacy, including the ability to analyse different kinds of media and recognise disinformation, into its national curriculum for students as young as three years old. The coursework is part of a robust anti-misinformation programme to make Finns more resistant to propaganda and false claims, especially those crossing over the 1,340-kilometre border with neighbouring Russia.

Now, teachers are tasked with adding artificial intelligence literacy to their curriculum, especially after Russia stepped up its disinformation campaign across Europe following its full-scale inva-



Ten-year-old fourth grade student Ilo Lindgren attends a media literacy class at his school in Tapanila, Finland. AP

sion of Ukraine nearly four years ago. Finland's ascension into NATO in 2023 also provoked Moscow's ire, though Russia has repeatedly denied it interferes in the internal affairs of other countries.

"We think that having good media literacy skills is a very big civic skill," Kiia

Hakkala, a pedagogical specialist for the City of Helsinki, said. "It's very important to the nation's safety and to the safety of our democracy."

At Tapanila Primary School, in a quiet neighbourhood north of Helsinki, teacher Ville Vanhanen taught a group of fourth

graders how to spot fake news. As a TV screen beamed a "Fact or Fiction?" banner, student Ilo Lindgren evaluated the prompt.

"It is a little bit hard," the 10-year-old admitted.

Mr. Vanhanen said his students have been learning about fake news and disinformation for years, beginning with reading headlines and short texts. In a recent class, the fourth graders were tasked with coming up with five things to look out for when consuming online news to ensure it's trustworthy. Now they are moving onto AI literacy, which is quickly becoming a vital skill.

"We've been studying how to recognise if a picture or a video is made by AI," added Vanhanen, a teacher at the school.

◆ Country & Initiative

- Finland has integrated media literacy into its national curriculum from preschool level (as young as 3 years).
👉 फिनलैंड ने मीडिया साक्षरता को राष्ट्रीय पाठ्यक्रम में प्री-स्कूल (3 वर्ष की आयु) से शामिल किया है।

◆ Objective of the Programme

- Aim is to make citizens resilient to fake news, propaganda and disinformation.
👉 उद्देश्य नागरिकों को फर्जी समाचार, प्रचार और दुष्प्रचार के प्रति सशक्त व सजग बनाना है।
- Special focus on cross-border misinformation, especially from Russia.
👉 विशेष ध्यान सीमा-पार दुष्प्रचार, खासकर रूस से आने वाले प्रभावों पर है।

◆ Background & Security Context

- After Russia's invasion of Ukraine (2022) and Finland's NATO entry in 2023, disinformation risks increased.
👉 यूक्रेन पर रूस के आक्रमण (2022) और 2023 में NATO में फिनलैंड की सदस्यता के बाद दुष्प्रचार का खतरा बढ़ा।
- Finland shares a 1,340 km border with Russia, making information security critical.
👉 फिनलैंड की रूस के साथ 1,340 किमी लंबी सीमा है, इसलिए सूचना सुरक्षा अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है।

◆ Classroom-Level Implementation

- Children are taught to **analyze headlines, short texts, images and videos.**
👉 बच्चों को शीर्षक, छोटे लेख, चित्र और वीडियो का विश्लेषण करना सिखाया जाता है।
- Students evaluate content using "**Fact or Fiction?**" exercises.
👉 विद्यार्थी "Fact or Fiction?" अभ्यास के माध्यम से सत्यापन सीखते हैं।

◆ AI & Digital Literacy

- Curriculum now includes **AI literacy**, such as identifying AI-generated images or videos.
👉 पाठ्यक्रम में AI साक्षरता भी शामिल है — जैसे AI से बने चित्र/वीडियो पहचानना।
- AI literacy is considered a **vital future civic skill**.
👉 AI साक्षरता को भविष्य का आवश्यक नागरिक कौशल माना गया है।

◆ Democratic & Civic Importance

- Media literacy is seen as a **pillar of democratic safety**.
👉 मीडिया साक्षरता को लोकतंत्र की सुरक्षा का आधार माना जाता है।
- Helps citizens make **informed decisions** in digital environments.
👉 डिजिटल युग में सूचित निर्णय लेने में सहायता करती है।

Topic	Exam-Oriented Facts
Media Literacy	Ability to access, analyse, evaluate & create media
Disinformation	Deliberate spread of false information
Hybrid Warfare	Includes cyber attacks + misinformation
NATO	Military alliance focused on collective security
AI Literacy	Recognising deepfakes, AI-generated content
Democratic Resilience	Ability of society to resist manipulation
Nordic Model	Emphasis on education, trust & civic skills

- Consider the following statements:
- Finland integrated media literacy into its national curriculum.
- AI literacy includes identifying AI-generated images and videos.
- Media literacy is considered important for democratic safety.
- Which of the above are correct?
- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Trump trumpets Donroe Doctrine, warning Colombia, Cuba, Mexico

Calls Greenland Strategic, 'Need It From Standpoint Of Nat'l Security'

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: In a cascade of incendiary remarks following the unprecedented US military operation that captured Venezuelan strongman Nicolas Maduro, US President Donald Trump has warned of action against Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and other nations, signalling an assertive and muscular reinterpretation of US hemispheric influence, now dubbed the "Donroe Doctrine."

Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One and in other interviews Sunday, Trump laid out a combative and blunt-force vision for US policy toward Latin American countries — and even as far as Greenland and Iran — claiming Washington's right to shape outcomes across the Western Hemisphere and strategic regions.

Trump's remarks began with a blistering attack on Colombia's President Gustavo Petro, whom he accused of presiding over drug production that harms the US. "Venezuela and Colombia are very sick," Trump said. "A sick man who likes making cocaine and selling it to the US ... And he's not going to be doing it very long. Let me tell you." When pressed about a potential US military operation in Colombia, Trump replied cryptically:



Greenland, the world's largest island with a population of 57,000 people, is not an independent member of Nato but is covered by Denmark's membership of the military alliance, of which US is also a member

'US hit on Greenland would mean end of Nato'

Denmark's PM said on Monday US President Donald Trump must be taken seriously when he says he wants to acquire Greenland. European powers also rallied behind Greenland, an autonomous Danish territory. "Unfortunately, I think the American president should be taken seriously when he says he wants Greenland," Danish PM Mette Frederiksen told public broadcaster DR on Monday. "I have made it very clear where the Kingdom of Denmark stands, and Greenland has repeatedly said that it does not want to be part of the US." "If the US decides to militarily attack another Nato country, then everything would stop — that includes Nato and therefore post-WWII security," Frederiksen said. Greenland PM Jens-Frederik Nielsen replied to Trump's comments in a Facebook post, saying: "Enough is enough... No more fantasies about annexation." REUTERS

ly: "Sounds good to me."

Turning to Cuba, Trump stressed the island's perceived vulnerability after Venezuela's political collapse. "Cuba is ready to fall ... Cuba now has no income. They got all of their income from Venezuela... from the Venezuelan oil ... Cuba literally is ready to fall," he said, suggesting that direct US military action might be unnecessary.

He also warned Mexico on its challenges with drug trafficking, saying the country "has to get their act together" and hinting once more that Washington might take action if cartels continue to "pour through Mexico."

Trump did not confine his dark rhetoric to the Americas. Addressing unrest in Iran, he warned that Tehran would be "hit very hard by the US" if it used lethal force against protesters. "We're watching it very closely," he added.

Trump has also revived his long-standing demand to control Greenland. "We need Greenland ... it's so strategic right now. Greenland is covered with Russian and Chinese ships all over the place. We need Greenland from the standpoint of national security, and Denmark is not going to be able to do it," he said, defending what has long been dismissed by foreign capi-

tals as unrealistic expansion. Trump's own cabinet principals have warned that the president means business and his words cannot be taken lightly.

The 47th US president has explicitly framed his comments in historical context, casting his aggressive stance as a revitalisation of US strategic doctrine going back to the 5th President James Monroe, who asserted in 1823 that the Western Hemisphere, particularly Latin America, was a US sphere of interest, and Washington would brook no interference from other European powers who had colonized large parts.

Supporters of the administration argue this reinterpretation reflects a necessary reassertion of Washington's influence after years of perceived US neglect in Latin America and strategic rivalry with Russia and China, which he has accused of making inroads into what he sees as US domain.

