

DAILY PT POINTERS

9 September, 2024



The Hindu-Governance(GSII)-Page 1


Govt. dissolves panel on statistics, surveys amid delayed Census

A.M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

The Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has quietly dissolved the 14-member Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS), headed by economist and former Chief Statistician of the country Pronab Sen, allegedly after its members questioned the delay in conducting the Census.

The reason it is being dismantled, according to an email sent to the members by Geeta Singh Rathore, Director-General of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), is that its work overlapped with that of the recently formed Steering Committee for National Sample Surveys. A copy of her email is with *The Hindu*.

Dr. Sen, however, told *The Hindu* that the members were not given any reason for disbanding the

 I have no idea of what happened. I got an email that the committee had been disbanded


PRONAB SEN
Head of SCoS

panel. He added that in their meetings, they had asked why the Census had not been conducted yet.

India's decennial census, scheduled for 2021, was initially delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and has yet to be notified.

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The Hindu –Geography(GSI)-Page 8



FILE PHOTO: An Indian coastguard vessel is seen in the Arabian Sea near the cyclone shelter at the beach, at Uthmaniyah, Oman, on Oct 10, 2015. (AP Photo/Alamy)

On uncommon cyclones in the Arabian Sea

Why does the north Indian ocean have two cyclone seasons with all other cyclone regions getting just one? How is climate change affecting the region and adding to the unusual activity? Why are there also fewer typhoons? Features by Jagadish Chakravarty

EXPLAINS

India's Meteorology

The storm season in the north Indian Ocean is unique. It is the only one in the world that has two seasons. The Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea have two seasons each. The Bay of Bengal has a pre-monsoon season and a post-monsoon season. The Arabian Sea has a pre-monsoon season and a post-monsoon season. The Bay of Bengal has a pre-monsoon season and a post-monsoon season. The Arabian Sea has a pre-monsoon season and a post-monsoon season.

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Warming temperatures

Since 1980, the Arabian Sea has warmed by 1°C. This is a significant increase, especially in the summer months. The warming is most pronounced in the Bay of Bengal, where temperatures have risen by 2°C. This warming is due to a combination of factors, including a decrease in cloud cover and an increase in solar radiation.

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- The north Indian Ocean is crucial for supplying moisture for the summer monsoon, relying on significant evaporation from the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Cyclone Activity: Despite this evaporation, the north Indian Ocean is less active in terms of cyclones compared to other ocean regions, due to a combination of factors that both promote and suppress cyclogenesis.
- The Arabian Sea warms rapidly before the monsoon, while the Bay of Bengal is relatively warmer and produces atmospheric convection and rainfall.
- The monsoon season and the northeast monsoon season (post-monsoon) influence cyclone formation differently in these regions. Cyclones are more common in the Bay of Bengal than the Arabian Sea due to differences in convection and wind shear.
- The Arabian Sea experiences cooler temperatures, stronger wind shear, and less convective activity, making it less prone to cyclones. Climate change is accelerating warming in the Indian Ocean, affecting cyclone patterns and ocean heat uptake.

The Hindu – Geography(GSI)-Page 9



How changes in the level of Arctic sea ice can change monsoon patterns in India

Unpredictable, erratic rainfall has become the norm for the Indian monsoon. New research reveals that less sea ice in the central Arctic leads to over-rain in western and peninsular India but more-rain in central and northern India.

Arundhati Ghosh

India, July et al. 'Changing atmospheric circulation and spring Arctic sea ice variations in Indian summer monsoon rainfall', *Remote Sensing of Environment*, Vol 243, September 1, 2019.

Recent rainfall has varied, from a deficit in central and southern India to a surplus in the north. The Indian Meteorological Department has also noted a heavy rain in parts of Gujarat, West Bengal, and India.

Unpredictable, erratic rainfall has become the norm for the Indian monsoon. There is a large deficit of rainfall over the subcontinent, there are also a number of droughts and floods.

Climate change is an important factor. However, climate change is not the only factor. It is also the result of natural variability. The Indian monsoon is a complex system. It is influenced by many factors, including the El Niño and La Niña events. The Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, has been conducting research on the Indian monsoon. The research has shown that the Indian monsoon is becoming more erratic. This is due to a number of factors, including climate change and natural variability.

The influence of Arctic sea ice on the Indian monsoon has also been studied. Research has shown that a decrease in Arctic sea ice leads to a shift in the monsoon pattern. This is because the Arctic sea ice acts as a barrier to the wind. When the ice melts, the wind is able to move south, which leads to a change in the monsoon pattern. This is a significant finding, as it shows that the Arctic sea ice has a direct impact on the Indian monsoon.

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- Incessant rainfall has caused severe flooding in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, with warnings for heavy rains in other states including Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, and Delhi.
- Indian monsoon rainfall has become increasingly unpredictable, leading to both droughts and floods instead of the traditional relief it once provided.
- A recent study published in Remote Sensing of Environment explores how Arctic sea ice variations affect the Indian monsoon.
- Reduced sea ice leads to lower rainfall in western and peninsular India but increased rainfall in central and northern India.
- Barents-Kara Sea Region: Reduced sea ice delays the monsoon onset and makes it more unpredictable. Increased sea ice in the central Arctic causes cyclonic circulation, enhancing Rossby waves and leading to high pressure over northwest India and low pressure over the Mediterranean, which disrupts atmospheric stability over India.

The Hindu –IR(GSII)-Page 10

India, U.S. agree to swap turns, Biden to host Quad Summit in home State

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India and the United States have “swapped” hosting the Quad Summit to allow U.S. President Joseph Biden to hold the summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida in his home State of Delaware, said sources.

India will host the Quad Summit in 2025, they said, which indicated that the new U.S. President, Donald Trump or Kamala Harris, will visit India next year.

The summit will be held on September 21.

On September 22, Mr. Modi will address a diaspo-



Narendra Modi with Joe Biden, Anthony Albanese and Fumio Kishida during the Quad Summit, in Japan in 2023. PTI

ra meet titled “Modi & U.S. Progress Together” in New York’s Long Island. He will attend the “Summit of the Future” at the UN on September 22-23.

Meanwhile, possibly given that Mr. Modi will travel to the U.S. earlier than scheduled, he will not stay on to deliver the address to

the UN General Assembly, as announced before, on September 26. According to a revised provisional list of speakers issued by the UN, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will address the General Debate on September 28.

According to official sources, the summit swan-

was decided after a meeting of the Quad ‘sous sherpas’, the officials negotiating the logistics of the summit, earlier this month and finalised after conversations between Mr. Modi and the U.S. and Australian leaders. While originally, India had planned to host the summit in New York on the sidelines of the UN meetings, the U.S. has now decided to organise the event.

“Once it became clear that this year’s Quad Summit would take place in the U.S. around the UN General Assembly, Quad partners consulted and agreed that the U.S. and India would swap host years,” a source aware of the negotiations told *The Hindu*.

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- Formally the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, the Quad began as a loose partnership after the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, when the four countries joined together to provide humanitarian and disaster assistance to the affected region. It was formalised by former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007, but then fell dormant for nearly a decade, particularly amid Australian concerns that its participation in the group would irritate China. The group was resurrected in 2017, reflecting changing attitudes in the region toward China's growing influence. Both the Trump and Biden administrations saw the Quad as key to a pivot toward placing more focus on the Indo-Pacific region, particularly as a counterweight to China's assertive actions.

The Hindu-Defense(GSIII)-Page 12

India's military diplomacy in top gear with back-to-back exercises

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

In the past few months, India's military diplomacy is at a hectic pace with back-to-back military exercises from countries far and wide for all three Services.

India-U.S. bilateral Army exercise Yudh Abhyas is set to commence at the Mahajan field firing ranges in Rajasthan on Monday.

Not far away, Phase-II of the Indian Air Force's largest multilateral exercise Tarang Shakti is under way at Jodhpur with eight countries, including India, participating with aircraft and 17 countries as observers.

The iconic A-10 Thunderbird close air support aircraft are flying over Indian air space for the first time as the U.S. has deployed them for the exercise along with F-16 jets. The countries deploying aircraft include Australia, Greece, Japan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the UAE and the U.S. Bangladesh, which was scheduled to deploy a



U.S. and Indian Army soldiers during the India-U.S. joint exercise 'Yudh Abhyas', at Auli in Uttarakhand in November 2022. PTI

C-130 transport aircraft, has dropped out against the backdrop of recent domestic developments.

"Tarang Shakti: A force for unity! The 25th Fighter Squadron's A-10 Thunderbolt II and a C-17 Globemaster III assigned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord showcased their capabilities in India," the U.S. Pacific Air Forces headquartered in Hawaii said on the social media site X. The Malabar naval exercise comprising India, Australia, Japan and the U.S. is scheduled to be

held off the Visakhapatnam coast in the first half of October. Shortly after that, an Indian Army mechanised infantry contingent will head to Russia for bilateral exercise Indra.

Largest U.S. contingent
This year's Yudh Abhyas is going to feature one of the largest U.S. contingents at the exercise with around 600 personnel and the U.S. Army also set to deploy Stryker infantry vehicles and the M142 HIMARS (High Mobility Artillery

Rocket System). Incidentally, the Stryker vehicles are currently being put to test by the Indian Army, and a few hundred vehicles of different variants are likely to be procured, including some mounted with the Javelin anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMs).

The talks for licence-manufacture of the vehicles are in "relatively" early stages, officials said. The U.S. has in the past demonstrated both the Stryker as well as the Javelin ATGM to the Indian Army during bilateral exercises and the Javelin was extensively evaluated by the Indian Army though the deal did eventually fall through. At present, India conducts more military exercises with the United States than with any other country.

The Indian Army's other major engagements include the 10th edition of the bilateral exercise Mitra Shakti with Sri Lanka held from August 12-25 at Army Training School, Maduru Oya, Sri Lanka.

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Doval likely to visit Russia for BRICS NSA meet; Ukraine may figure in talks

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 8

NATIONAL SECURITY Advisor Ajit Doval is likely to travel to Russia from September 10-12 for the BRICS NSAs' meet, sources said Sunday. The meeting is scheduled to take place at the Boris Yeltsin Presidential Library in St Petersburg.

While Doval is likely to visit Russia primarily to attend a meeting of the NSAs of BRICS, a discussion on the Ukraine-Russia conflict is also expected during the visit.

Besides the original BRICS members, NSAs of Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the UAE — who became members from January 1, 2024 — are also expected to take part in the meeting. The expansion took place last year at the BRICS leaders' summit in South Africa.

The BRICS NSAs' meet is taking place amid a renewed push for peace talks between Moscow and Kyiv to end the conflict. On September 5, Russian President Vladimir Putin had said China,

Putin's remarks that BRICS leaders can play a role comes a month before Russia is scheduled to host the BRICS leaders' summit in Kazan from October 22-24. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva are expected to attend the summit.

NSA Doval has participated in some of the talks at the international level on the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Modi has spoken to Putin and "exchanged perspectives on the Russia-Ukraine conflict" and "insights from the visit to Ukraine" last month.

Last week, Putin also made it clear that the Swiss-led peace summit, which was not attended by Russia, will not be considered for the talks. India had refused to sign the joint communique adopted at the Swiss summit in June, citing Moscow's absence at the table.

Reporting on his remarks at the plenary session of the 9th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF), US media outlet Politico quoted Putin saying, "If there is a desire

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Mahmudabad & Musharraf's family land: 'enemy property' in India

AJOY SINHA KARPURAM
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 8

A PARCEL of land in western UP that belonged to the family of former Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf is up for sale under the Enemy Property Act, 1968. In a notice erected at the plot, the Union Home Ministry has said that the "enemy property" of around 13 bighas of land in Kotana Bangar village in Baghpat district is open for e-auction until September 12 midnight.

What is enemy property?

The Defence of India Act, 1962 defines an enemy as "any person or country committing external aggression against India", any country that is "assisting the country committing such aggression", as well as any person who belongs to either country.

Under Section 29 of the Act, the Centre or states can "requisition" any immovable property for the purpose of "securing the defence of India, civil defence, public safety, maintenance of public order or efficient conduct of military

operations, or for maintaining supplies and services essential to the life of the community".

The requisitioning can be done only for the period required for any of these purposes, unless the government legally acquires the property in return for compensation (Sections 36 and 37).

At the time of the 1965 and 1971 wars, some people moved to Pakistan from India. Under the Defence of India Act, 1962, the Government of India took over the properties and companies of those who took Pakistani nationality, and vested them with the Custodian of Enemy Property for India. The same was done for property left behind by those who went to China after the 1962 Sino-Indian War.

The Tashkent Declaration of 1966, said India and Pakistan had "agreed to discuss the return of the property and assets taken over by either side in connection with the conflict". But the Pakistani government disposed of all such properties in that country in 1971.

How did India deal with enemy property?

The Enemy Property Act, enacted in 1968,

provided for the continuous vesting of enemy property in the Custodian of Enemy Property for India, a department under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

This property attains a unique status, as it cannot be transferred by the original owners who have been deemed an "enemy", "enemy subject" or "enemy firm" under the Defence of India Act. The Custodian has the power to transfer the property, enter into contracts over its use, and collect rent from any person occupying it.

In response to the sale of properties by Pakistan in 1971, India took control of all enemy property under the Enemy Property Act and the 1971 Rules. In 2017, Parliament passed The Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2016, which amended the 1968 Act and The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

The new law expanded the definitions of "enemy subject" and "enemy firm" to include the legal heir and successor of the "enemy" even if they were citizens of India or any coun-

try that is not an enemy (legal heirs who were citizens of India were initially excluded from the definition); and the succeeding firm of an enemy firm, irrespective of the nationality of its members or partners.

The amended law provided that enemy property would continue to vest in the Custodian even if the enemy, enemy subject or enemy firm ceased to be an enemy due to

death, extinction, winding up of business or change of nationality; or if the legal heir was a citizen of India or a citizen of a country which was not an enemy.

The Custodian can, with the Centre's approval, dispose of enemy properties, and the government may issue directions to the Custodian for this purpose.

Why were these amendments brought?

The Statement of Objects and Reasons in the Bill said: "Of late, there have been various judgments by various courts that have adversely affected the powers of the Custodian and the Government of India as provided under the Enemy Property Act, 1968. In view of

such interpretation by various courts, the Custodian is finding it difficult to sustain his actions under the Enemy Property Act, 1968."

One major judgment that the amendment sought to negate was passed in the case of the estate of the erstwhile Raja of Mahmudabad in UP, who owned several large properties in Hazratganj (Lucknow), Sitapur, and Nainital.

What was the Mahmudabad case?

The Raja left India in 1957 and took Pakistani citizenship; his wife and son Mohammed Amir Mohammad Khan, however, stayed on as Indian citizens. Under the 1968 Act, the Raja's estate was declared enemy property. After the Raja died, his son staked claim to these properties.

On October 21, 2005, after a long legal battle, the Supreme Court ruled in favour of the Mahmudabad heir. The court held that ownership of the property does not vest with the Custodian, who only takes it over for the purposes of possession, control, and management. It held that the Raja's son, as an Indian citizen, was entitled to the entire property, which would then cease to be enemy property.

The verdict opened the floodgates for other pleas in which genuine or purported relatives of persons who had migrated to Pakistan produced deeds of gift claiming they were the rightful owners of enemy properties.

On July 2, 2010, the UPA government promulgated an Ordinance that restrained courts from ordering the government to divest enemy properties from the Custodian. The 2005 SC order was thus rendered ineffective, and the Custodian again took over the Raja's properties. A Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha on July 22, 2010, but it could not be passed during the term of the 15th Lok Sabha, and lapsed.

On January 7, 2016, The Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 2016, was promulgated, which was then replaced by the Bill that became law in 2017. In February 2017, the Supreme Court refused to interfere with the Ordinance.

