

# NEWS TODAY

## Iran-Israel Conflict Escalates

Iran has launched '**Operation True Promise 3**' in retaliation against Israel's '**Operation Rising Lion**', which had targeted key Iranian military and nuclear infrastructure.

### Key Reasons behind Iran-Israel Conflict

- **Historical reason**-Post-1979 Iranian Revolution, Iran turned into an Islamic Republic, adopted a hard **anti-Israel stance**.
  - ⌚ Both were allies until the 1979 revolution.
- **Iran's Nuclear Programme (viewed as existential threat by Israel)** - International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had earlier reported that Iran had enriched uranium to 60%, in breach of its obligation under **Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)**.
  - ⌚ Also, the **United States** and other major Western powers have been unable to finalize a nuclear deal with Iran
- **Iran's support to Proxy war**: Iran has backed groups like **Hezbollah** in **Lebanon** and **Hamas** in **Gaza**.



### Implications of Iran-Israel Conflict

- **Regional Instability (spill over effect)**: E.g. Involvement of Lebanon and Gaza
- **Disruption in Global Trade**: Shipping will be affected in the **Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea**.
- **Energy security**: E.g. India imports majority of its crude oil requirements through Strait of Hormuz route.
- **Connectivity**:
  - ⌚ **Longer route for ships and aeroplanes**.
  - ⌚ Affect projects like **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor** and **International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC)**.
- **For India**: May compromise operation of **Chabahar port**, Balancing diplomatic relations between Israel and Iran, etc.

## RBI has granted Non-Bank Finance Company (NBFC) licence to Flipkart

Currently, e-commerce platforms offer loans in **tie-ups with banks and NBFCs**.

- Now, Flipkart will lend **directly to customers and sellers** on its platform and through its fintech App- 'super.money'.

### About NBFC

- It is a company registered under the **Companies Act, 1956 or Companies Act, 2013**.
- **Principal Business**: loans and advances, acquisition of shares/stocks/bonds/debentures/securities issued by Government or local authority or other marketable securities of a like nature, leasing, hire-purchase, etc.
  - ⌚ **It does not include** agriculture activity, industrial activity, purchase or sale of any goods (other than securities) or providing any services and sale/purchase/construction of immovable property.
- **The working and operations of NBFCs** are regulated by RBI within the framework of the **Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934**.
- **Significance of NBFCs**
  - ⌚ In 2023, the contribution of NBFCs to **India's gross domestic product (GDP)** stood at **12.60%**
  - ⌚ Lending market share of **NBFCs in consumer durables** stood at nearly **61%** in 2023.
  - ⌚ They have **significantly outpaced commercial banks in credit growth** during Fiscal Year 2025 (Boston Consulting Group).

### What is the difference between banks and NBFCs?

- **NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits**.
- **NBFCs do not form part of the payment and settlement system** and cannot issue cheques drawn on itself.
- **Deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC)** is not available to depositors of deposit taking NBFCs.

## Preventive Detention Can't be a Substitute for Bail Cancellation : Supreme Court

In **Dhanya M vs State of Kerala & Others** judgement, SC set aside the preventive detention under the Kerala Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act, 2007.

- The judgment by SC underscored the difference between 'public order' and 'law and order', citing **SK. Nazneen v. State of Telangana (2023)** and **Nenavath Bujji v. State of Telangana (2024)**.
  - ⊕ The distinction between the areas of 'law and order' and 'public order' is **one of degree and extent of the reach of the act in question on society**.
  - ⊕ **The detention orders were not justified** as it was dealing with a law and order situation and not a public order situation as required in preventive detention.

### About Preventive Detention

- **Constitutional Provision: Article 22(3)** allows the authorities to detain individuals for preventive reasons, such as the maintenance of public order or national security.
- **Constitutional Safeguards:**
  - ⊕ No preventive detention law should authorize the detention beyond **three months** unless an Advisory Board approves it.
  - ⊕ Grounds for preventive detention shall be **communicated** earliest.
  - ⊕ Provide the earliest opportunity of making a representation.



