UPSC Daily Current Affairs| Prelim Bits 14-02-2025

World Government Summit (WGS) 2025

Why in News?

Recently, the 12th edition of World Government Summit (WGS) 2025 was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

- **Established in** – ***2013***.
- **Theme** – Shaping Future Governments.
- **Aim –** To empower young Arabs through mentorship and educational initiatives.
- **WGS** – It serve as a ***platform for global dialogue*** on the future of governance, innovation, and sustainable development.
- **Participation** – Over 30 heads of state and more than 400 ministers at International level.
- **Composition** – It includes several forums such as:
    - Future of Work Forum, Government Experience Exchange Forum, Government Services Forum, Artificial Intelligence Forum, Future of Education Forum, Future of Mobility Forum, and Gender Balance Forum.
- **Meeting for Young Leaders** – It promoting youth involvement in governance and partnerships with decision-makers.
- It provides sessions to help young people gain skills for future leadership roles.
- It includes addressing critical challenges that governments face and aiming to shape future policies and practices.
- **India's Contributions**
- **2 key priorities:**
- Capacity building in *clean technology*, electric vehicles, and climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Securing adequate financial resources to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in combating *climate change* and safeguarding environmental systems.
- **Commitment** – To green growth, afforestation, sustainable agriculture, and the development of green infrastructure as integral components of its development strategy.

Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) initiative, promotes a pro-planet lifestyle that embraces sustainability at individual, community, and national levels, ensuring that the choices we make today contribute to a better future.

Reference

DD News| World Government Summit 2025 India's Focuses

14th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (14AFAF)

Why in News?

Recently, the Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying inaugurated the 14th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (14AFAF) in New Delhi.

- **AFAF –** It is a ***scientific forum*** organized once in every 3 years.
- **Organized by** – Asian Fisheries Society (AFS).
- **14AFAF Theme** – Greening the Blue Growth in Asia-Pacific.
- **Aim** – To address key issues towards developing sustainable fisheries and aquaculture.
- **Purpose** – To provide an *international platform* for eminent scientists, young researchers, and other stakeholders across the globe to share their research experiences and innovative ideas.
- **Global Collaboration** – It focus on fostering cooperation in fisheries and aquaculture.
- It serves as an international collaboration, uniting stakeholders from various nations to discuss innovations in the fisheries sector.
- It uses the technologies, concentrating on improving fish varieties and production methods.
- **India's contributions** – To fisheries, enhances international relations, and promotes sustainable fish production.
- To enhance partnerships and propel initiatives for a sustainable and resilient fisheries industry.

> *India emerged as the **world's 2nd largest** producer in the total fish and aquaculture production.*

- **Fisheries Initiatives:**
- **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)** – It is a flagship program aimed at *boosting fish production*.
- **Digital solutions** – National Digital Fisheries Platform are being rolled out, featuring vessel monitoring systems and *emergency alerts for fishermen.*
- **Kisan Credit Card scheme** – It is now available for fishers, providing essential financial assistance.
- **Technological Advancements** – Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed 75 innovative fisheries technologies focused on fostering sustainable and carbon-neutral aquaculture practices.