On February 22, 2024, a Bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan allowed the Lucknow Municipal Corporation to collect property tax on properties owned by the Raja of Mahmudabad, which were vested with the Custodian under the Enemy Property Act.

- A parcel of land in Kotana Bangar village, Baghpat district, Uttar Pradesh, formerly owned by the family of ex-Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf, is set to be auctioned under The Enemy Property Act.
- Definition of Enemy Property: Properties of individuals or firms who migrated to Pakistan or China during and after the India-Pakistan and Sino-Indian wars, and their successors, are classified as "enemy property."
- Historical Context: Following the 1965 and 1971 India-Pakistan wars and the 1962 Sino-Indian War, the Indian government seized properties left behind by individuals who migrated to these countries.
- Legal Framework: The Enemy Property Act of 1968 established that such properties would be vested with the Custodian of Enemy Property for India.
- In 2017, amendments to the Enemy Property Act expanded definitions to include legal heirs and successors, and ensured that properties remain with the Custodian even if the enemy or their successors change nationality or cease to exist.

Indian Express-Environment(GSIII)-Page 12

India generates highest plastic pollution in world: what a new study found

ARJUN SENGUPTA
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 8

INDIA CONTRIBUTES to a fifth of global plastic pollution, a study published in the journal *Nature* last week found.

India burns roughly 5.8 million tonnes (mt) of plastic each year, and releases another 3.5 mt of plastics into the environment (land, air, water) as debris. Cumulatively, India contributes to 9.3 mt of plastic pollution in the world annually, significantly more than the countries next in this list – Nigeria (3.5 mt), Indonesia (3.4 mt) and China (2.8 mt) – and exceeding previous estimates.

Problem of 'unmanaged' waste

The study, carried out by University of Leeds researchers Joshua W Cottom, Ed Cook, and Costas A Velis, estimated that around 251 mt of plastic waste is produced every year, enough to fill up roughly 200,000 Olympic sized swimming pools. Roughly a

fifth of this waste – 52.1 mt – is "emitted" into the environment, unmanaged.

The authors define "managed" waste as what is collected by municipal bodies, and either recycled or sent to a landfill. Most plastic waste meets the latter fate.

"Unmanaged" waste is what ends up in the environment either as debris – polluting every conceivable place on Earth from the heights of Mount Everest to the bottom of the Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean – as a result of plastic burning in open, uncontrolled fires. The latter generates fine particulates and toxic gases like carbon monoxide which have been linked to heart disease, respiratory disorders, cancer, and neurological problems.

Of the unmanaged waste, roughly 43% or 22.2 mt is the form of unburned debris and the rest, some 29.9 mt, is burnt either in dumpsites or locally.

North-South divide

A trend that the study identified was that there is a notable Global North and Global

South divide when it comes to plastic pollution. "On an absolute basis, we find that plastic waste emissions are highest across countries in Southern Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and South-eastern Asia," the study said.

In fact, approximately 69% (or 35.7 mt per year) of the world's plastic pollution comes from 20 nations, none of which are High Income Countries (those with a gross national income per capita of \$13,846 or more, according to the World Bank). This is despite these HICs – which are all in the so-called Global North – having higher plastic waste generation rates than countries in the South. Not a single HIC is "ranked in the top 90 polluters, because most have 100% collection coverage and controlled disposal," the study said.

Open burning is the predominant form of plastic pollution in the Global South (with

the exception of Sub-Saharan Africa, where uncontrolled debris comprised a larger share of the pollution pie) unlike in the Global North, where plastic pollution predominantly comprised uncontrolled debris.

This, the researchers say, is simply a symptom of inadequate or completely absent waste management systems, and a lack of public infrastructure for the same.

However, "we shouldn't put the blame, any blame, on the Global South... [or] praise ourselves about what we do in the Global North in any way," researcher Costas Velis told *The Associated Press*, adding that people's ability to dispose of waste depends largely on their government's power to provide the necessary services.