### Key Supreme Court Judgments

- **Rekha v. State of Tamil Nadu (2011)**: Preventive detention is an exception to Article 21 and should be applied rarely.
- **Vijay Narayan Singh v State of Bihar (1984)**: Preventive detention should not be used to circumvent regular criminal procedures.
- **Ichchu Devi v Union of India (1980)**: The burden of justifying such detention is on the detaining authority.
- **A.K. Gopalan v. State of Madras (1950)**: The SC upheld the constitutional validity of the Preventive Detention Act, 1950.

## Step-and-shoot spot-scanning proton arc therapy (SPArc) used to treat an Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma (ACC)

For the first time, SPArc has been used to treat an ACC.

- **ACC** is a relatively **rare form of cancer** that most commonly develops in the salivary glands or other regions of the head and neck.

### About Step-and-Shoot Proton Arc (SPArc)

- It is a kind of advanced **radiation therapy technique**.
  - ⊕ **Radiation therapy** kills cancer cells or slows their growth by damaging their DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid).
- It works by **targeting tumours** with **protons** while sparing surrounding tissue.
  - ⊕ **Proton** is a subatomic particle with a **positive electrical charge**.
- **Methodology**: Based on a **computer programme** that scans all possible spots and energy layers where the proton beams could be delivered.
  - ⊕ **An energy layer** is a slice of tissue that receives **proton beams** of a specific energy.
- **Benefits of SPArc**: Improves the quality of radiation dose planning for various cancers like head and neck, brain, etc.
  - ⊕ For instance, the SPArc methods reduced radiation delivered to the brainstem (by 10%) and spinal canal (by 90%) over **Single Field Optimization Intensity Modulated Proton Therapy (SFO-IMPT)**.



### Other ways for Treating Cancer

- **Chemotherapy (also called chemo)**: A type of cancer treatment that uses drugs to kill cancer cells.
- **Immunotherapy**: A type of cancer treatment that uses the body's own immune system to fight cancer. E.g. CAR T-cell therapy uses genetically modified T cells.
- **Stem Cell Transplants**: Stem cell transplants are most often used to treat people with cancers that affect blood cells, such as leukemia, lymphoma, etc.

## India's Wind Energy Capacity Rises Over 10.5% to 51.5 GW from May 2024

Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy stated on the occasion of **Global Wind Day 2025 (15<sup>th</sup> June)** India's total renewable energy capacity grew 17.13 per cent year-on-year to 226.74 gigawatts.

- Of the total, solar power capacity **expanded 31.49 percent**.

### About status of wind energy in India

- **Global status:** India has **fourth largest wind power installed capacity and is third largest renewable energy producer** in the world.
- **Significant growth:** From **21.04 GW in 2014 to 51.5 in May 2025**.
- **Role in Renewable Energy:** Wind power is the second-largest contributor to India's renewable energy mix following solar power.
- **Highest potential states:** Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh etc.

### Government Initiatives to Wind Energy

- **Centralized Data Collection and Coordination (CCDC) Wind Initiative:** It aims to improve wind resource assessment helping identify the most promising locations for wind energy projects.
- **National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy, 2018:** To provide a framework for promotion of large grid connected wind-solar photovoltaic hybrid systems for optimal and efficient utilization.
- **Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme for offshore wind energy projects:** In line with the National Offshore Wind Energy Policy, 2015.
- **Other:** Green Energy Open Access Rules (2022), Renewable Energy Purchase Obligation (RPO), etc.

### Issues involved in wind power in India

- **Infrastructure Limitations:** Can cause grid instability, Adequate transmission infrastructure, lack of mechanism for power evacuation etc.
- **Economic Factors:** Minimum Project Size is very high, High investment Costs and Financial risks due to fluctuating tariffs.
- **Technical Challenges:** Complex Installation and Commissioning, Transportation of equipment in remote areas and Maintenance and Operations.