References

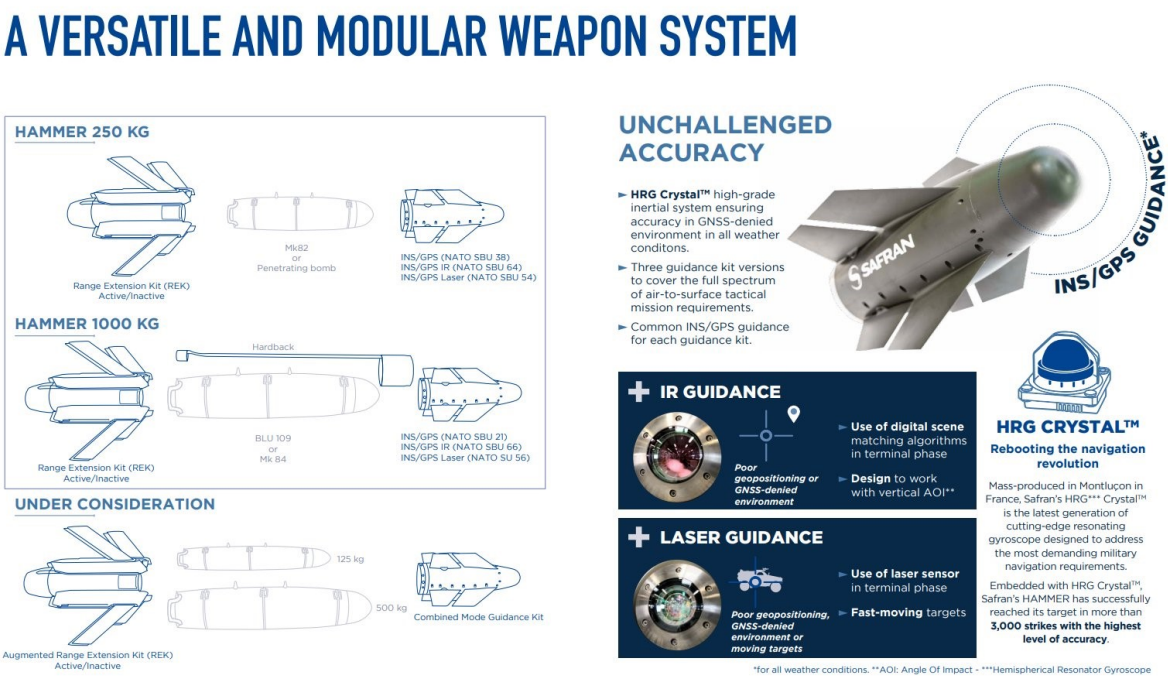
1. 14afaf| 14th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum (14AFAF)
2. Krishi Jagran| India's Rise in Fish Production.

HAMMER Weapon System

Why in News?

Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and France's Safran Electronics & Defense have formed to produce the HAMMER Weapon System.

- **HAMMER** – Highly Agile Modular Munition Extended Range.
- It is a ***smart precision guided air-to-ground weapon*** in India.
- **Capabilities –** It is an all-weather smart air-to-surface weapon with an extended stand-off capacity.
- It provides accurate targeting of ground assets.
- **Coverage** – It is a *combat-proven weapon system* known for its high accuracy and modular design making it adaptable for multiple platforms including the Rafale and LCA Tejas.
- All the tactical requirements of air forces due to different guidance kits.



- **Focus** – Joint venture on localizing the production of the HAMMER weapon system, supporting India's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative to reduce imports.
- The partnership will involve technology transfer from Safran to BEL, allowing BEL to manage final assembly, testing, and quality assurance, creating opportunities for Indian industries, especially SMEs.
- Establishment of centre of excellence to enhance India's defense capabilities in optronics and navigation equipment for military applications.
- **Long-term agreement** – HAL's agreement with Safran for the LEAP engine includes producing forged turbine components to boost India's aviation manufacturing and self-sufficiency.
- **Employment Opportunity** – It will facilitate to create 400 jobs and aim to produce 30,000 equipment units annually by 2026.
- **Past collaborations** – HAL and Safran include the Shakti helicopter engine and

current developments for the Indian Multi-Role Helicopter.
- It underscores the importance of localizing defense production and enhancing India's manufacturing capabilities in advanced technologies.

References

1. The Hindu| HAMMER Weapon
2. Safran| AASM HAMMER

One Liners 14-02-2025

Polity & Governance

Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)

• **Launched in** – *2021-22*.
• **Nodal Ministry** – Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
• **PM-AJAY** – It is a *merged scheme of 3* centrally sponsored scheme namely,
- Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY).
- Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCA to SCSP).
- Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (BJRCY).
• **Aim –** To reduce poverty of the SC communities by generating additional employment opportunities through skill development, income-generating schemes, and other initiatives.