Criticism of the research

The study comes as treaty negotiations

for the very first legally binding international treaty on plastics pollution are ongoing. In 2022, the UN Environmental Assembly agreed to develop such a treaty – which experts say might be the most important environmental accord since the Paris Agreement on climate change in 2015 – by the end of 2024. However, consensus on what it should entail has been hard to come by.

On one hand are fossil-fuel producing countries and industry groups, who view plastics pollution as a "waste management problem", and want to focus on that instead of curbing production. On the other hand are countries in the European Union and Africa, who want to phase out single-use plastics and introduce production curbs.

This "High Ambition Coalition" says that simply "managing" plastic waste to the point where there is no pollution at all is impossible, given the scale of plastic waste generation, and the economics and complexity of recycling. A study published in April in the journal *Science Advances* found

a linear, direct relationship between increasing plastic production and plastic pollution – meaning a 1% increase in production resulted in a 1% increase in pollution. (Win Cowger et al, "Global producer responsibility for plastic pollution", 2024).

Critics of the recent research say that the recent research plays into the plastic being a "waste management problem" narrative. "It risks us losing our focus on the upstream and saying, hey now all we need to do is manage the waste better," Neil Tangri, senior director of science and policy at GAIA, a global network of advocacy organisations working on zero waste and environmental justice initiatives, told *The AP*. "It's necessary but it's not the whole story."

Notably, plastics industry groups have praised the study. "This study underscores that uncollected and unmanaged plastic waste is the largest contributor to plastic pollution," Chris Jahn, the council secretary of the International Council of Chemical Associations said in a statement.

- According to a new study published in the journal *Nature*, India has secured the top spot as biggest plastic polluter in the world, releasing **9.3 million tonnes (Mt)** annually.
 - **The study defines plastic emissions** as materials that have moved from the managed or mismanaged system (controlled or contained state) to the unmanaged system (uncontrolled or uncontained state — the environment).
 - **The plastic pollution from India** amounts to roughly **one-fifth** of global plastic emissions.
 - While **littering** was the largest emission source in the **Global North**, uncollected waste was the dominant source across the Global South.
 - The **2nd and 3rd** biggest plastic polluters are **Nigeria**, with **3.5 million tonnes** of emissions, and **Indonesia**, with **3.4 million tonnes**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB-Defense(GSIII)

Ministry of Defence

HQ Integrated Defence Staff to conduct maiden Combined Operational Review and Evaluation (CORE) Programme for senior officers of Tri-Services

Posted On: 08 SEP 2024 2:07PM by PIB Delhi

- HQ IDS is hosting the CORE Programme for senior Tri-Services officers at USI, New Delhi from September 9 to 13, 2024..
- Objective: To prepare senior military leaders for future roles by enhancing skills in strategic planning, anticipating future threats, and addressing challenges.
Focus Areas:
 - Developing leadership for future warfare.
 - Adapting to changing geopolitical dynamics and advanced technologies.
 - Emphasizing the importance of military leaders, man-machine interfaces, and support staff.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB-Miscellaneous

Ministry of Women and Child Development

Last date of submission of nomination for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar is 15th September, 2024

Posted On: 07 SEP 2024 11:22AM by PIB Delhi

- Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP) - is given to children with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievements.
- The awards are given to children in the age group 5 – 18 years for their excellence in seven categories for Bravery, Art & Culture, Environment, Innovation, Science & Technology, Social Service and Sports that deserve national recognition. Each awardee of PMRBP is given a medal, certificate and a citation booklet.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Air-IR(GSII)

EAM S. Jaishankar To Attend 1st India Gulf Cooperation Council Foreign Ministers' Meeting In Riyadh



- The GCC is a political, economic, social, and regional organisation according to its charter. It is a regional co-operation system between the Arab States of the Gulf created to meet the challenges imposed by surrounding circumstances. The geographical proximity of the GCC states and the similarity of their regulations and economic and social conditions were additional factors that helped in the establishment of the GCC.
- The GCC was established on 4 February 1981 and held its first summit meeting on 25 May 1981 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Summits have been held every year since then.