

Women police officials to guard ladies coaches on Southern Railway trains

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Indian Polity and Governance - Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues

Mains: General Studies - 2
Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies. Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.

RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE

- The Railway Police **replaced a segment of the Watch and Ward system** maintained by Private Railway Companies in 1881.
 - This change followed the **enactment of the Police Act in 1861**.
 - However, by the mid-1940s, the remaining Watch and Ward staff under railway control proved insufficient to curb thefts of railway assets and consignments.
- In 1954, a **committee led by the then Director of the Intelligence Bureau** recommended reorganizing the **Watch and Ward into a statutory body**.
 - This led to the **enactment of the RPF Act in 1957**.
- Recognizing the need for **enhanced security and policing** on the Railways, the **Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act was introduced in 1966**.
- A significant amendment to the **RPF Act in 1985 transformed the RPF into an Armed Force**, fundamentally altering its role and operations.
- Further amendments to the **RPF Act and the Railways Act were made in 2003**.
 - These changes tasked the Force with securing passengers and passenger areas and granted it authority to inquire and prosecute under the Railways Act.

IISR to host 'ideathon' to promote ideas in spice sector

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Indian Polity and Governance - Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues

Mains: General Studies - 2
Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR)

- The IISR, Kozhikode (Calicut), is a **constituent body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** dedicated to spice research.
- It started in **1976 as a Regional Station of the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI)**, Kasaragod, focusing on spice research.
- In 1986, the **National Research Centre for Spices was established** in Kozhikode, Kerala.
 - It was formed by **merging** the former CPCRI Regional Station at Kozhikode and the Cardamom Research Centre at Appangala, Karnataka.
- Recognizing the growing significance of spice research in India, this Research Centre was **elevated to the Indian Institute of Spices Research on July 1, 1995**.
- **Mandate:**
 - Conducting **fundamental, applied, and strategic research** on genetic resource management and crop improvement.
 - ↳ Additionally, focusing on production and protection technologies to enhance safe spice production.
 - **Facilitating technology transfer, capacity building**, and evaluating the impact of developed technologies.
 - **Coordinating research and validating technologies** under the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Spices.

India's opportunity at the AI Action Summit

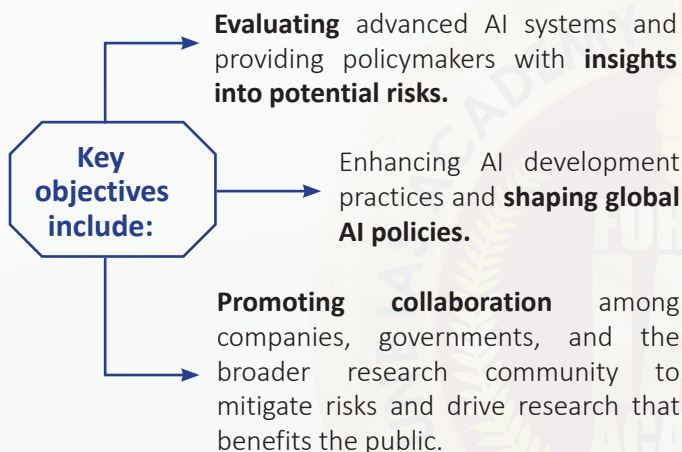
Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Current events of national and international importance

Mains: General Studies - 2
Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate

AI Safety Institute

- The AI Safety Institute is a **research organization under the UK Government's Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology.**

- It is dedicated to **ensuring the safe development and deployment of advanced AI systems.**



- To achieve these ambitious goals, the Institute **operates as a startup within the government**, blending governmental authority with the expertise and agility of the private sector.
- Our mission is to equip governments with **empirical insights into the safety of advanced AI systems.**

Plan to amend nuclear liability law may enthruse American, French firms

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Current events of national and international importance

Mains: General Studies - 2
Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

Mains: General Studies - 3
Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues

International Convention for Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC)

- The Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC) was **adopted on 12 September 1997 and came into force on 15 April 2015.**
- It aims to **create a global system for civil liability and supplementary compensation for nuclear damage**, ensuring financial protection for victims in case of nuclear incidents.
- The convention mandates a **minimum national compensation of 300 million SDRs**, with additional funds provided by Contracting Parties if the national amount is insufficient.
- Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)** is an **international reserve asset created by the International Monetary Fund (IMF)**. It is used as a unit of account in international transactions
- The CSC **applies to nuclear incidents at installations and during the transport of nuclear material**, covering loss of life, property damage, environmental restoration, and preventive measures.
- It ensures that **nuclear operators have exclusive and strict (no-fault) liability**, requiring them to secure financial coverage through insurance or other means.
- The convention also **establishes exclusive jurisdiction for claims and a contribution system** where **nuclear power-generating states bear over 90% of additional funding.**
- It **covers incidents occurring in territorial seas and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs).**
- India joined the CSC on February 4, 2016**, aligning its domestic nuclear liability framework with international norms.