Amrit Sarovar Scheme

• **Launched in** – *2022*.
• **Initiated by** – Ministry of Rural Development.
• **Aim** – At developing/rejuvenating *75 Amrit Sarovars (ponds)* in each district, totaling 50,000 across the country.
• **Objective** – To conserve water for the future.
• **Phase II** – To continue with a renewed focus on ensuring water availability, with community participation (Jan Bhagidaari) at its core.
• **Mission involves collaboration** – Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Water Resources, Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Application & Geo-informatics (BISAG-N).

Pradhan Mantri Dakshata Aur Kushalata Sampanna Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH)

• **Launched in** – *2020-21*.
• **Launched by** – Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
• **Aim** – To *empower target marginalized session by boosting their skills* to improve their employability and income prospects.
• **Target Groups**:
- **Artisans –** who can enhance their revenue in their trades.
- **Women** – who can achieve self-employment and financial empowerment while balancing domestic responsibilities.
- **Youth** – who can gain training and specialization for better job market prospects.
- SCs & OBCs.
• **Age criterion** – 18-45 years.
• **Timeline** – *5 years* (2021-2026).

Madak-Padarth Nished Asoochana Kendra (MANAS)

• **Operated by –** Narcotics Control Bureau.
• **Nodal Ministry** – Ministry of Home Affairs.
• **MANAS** – It is a *National Narcotics Helpline Portal* stands as a digital initiative.
• **Aim** – To stop drug supply by catching importers and preventing production and sales.
• **Features** – It is an integrated system providing a single platform for citizens to log, register, track and resolve drug related issues/ problems through various mode of communications like call, SMS, Chat-bot, email & web-link.
• To provide *toll-free 24x7 telecom service* to drug addicts, informers, and citizens seeking support and information.

Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA)

• **Launched on** – ***15th August 2020 (Independence Day)*** Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.
• **Launched by** – Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
• **Objective –** Preventive measures, mass education, service provider training, partnerships, and treatment facilities.
• It is for 272 Districts across 32 State/UT that have been identified as the most vulnerable in terms of usage of drugs in the country.

Schedule 'M' of Small And Medium Manufacturers

• **Part of** – Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1945.
• **Schedule M** – It outlines *Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)* for pharmaceutical products in India.
• **Coverage** – The requirements for premises, plants, and equipment used in the manufacturing process.
• **Types**:
- Schedule M – 1 is titled "Good Manufacturing Practices and Requirements of Premises, Plant and Equipment for Homoeopathic Medicines".
- Schedule M - 3 is titled **"**Quality Management System –For Notified Medical Devices and In-Vitro Diagnostics**".**
• **Revised Schedule M** – GMP was upgraded to "good manufacturing practices and requirements of plan and equipment for pharmaceutical products".

Science

Epilepsy

• **Epilepsy** – It is a *chronic non-communicable disease* of the brain that affects people of all ages.
• **Conditions** – Recurrent *seizures of involuntary movement* that may involve a part of the body or the entire body.
• **Symptoms** – Vary and depend on where the disturbance first starts in brain and how far it spreads.
- Loss of awareness, consciousness, disturbances of movement, sensation (including vision, hearing & taste), mood etc.
• Around 50 million people worldwide have epilepsy which make it one of the *most common neurological diseases* globally.

International Epilepsy Day

• **Celebrated on** – *2nd Monday of February* every year.
• **Organised by**:
  - International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE)
  - International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE).
• **Theme 2025** – My Epilepsy Journey.
• **Aim** – To raise awareness about epilepsy, a common neurological disorder that can affect anyone, at any age.
• An estimated *4.7 million people* with epilepsy live in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

Index

Devolution Index Report

• **Released by –** Ministry of Panchayati Raj & Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.
• It specifically examines how *autonomous panchayats* are to make and implement independent decisions, reflecting the true spirit of *Article 243G* of the Constitution.
• **Evaluation** – Based on 6 critical dimensions:
  1. Framework
  2. Functions
  3. Finances
  4. Functionaries
  5. Capacity Building
  6. Accountability of the Panchayats.
• It provides insights into the progress of decentralization across states and union territories.

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering