# UPSC Daily Current Affairs| Prelimbits 09-08-2025

## BHUVAN Platform

***Prelims:*** *Current events of national and international importance*

## Why in News?

*Recently, access logs of Bhuvan portal show that Jharkhand have accessed the Land Use Land Cover (LULC) data that was hosted on Bhuvan Panchayat portal.*

- It is the ***Indian Geo-portal of ISRO.***
- **Objectives –** To provide a *platform to visualize remote sensing data* and to download satellite data *free of cost*.
- To allow government departments to host customized applications to enable effective governance.
- **Working** – It *incorporates Natural Language Processing methods*, facilitating searches through both audio and text inputs.
- It *integrates location intelligence* into their applications for mapping, visualization, analysis, and more.
- **Role** – It can *store, process, manage, visualize*, monitoring and generating data products originating from different data sources.

| Operation of Bhuvan Portal | |
|---|---|
| **Standard Mode** | Seamlessly *navigate maps*, explore points of interest, and access basic natural resource information with added voice-based search. |
| **Thematic Mode** | It offers *visualization, analysis, and download* options for various thematic datasets, prepared by NRSC in collaboration with stakeholders. |
| **Data Hub & Analytics** | Explore multi-sensor satellite data, conduct advanced analysis, and access scientific datasets for research, development, and applications. |
| **Governance Mode** | Access *sector-wise governance applications* & *citizen-centric applications* with user-friendly interfaces for efficient governance and decision-making. |
| **Disaster Services Mode** | Provide *near-real-time disaster alerts*, access emergency resources, and facilitate coordination and response efforts. |

- **Know Your Resources (KYR)** – It provides for accessing detailed information about India's natural and man-made resources.
- **Bhuvan Store** – It serves as a vibrant catalouge for geospatial products, services, and applications, catering to diverse user needs and fostering innovation in the geospatial community.

- **Application** – Users can explore thematic data, such as 'waterbodies in Hyderabad,' 'builtup areas in Guntur,' 'forests in Pali,' and more.
- **Significance –** Planning and development, monitoring & evaluation, asset mapping and inventory creations, decision making, reporting & advisory, and resource management.

**Reference**

PIB| BHUVAN GIS Platform

**Related News –** Bhuvan Panchayat Portal

## Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership

**Prelims:** *Current events of national and international importance| General Science.*

### Why in News?

*Recently, Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP) established as 6th Research & Development Unit under the aegis of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).*

- **Established in** - 2010, in Haryana.
- **Aim –** To *encourage international collaboration* with countries and agencies like International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

> *The **International Atomic Energy Agency** is the world's central intergovernmental forum for scientific and technical cooperation in the nuclear field.*

- **Vision** – To promote *safe, secure and sustainable nuclear energy* research & development, and capacity-building.
- **Mission** - To conduct research, design and development of nuclear systems that are intrinsically safe, secure, proliferation resistant and sustainable.
- To organize training, seminars, lectures and workshops on topical issues by Indian and International experts.
- To promotes collaborative Research and Training Programs.

| Five Schools Specializing under GCNEP |
|---|
| • School of Advanced Nuclear Energy System Studies (SANESS)<br>• School of Nuclear Security Studies (SNSS)<br>• School on Radiological Safety Studies (SRSS)<br>• School of Nuclear Material Characterization Studies (SNMCS)<br>• School for Studies on Applications of Radioisotopes and Radiation Technologies (SARRT) |

**Mandate of Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership**

- Promoting the development of advanced, more proliferation resistant nuclear power reactors.
- Development of enhanced nuclear safeguards and training manpower in the field of nuclear and radiological safety.
- Educating in the field of advanced nuclear energy systems, isotopes and radiation technologies, nuclear forensic.
- Establishing accreditation facilities for radiation monitoring.

- **Global collaborations** – It has *MoUs with 17 international agencies/ countries* including IAEA.
- It has been conducting several on-campus international programs since 2017.
- **Importance** – It will help in capacity building, in association with the interested countries and the IAEA, involving technology, human resource development, education & training and giving a momentum to R&D in enlisted areas.

***Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)*** *was set up under the direct charge of the Prime Minister through a Presidential Order in 1954.*

**References**


1. PIB| Global Centre for Nuclear Energy
2. Department of Atomic Energy| Vision of GCNP


## Community Forest Resource Rights (CFRR)

**Prelims:** *Current events of national and international importance*

### Why in News?

*Recently, the Chhattisgarh forest department issued a letter designating itself as the nodal agency for implementing community forest resource rights which was withdrawn after protests.*

- **CFRR** - Community forest resource rights is a transformative provision of the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.

*The* ***Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006,*** *commonly called the FRA recognize the community's rights to protect, regenerate, conserve and manage forest.*

- **Aim** – To *recognise the right of gram sabhas* to manage their customary forests.
- **Need** – To rectify the injustices of colonial forest consolidation which dispossessed local communities and supplanted their traditional management institutions with centralised state control.
- **Implementation** – Over 10,000 gram sabhas have received CFRR titles in India.
- **CFR management plans** – Once communities have received such CFR rights, they are supposed to make a plan for managing such areas.
- **Challenges** - Less than 1,000 have prepared their CFR management plans and their implementation is constrained by the refusal of forest departments to recognise their legitimacy and support gram sabhas.

## Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan

- **Launched in** – 2024, by the *Ministry of Tribal Affairs*.
- **Objective** - To transform the *socio-economic landscape of around 63,000 villages of tribal residents*.
- **Focus** – To attain a saturation of critical gaps in infrastructure, health, education, livelihood through 25 interventions implemented through 17 different ministries and departments.
- **Role** – It introduced an *indicative framework for CFR management plans*.