Small Modular Reactors (SMR)

- Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) are **advanced nuclear reactors** with a **capacity of up to 300 MW(e)**, about one-third of traditional reactors.
- They are **small**, meaning they are physically a fraction of the size of conventional nuclear reactors.
- They are **modular**, allowing factory-assembled systems and components to be transported for installation, reducing costs and construction time.
- As **reactors**, they harness nuclear fission to generate heat and produce energy.

- SMRs can be **deployed flexibly** in locations unsuitable for large reactors, either on or off-grid.
- They feature enhanced safety with passive systems that **minimize the risk of radioactive release**.
- SMRs **require refueling every 3–7 years**, with some designs lasting up to 30 years without refueling.
- As a low-carbon energy source, **SMRs support a cleaner, more sustainable future**.
- **Microreactors**, a subset of SMRs with **capacities up to 10 MW**, are ideal for remote areas and emergency power backup.

After demolition of Mujib's house, focus shifts to party launch of student activists

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Current events of national and international importance

Mains: General Studies - 2
Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.

1952 language movement

- The 1952 **Language Movement in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh)** was a pivotal protest **demanding Bengali be recognized as an official language**.
- It **began on February 21, 1952**, when students protested **against the imposition of Urdu**, leading to police violence and several deaths.
- This event **galvanized Bengali nationalism** and contributed to the eventual independence of Bangladesh.
- Today, **February 21** is celebrated as **International Mother Language Day by UNESCO**.

Dhanmondi 32

- Dhanmondi 32 is the **historic home of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founding father of Bangladesh**.
- **Located in Dhaka**, it served as his residence and the center of his political activities
- Mujibur Rahman moved into the house in 1961, and it became a **symbol of the Bangladesh Liberation Movement**.
- Tragically, it was also the **site of his assassination in 1975**, along with most of his family.

- Recently, the house, which had been turned into a museum, was vandalized and **set on fire by protesters**, leading to its partial demolition.

How has the Budget allocated funds for urban development?

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Mains: General Studies - 3

- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment
- Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)

- The **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)** was launched on **25th June 2015 in 500 cities to improve urban infrastructure**.
- It **focuses on water supply, sewerage, drainage, green spaces**, and non-motorized transport.
- The mission approved projects worth ₹77,640 crore, with **₹35,990 crore as Central Assistance (CA)**.
- **AMRUT 2.0** was launched on 1st October 2021 for a period of five years (2021-26).
- It aims to **provide universal water supply and improve sewerage management** in all statutory towns.
- The mission **promotes a circular water economy** through **City Water Balance Plans (CWBP)**, focusing on water conservation, wastewater reuse, rainwater harvesting, and rejuvenation of water bodies.
- The key features of AMRUT 2.0 include **Pey Jal Survekshan**, which **assesses water distribution and wastewater reuse**, and a Technology Sub-Mission, which integrates global water technologies.
- The mission also includes an **IEC(Information, Education, and Communication) Campaign to raise awareness** about water conservation and urban reforms to improve water management, urban finance, and planning.
- AMRUT 2.0 aims to make cities **'water secure'** and enhance the **ease of living for citizens**.

Octroi

- **Octroi** is a local **tax levied by municipal authorities** on **goods entering a city or town for consumption, sale, or use.**
- Originating in Roman times as vectigal or portorium, octroi was prevalent in France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Austria post-World War II.
- However, its high collection cost and inefficiency led to its reduction or abolition in many areas.
- In India, octroi has been abolished under the **Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

- **Imphal, the state capital**, is centrally located within Manipur.
- The state features two distinct physiographic regions: the **Manipur River valley and an extensive mountainous terrain** that surrounds it.
- The **hill ranges, interconnected by spurs and ridges**, generally extend in a north-south direction.
- Manipur experiences a **temperate climate in the valley**, while the hill regions have colder conditions.
- The hills are **densely forested** with a mix of bamboo, teak, oak, magnolia, and chinquapin trees.
 - ➔ The Luzon pine is commonly found in the Naga hills.

Places In News

Manipur



- Manipur is a state in **northeastern India.**
 - ➔ **Bordered by** Nagaland to the north, Assam to the west, Mizoram to the southwest, and Myanmar (Burma) to the south and east.
- The name “Manipur” translates to “**land of gems.**”
- The state’s economy primarily relies on **agriculture and forestry, with trade and cottage industries** also playing a significant role.