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Polity & Governance

Zero Coal Leakage Plan

Recently, Zero Coal Leakage Plan initiative is announced by government.

- **Objective** – To *eliminate illegal coal mining, coal theft*, and unauthorized transportation.
- **Primary Target** – *Dhanbad, Jharkhand*.
- **Under** – *Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957*.
- **Provisions** –
  - Nationwide crackdown on illegal coal mining and coal leakage.
  - Deployment of CISF and Quick Response Teams (QRTs) to secure coal mines.
  - Using of Integrated Command & Control Centres.
  - Verification of e-way bills and stronger enforcement.

International Relations and Issues

BRICS Anti-Drugs Meeting 2026

BRICS anti-drug meeting held in Guwahati recently.

- **Hosted by** – *India*.
- **Held in** – Guwahati, Assam.
- **Organized by** – *Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).*
- **Nodal Ministry** – Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Participation** – BRICS member countries.
- **Agenda** –
  - It targeted the Proliferation of synthetic drugs, New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), and darknet-enabled drug trafficking.
  - To *strengthen intelligence sharing* and operational coordination.
  - To enhance *capacity building and institutional cooperation* among BRICS drug control agencies.

Economy

GI Registrations – Statistics

States located in eastern India recorded a high number of registrations of GI tag in last 1 year.

- Over 125 GI registrations recorded during April 2025 to March 2026.
- **Highlight** – Highest registrations Madhya Pradesh (26), followed by West Bengal (24).
- **GI tag statistics in India**
  - *Number of GI registered in the country stands at **822***.
  - Out of 822, *handicrafts comprise 53%,* agricultural products 31%.
- **Statewide GI tags** –
  - Uttar Pradesh (74) has the highest registration,
  - Tamil Nadu (69)
  - West Bengal.

Geographical Indication or GI tag

- It is a sign used on products of specific *geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation*.
- A GI tag *cannot be transferred, licensed, pledged*.
- **Valid for** – 10 years (Can be renewed).
- **Governed by –** Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act of 1999.
- **Administered by –** *GI Registry, Chennai*, under the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks.
- **Protected under –** *TRIPS Agreement* (Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) of WTO.

TRIPS Agreement (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights)

- It sets minimum standards for the protection, regulation, of intellectual property (IP) across all member nations.
- **Established in –** 1995.
- **Administered by** – World Trade Organization (WTO).
- **Includes** – Patents, copyrights, trademarks, Geographical Indications, Industrial Designs, Trade Secrets and Data Layout Designs.
- **Objectives** –
  - **Global Standardization** – To establish uniform, baseline rules for intellectual property globally.
  - **Resolution** – To integrates IP disputes into the broader WTO framework.
  - To allow for retaliatory trade sanctions if a country fails to enforce IP laws.

Agriculture

Sea Buckthorn

Recently, Sea buckthorn received GI tag in Himachal Pradesh.

- Sea buckthorn is a *hardy, thorny deciduous temperate shrub*.



- **Scientific name** – Hippophae rhamnoides.
- **Common names** –"Himalayan Berry", 'Wonder Plant', 'Ladakh Gold', 'Golden Bush', or 'Gold Mine' of cold deserts.
- **Indian names** – Leh Berry (Ladakh), *Chharma (Himachal Pradesh)*, Ames (Uttarakhand), and Brahmaphal (in Hindi).
- **Habitat** – *High-altitude cold deserts* of the Himalayan region, such as Ladakh and Spiti.
- **Features** –
  - Bright orange colour in appearance.
  - **Rich in** – Vitamins C, A, E, K, and B-complex, Omega fatty acids.
- **Usage** –
  - Oil for skincare.
  - Juices, Teas and Powders for consumption.
- **Health benefits** –
  - Skin Regeneration.
  - Cardiovascular Support.
  - Eye care etc.

Security

INS Mahendragiri (F38)

The INS Mahendragiri (F38) set to be commissioned into Indian navy.

- It is the *6th advanced indigenous stealth frigate* of the Indian Navy's *Project 17A (Nilgiri-class) program*.
- **Type** – Warship *under Eastern Naval Command.*
- **Built by** – Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited.
- **Powered by** – Combined Diesel or Gas (CODOG) propulsion system.
- **Significance** – Over 75% indigenous content, exemplifies Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

Miscellaneous

International Day of Cooperatives 2026

- **Celebrated on** – July 04 (1st observed in 1923).
- **Theme** – *"Cooperatives for a peaceful world!"*
- **Announced by** – *International Cooperative Alliance*.
- **Officially observed by** – United Nations since 1995.
- **Objective** – To affirm the contribution of cooperative enterprises to social justice, inclusion and solidarity.

World Zoonoses Day

- **Observed Annually on** – *6th July* (Commemorates 6 July 1885, administering first rabies vaccine to a human).
- **Theme** – "*One World, One Health: Prevent Zoonoses*".
- **Recognizes** – Close *connection between human, animal, and environmental* health.
- **Promoted by** –
  - World Health Organization
  - World Organisation for Animal Health
  - International Society for Infectious Diseases.
- **Objective** – To raise awareness about zoonotic diseases that can spread between animals and humans.

World Rural Development Day 2026

- **Observed on** – July 6 (1st in 2025).
- **Theme** – "*Financing the First Mile of Food Systems*".
- **Established by** – *United Nations General Assembly*.
  - **In partnership with** – International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and CIRDAP.
- **Objective** – To highlight *bridging the urban-rural divide for* family farmers, women, and youth.