**Reference**

The Hindu| Community Forest Reserve Rights

## Multi-fungal Tolerant Pineapple

**Prelims:** *Current events of national and international importance*

## Why in News?

*Recently, Scientists from Bose Institute have identified a gene in pineapple that can provide defence to the fruit against devastating fungal attacks.*

> ***Bose Institute** is an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) under Ministry of Science and Technology*

- **Pineapple** - It is the most economically significant fruit of the Bromeliaceae family.
  - **Scientific name** - *Ananas comosus* L. Merr.
- **Uses** - It provides various health benefits alongside a delicious juicy flavour, resulting in a *nutritious diet* including all vital components.
- **Threats to pineapple farming** – ***Fusariosis infection***, caused by the aggressive *fungus Fusarium moniliforme*.

- It *warps the plant's stem, blackens the leaves and rots the fruit* from the inside out.
- **Self defence mechanism** – A newly identified *gene 'AcSERK3' can activate host defences* against plant diseases.
- AcSERK3 gene, which is a part of the pineapple's genetic code is known for *helping plants both reproduce and survive stress.*
- This gene is behind the *Somatic Embryogenesis Receptor Kinase (SERK)* which induces the self defence mechanism in Pineapple.

***Somatic embryogenesis (SE)*** *is defined as a process in which embryos that can develop into whole plants are produced from somatic cells (body cells) instead of through gamete fusion.*

- **Research work** - AcSERK3 gene was enhanced or overexpressed which enhanced the plant's natural defences, allowing it to fight off the *Fusarium* fungus than ordinary varieties.
- **Significance of the study** – *AcSERK3*-overexpressed pineapple lines were more resilient to *Fusarium* infection due to increased stress-associated metabolites and scavenging enzyme activity.

**Reference**

PIB| Research work on Fungal Resistant Pineapple

| **One Liners 08-08-2025** |
|---|
| **Social Issues** |
| **National Narcotics Helpline 'MANAS'**<br>• **MANAS –** Madak-Padarth Nished Asoochna Kendra.<br>• It is a *National Narcotics Helpline Platform under Narcotics Control Bureau.*<br>• **Launched in –** 2024, by *Ministry of Home Affairs.*<br>• **Objectives –** To establish a user-friendly platform for every citizen to conveniently *report drug-related matters 24x7*.<br>• To create awareness and empower individuals to play an active role in combating drug-related crimes.<br>• **Accessibility –** Any citizen can report or seek help via *Helpline – 1933, web portal, email and UMANG mobile app.* |
| **Polity & Governance** |

**Electronic Evidence in Criminal Proceedings**

• It refers to any information that is *stored, retrieved, or transmitted in electronic form,* which can be used in a legal proceeding.
• **Legal provision –** Section 254 (Evidence for Protection), 265 (Evidence for Prosecution) and section 266 (Evidence for Defence) of *Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNNS), 2023.*
• **Other applications used –** *Sankalan of Criminal Laws, e-Sakshya, e-Summon and Nyaya-Shruti, Nyaya setu.*

**Sankalan of Criminal Laws**

• **Launched in –** 2025.
• **Launched by –** National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
• **Nodal ministry -** Ministry of Home Affairs.
• **Purpose –** To work as a *comprehensive guide on new criminal laws* or the benefit of all stakeholders.

**eSakshya**

• It is a mobile application.
• **Launched in –** 2024, by *Ministry of Home Affairs.*
• **Objectives –** To *assist police in recording and managing evidence* in criminal cases.
• To Enables lawful, *scientific and tamper-proof collection, preservation* and electronic submission of digital evidence.
• To maintain authenticity and minimize delays.
• **Significance –** It complies with the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) requirements for *audiovisual recording and forensic examination* in serious offenses.

**e-Summon**

• It is a mobile application.
• **Launched in –** 2024, by *Ministry of Home Affairs*.
• **Objective –** It allows *summons to be delivered through electronic means*, making the process faster, time-bound and easily trackable.

**Nyaya- Shruti**

• It is a mobile application.
• **Launched in –** 2024, by *Ministry of Home Affairs.*
• **Objective –** To facilitate *virtual appearance of accused persons, witnesses, police officials, prosecutors, scientific experts, prisoners* etc. through video conferencing.
• It involves the digitization and online availability of court judgments and proceedings.
• **Purpose –** It will make it easier for legal professionals and the public to access legal information and track case statuses.

**Nyaya Setu**

• **Launched in –** 2024, by *Ministry of Home Affairs.*
• It focuses on providing *accessible legal aid, legal advice, and connecting people* with legal services.
• **Aim –** To bridge the gap between the legal system and the common people, particularly *in rural and underserved areas.*

## Science

## G20 Pandemic Fund Project

*Recently, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying secured a grant under G20 Pandemic Fund Project.*

• It finances investments to *strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response capacities* at national, regional, and global levels.
• **Launched in –** 2022, in Bali, Indonesia.
• **Focus on –** Low- and middle-income countries.
• **Fund's Trustee & Secretariat –** World Bank.
• **Aims –** To reduce the risk of pathogens emerging from both domesticated and wild animals and spilling over into human populations.
• **India's project –** "Animal Health Security Strengthening in India for Pandemic Preparedness and Response".

## SPMEPCI

• It stands for *Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electric Passenger Cars in India.*
• **Launched in –** 2024.
• **Launched by –** Ministry of Heavy Industries.
• **Aim –** To promote the manufacturing of electric cars in India.

## Miscellaneous

## 11th National Handloom Day

• **Celebrated on –** 7th August, by *Ministry of Textiles.*
• **Launched in –** 2015.
• **To commemorate –** *Swadeshi Movement* launched on 7th August 1905.
• **Awards presented –** *Sant Kabir Handloom Award and National Handloom Award*.

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