Meanwhile, there is little indication from Venezuela that the US has succeeded in installing a puppet regime in Caracas like it had hoped to, with reports of residual pro-Maduro resistance. Trump has warned that there would be "severe consequences" should the interim leadership fail to align with US demands.

Critics view the "Donroe Doctrine" as a dangerous revival of aggressive, unilateral US interventionism that risks alienating allies and destabilising entire regions. Supporters see it as the only path to reclaim American strategic primacy. As diplomatic fires continue to rise across capitals, the aftermath of Venezuela's upheaval has expanded into a geopolitical test of American power in 21st century.

'Ready to take up arms,' warns Colombia; 'state terrorism': Cuba

The US' capture of Venezuelan leader and President Trump's latest remarks warning of action against Colombia, Mexico and other nations have generated swift and hostile reactions.

Colombian President Gustavo Petro condemned Trump's remarks as a threat to sovereignty and rallied Latin American unity against external intervention, while Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel denounced the US operation in Venezuela as "state terrorism". Further afield, Danish PM Mette Frederiksen bluntly rejected US claims on Greenland, stating that "the United States has no right to annex" any part of the Danish kingdom, and emphasising existing Nato security arrangements.

Petro, a former guerrilla, said he was ready to "take up arms" in the face of threats from US. "If you bomb even one of groups without sufficient intelligence, you will kill many children. If you bomb peasants, thousands will turn into guerrillas. And if you detain the president, you will unleash the popular jaguar," he wrote.

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum said, "We categorically reject intervention in the internal matters of other countries." Sheinbaum added that Mexico is a sovereign country and is cooperating with the US on drug trafficking after Trump hinted at military action in Mexico. AGENCIES

◆ Revival of a Doctrine

- Donald Trump invoked a revived version of the "**Donroe Doctrine**", asserting U.S. dominance in the Western Hemisphere.
 - 👉 डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने "डोन्रो सिद्धांत" को आगे बढ़ाते हुए पश्चिमी गोलार्द्ध में अमेरिकी वर्चस्य पर ज़ोर दिया।
- The doctrine echoes the **Monroe Doctrine** (1823), which opposed external interference in the Americas.
 - 👉 यह मोनरो सिद्धांत (1823) से मिलता-जुलता है, जो अमेरिका में बाहरी हस्तक्षेप का विरोध करता था।

◆ Countries Warned by the U.S.

- Trump issued warnings against **Colombia, Cuba, and Mexico**.
 - 👉 ट्रंप ने कोलंबिया, क्यूबा और मेक्सिको को चेतावनी दी।
- He linked **drug trafficking, state terrorism, and instability** with possible U.S. action.
 - 👉 उन्होंने ड्रग तस्करी, राज्य प्रायोजित आतंकवाद और अस्थिरता को अमेरिकी कार्रवाई से जोड़ा।

◆ Greenland Controversy

- Trump called Greenland "strategic" and said the U.S. "needs it" for national security.
👉 ट्रंप ने ग्रीनलैंड को रणनीतिक बताते हुए कहा कि यह राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के लिए आवश्यक है।
- Greenland is an autonomous territory of Denmark and covered under NATO.
👉 ग्रीनलैंड डेनमार्क का स्वायत्त क्षेत्र है और NATO सुरक्षा के अंतर्गत आता है।
- Danish PM warned that any U.S. attack on Greenland would mean end of NATO security order.
👉 डेनमार्क ने कहा कि ग्रीनलैंड पर हमला NATO व्यवस्था के अंत जैसा होगा।

◆ Strategic Motivation

- Trump justified Greenland's importance citing Russian and Chinese presence in the Arctic.
👉 ट्रंप ने आर्कटिक क्षेत्र में रूस और चीन की मौजूदगी को ग्रीनलैंड की अहमियत का कारण बताया।
- The doctrine aims to reassert U.S. influence after perceived neglect in Latin America.
👉 यह नीति लैटिन अमेरिका में अमेरिकी प्रभाव की पुनः स्थापना का प्रयास है।

◆ Reaction from Latin America

- Colombian President termed Trump's remarks a threat to sovereignty.
👉 कोलंबिया ने इसे संप्रभुता के लिए खतरा बताया।
- Cuban leadership warned of resistance and termed U.S. pressure as "state terrorism".
👉 क्यूबा ने इसे राज्य आतंकवाद कहा।
- Mexico categorically rejected any military intervention.
👉 मेक्सिको ने किसी भी सैन्य हस्तक्षेप को सिरे से खारिज किया।

Topic

Key Exam Facts

Monroe Doctrine (1823)

President James Monroe; anti-colonial policy

Donroe Doctrine

Informal term for Trump's hemispheric dominance rhetoric

NATO Article 5

Collective defence clause

Greenland

World's largest island; Arctic strategic importance

Arctic Region

Emerging zone of US–China–Russia rivalry

Drug Trafficking

US often links it with national security

Latin America

Traditionally considered U.S. sphere of influence

Aspect	Donroe Doctrine	Monroe Doctrine
Nature	Informal / loosely used term	Formal foreign policy doctrine
Proponent	Not officially attributed to a single leader	President James Monroe
Year	No officially declared year	1823
Country	Not an official doctrine of any state	United States of America
Core Idea	General notion of protecting influence or dominance by powerful states	Opposition to European colonialism in the Americas
Main Objective	Safeguarding strategic or geopolitical interests	Prevent new European intervention in the Western Hemisphere
Geographical Scope	Undefined / contextual	North and South America (Western Hemisphere)
Policy on Intervention	Situation-based, not clearly defined	Europe should not interfere in the Americas; US will not interfere in Europe
Legal / Policy Status	Conceptual or misused term	Cornerstone of US foreign policy
Historical Importance	Minimal, mainly academic or erroneous usage	Highly significant; shaped US diplomacy for centuries
Modern Relevance	Rarely used in formal IR discourse	Still influences US strategic thinking
Exam Relevance	Mention only with clarification	Frequently asked in UPSC / PSC

- The “Donroe Doctrine” mentioned in news is most closely related to:
- A) Truman Doctrine
- B) Monroe Doctrine
- C) Brezhnev Doctrine
- D) Nixon Doctrine

India Emerges as World's Largest Rice Producer”

- India has overtaken China to become the world's largest rice producer.

👉 भारत ने चीन को पीछे छोड़ते हुए दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा चावल उत्पादक देश बनने का गौरव प्राप्त किया।

◆ Production Data

- India's rice production reached 150.18 million tonnes.

👉 भारत का चावल उत्पादन 150.18 मिलियन टन तक पहुँचा।

- China's rice output stood at 145.28 million tonnes.

👉 चीन का चावल उत्पादन 145.28 मिलियन टन रहा।

◆ Official Announcement

- The achievement was announced by **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**, Union Agriculture Minister.

👉 इस उपलब्धि की घोषणा केंद्रीय कृषि मंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान ने की।

Topic

Rice

Major Rice States (India)

Green Revolution

Food Security

Rice Exporters

MSP

Seed Innovation

Exam-Relevant Facts

Staple food crop; Kharif crop in India

West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu

Boosted wheat & rice productivity

Linked with PDS, NFSA

India, Thailand, Vietnam

Rice included under Minimum Support Price regime

Hybrid rice, stress-tolerant varieties

India recently emerged as the world's largest rice producer by surpassing which country?

- A) Vietnam
- B) Thailand
- C) China
- D) Indonesia

Telangana Assembly Abolishes Two-Child Norm for Local Polls

- **Telangana Legislative Assembly** unanimously passed Bills to **abolish the two-child norm** for contesting local body elections.
👉 तेलंगाना विधानसभा ने सर्वसम्मति से स्थानीय निकाय चुनावों के लिए दो-बच्चा मानदंड समाप्त कर दिया।

◆ Legal Change

- The reform was carried through the **Telangana Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2026**.
👉 यह सुधार तेलंगाना पंचायत राज (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2026 के माध्यम से किया गया।
- It removes disqualification for individuals having **more than two children** from Panchayat elections.
👉 इससे दो से अधिक बच्चों वाले व्यक्तियों की अयोग्यता समाप्त हो गई।

◆ Historical Context

- The two-child norm was originally introduced in **1994**.
👉 दो-बच्चा नियम पहली बार 1994 में लागू किया गया था।
- It was aimed at controlling **population growth, poverty, unemployment, and food security** concerns.
👉 इसका उद्देश्य जनसंख्या वृद्धि, गरीबी, बेरोज़गारी और खाद्य सुरक्षा से निपटना था।

◆ Rationale for Removal

- The State government cited **changing demographic realities** since the 1990s.
👉 सरकार ने कहा कि 1990 के दशक के बाद जनसांख्यिकीय परिस्थितियाँ बदल चुकी हैं।
- Concerns over **aging population, declining fertility rates, and social equity** influenced the move.
👉 बुजुर्ग आबादी, घटती प्रजनन दर और सामाजिक समानता प्रमुख कारण रहे।

◆ Democratic & Social Impact

- The move enhances **democratic participation** at the grassroots level.
👉 यह स्थानीय लोकतंत्र में भागीदारी को बढ़ावा देगा।
- It removes **indirect penalisation of poorer and marginalised sections**.
👉 इससे गरीब और वंचित वर्गों पर पड़ने वाला अप्रत्यक्ष दंड समाप्त होगा।

◆ Wider Significance

- Reflects a shift from **population control** to **rights-based governance**.
👉 यह जनसंख्या नियंत्रण से अधिकार-आधारित शासन की ओर बदलाव दर्शाता है।
- May influence **other States with similar disqualification clauses**.
👉 यह उन अन्य राज्यों को भी प्रभावित कर सकता है जहाँ ऐसा नियम मौजूद है।

Topic

Two-Child Norm

Exam-Relevant Facts

Used by several States in Panchayat laws

Panchayati Raj

Part IX of Indian Constitution

Article 243

Deals with Panchayats

Demographic Transition

Shift from high to low birth & death rates

Local Democracy

Grassroots self-governance

Social Justice

Removal of discriminatory conditions

Population Policy

Moving from coercive to incentive-based

“India Launches
First Tropical
RAS-Based
Rainbow Trout
Farm”



- India launched its first tropical RAS-based (Recirculatory Aquaculture System) Rainbow Trout farm.

👉 भारत ने पहला उष्णकटिबंधीय RAS-आधारित रेनबो ट्राउट फार्म शुरू किया।

◆ Location & Institution

- The facility is established in **Telangana**, at **Hyderabad** (Ranga Reddy district – Moinabad Mandal).
👉 यह सुविधा तेलंगाना के हैदराबाद (रंगा रेडी ज़िला) में स्थापित है।
- It is a **Smart Green Aquaculture Farm & Research Institute**.
👉 यह स्मार्ट ग्रीन एक्याकल्चर फार्म एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान है।

◆ Inauguration & Leadership

- Inaugurated on **January 5, 2026** under the leadership of **Rajiv Ranjan Singh**, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying.
👉 5 जनवरी 2026 को केंद्रीय मत्स्य, पशुपालन एवं डेयरी मंत्री राजीव रंजन सिंह के नेतृत्व में उद्घाटन।

◆ Technology Breakthrough

- Uses RAS (Recirculatory Aquaculture System) enabling water reuse, controlled temperature & oxygen, and high bio-security.
 - 👉 RAS तकनीक से पानी का पुनर्चक्रण, नियंत्रित तापमान-ऑक्सीजन और उच्च जैव-सुरक्षा संभव।
- Enables cultivation of cold-water species (Rainbow Trout) in tropical conditions.
 - 👉 उष्णकटिबंधीय परिस्थितियों में शीत-जल प्रजाति (रेनबो ट्राउट) का पालन संभव हुआ।

◆ Strategic Significance

- Breaks climatic constraints in Indian aquaculture.
 - 👉 भारतीय मत्स्यपालन में जलवायु बाधाएँ टूटती हैं।
- Promotes high-value fish farming, import substitution, and exports.
 - 👉 उच्च-मूल्य मछली पालन, आयात-प्रतिस्थापन और निर्यात को बढ़ावा।

◆ Sustainability & Economy

- RAS reduces water use and waste, aligning with Blue Economy and sustainable aquaculture.
 - 👉 ब्लू इकॉनमी व सतत मत्स्यपालन के अनुरूप—कम पानी, कम अपशिष्ट।
- Opens avenues for tech-driven jobs, skill development, and farmer income diversification.
 - 👉 तकनीकी रोजगार, कौशल विकास और किसानों की आय विविधीकरण।

TDM	729.89	915.51	185.62	▲ 25.43%
HUM	749.73	924.29	174.56	▲ 23.28%
DMW	833.72	1004.01	170.29	▲ 20.43%
YZJ	903.49	1127.46	223.97	▲ 24.79%
GLY	982.07	1219.39	237.32	▲ 24.17%
VDA	113.74	143.41	29.67	▲ 26.09%
UVV	468.08	535.41	67.33	▲ 14.38%
HJS	545.49	659.05	113.56	▲ 20.82%
EOC	566.98	664.09	97.13	▲ 17.24%

Andhra Pradesh Tops India's Investment Chart in FY26

PPJ	912.63	1038.36	125.73	▲ 13.78%
UAQ	1309.55	1655.62	346.07	▲ 26.43%
DAQ	1295.17	1641.68	345.49	▲ 26.75%
PNR	654.33	775.84	121.51	▲ 18.57%
ETM	554.53	675.84	121.51	▲ 18.57%
PPJ	912.63	1038.36	125.73	▲ 13.78%
ZCK	391.59	491.48	99.89	▲ 25.51%
BNY	969.21	1130.65	161.44	▲ 16.68%
SDM	735.44	913.39	177.95	▲ 24.20%
TQG	1623.91	1845.42	322.51	▲ 24.36%
ETM	554.33	675.84	121.51	▲ 18.57%
PPJ	912.63	1038.36	125.73	▲ 13.78%

◆ Investment Leadership

- Andhra Pradesh emerged as India's top investment destination in FY26, capturing the largest share of proposed investments.
 - 👉 आंध्र प्रदेश FY26 में भारत का शीर्ष निवेश गंतव्य बना, जहाँ प्रस्तावित निवेशों का सबसे बड़ा हिस्सा आया।

◆ Key Numbers (FY26 – first three quarters)

- Andhra Pradesh accounted for 25.3% of total proposed investments.
 - 👉 कुल प्रस्तावित निवेश का 25.3% हिस्सा आंध्र प्रदेश के पास रहा।
- Odisha (13.1%) ranked second; Maharashtra (12.8%) ranked third.
 - 👉 ओडिशा (13.1%) दूसरे और महाराष्ट्र (12.8%) तीसरे स्थान पर रहा।
- Top three states together: 51.2% of all proposed investments nationwide.
 - 👉 शीर्ष तीन राज्यों का संयुक्त हिस्सा: 51.2%।

◆ National Investment Momentum

- Overall investment announcements rose 11.5% YoY to ₹26.6 lakh crore.
 - 👉 कुल निवेश घोषणाएँ 11.5% (YoY) बढ़कर ₹26.6 लाख करोड़ हुईं।
- Indicates a shift of industrial momentum towards eastern & southern India.
 - 👉 यह औद्योगिक गति के पूर्वी व दक्षिणी भारत की ओर झुकाव को दर्शाता है।

Topic	Exam-Relevant Facts
Proposed Investments	Intent/announcements; not all convert to realized FDI
Industrial Geography	Shift towards coastal & port-linked states
Ease of Doing Business	Single-window clearances, fast-track approvals
State Competition	Investment summits, policy incentives
Banking Reports	Used by UPSC for data interpretation
Capex Cycle	Public + private capex revival signals growth

According to a Bank of Baroda report, what was Andhra Pradesh's share of proposed investments in FY26 (first three quarters)?

- A) 18.6%
- B) 21.4%
- C) 25.3%
- D) 31.8%

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Word of the day

Imbroglio:

a complicated, confused, or embarrassing situation that causes many problems

Synonyms: difficult, disagreement, controversy

Usage: *The deal ended in an imbroglio.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/imbrogliopro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /imbrɒliəʊ/





Thank you ☺