### Also In News



### Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)

CAG has set up a separate unit for auditing public sector undertakings (PSUs) run by various state governments.

#### About CAG

- Appointed under **Article 148** of constitution by the President of India.
  - ⊕ CAG is not eligible **reappointment** in central or state government.
- The extent of his duties is listed out in the **CAGs (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971**.
  - ⊕ **Tenure:** 6 years or up to age of 65 years whichever is earlier.
  - ⊕ **Removal:** Removed by the President on the same grounds and in the same manner as a judge of the Supreme Court.
- **Other Key Detail:**
  - ⊕ Duty of the CAG arises **only after the expenditure has been incurred**.
  - ⊕ **CAG reports** on the execution of projects or programs by the ministers are discussed by the **Public Accounts Committee**.
  - ⊕ **Information from CAG reports** can be used by investigating agencies to press charges in court of law.



### DNA Profiling

Authorities at the Ahmedabad Civil Hospital are identifying victims of the Air India flight AI-171 crash through DNA profiling.

#### About DNA Profiling (also called DNA fingerprinting)

- It is a technique used to identify individuals by analyzing unique patterns in their DNA.
- **Key Methods**
  - ⊕ **Short Tandem Repeat (STR):** Examines short repeating DNA sequences in the nucleus.
  - ⊕ **Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA):** Used if nuclear DNA is degraded. mtDNA is abundant and maternally inherited, allowing matches with maternal relatives.
  - ⊕ **Y Chromosome:** Focuses on STRs on the Y chromosome, inherited father to son. Identifies male victims by matching paternal male relatives.
  - ⊕ **Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs):** Used for highly degraded DNA.
    - ◆ SNPs are single-base differences unique to individuals, matched with personal items like toothbrushes.





## Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)

DGCA has given an order for extended surveillance of the 34 Boeing 787 planes which are currently present in the Indian aircraft fleet.

### About DGCA

- It is **responsible** for regulation of air transport services to/from/ within India and for enforcement of civil air regulations, air safety and airworthiness standards.
- Ministry:** It is an attached office of the **Ministry of Civil Aviation**.
- It also **co-ordinates** all regulatory functions with **International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)**.
  - ICAO is a United Nations agency which helps 193 countries to cooperate together and share their skies to their mutual benefit.
- HQ:** New Delhi



## World Test Championship (WTC)

South Africa won the World Test Championship (2023-25) against titleholder Australia in Lords (England).

### About WTC

- Started in August 2019**, each cycle consists of matches played over two years.
- The top nine ranked teams** on the MRF Tyres ICC Test Team Rankings qualify for the WTC.
  - Each series consists of a minimum of two (2) Tests, and a maximum of five (5) Tests.
- Each team plays six series**, with each series counting for 120 points, distributed over the number of matches in a series.



## Simhachalam Temple

Traditional construction techniques to be used to restore and preserve the Simhachalam Temple.

### About Simhachalam Temple

- Location:** Also known as Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Temple, is a Hindu temple located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- Deity:** It is dedicated to the incarnation (avatar) of Vishnu known as Narasimha (the man-lion).
- Features:** It combines the Orissan and Chalukyan features of temple construction.
  - It faces **west instead of east** as is traditional, symbolising divine forces winning out over evil forces.
- History:** The exact age is unknown, but it has an inscription from AD 1098-99 during the reign of Chola King Kulottunga-I.



## SDG4 scorecard progress report on national benchmarks

It is released by UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring Team (GEM).

- It assesses how countries are performing against their own **specific targets for various education indicators**
- SDG 4:** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

### Key findings

- The global out-of-school population** is now estimated to be 272 million, over 21 million more than the last estimate.
- The two countries with the largest absolute increases** in their 6 to 17 year-old populations between the years 2019 and 2024 are India (by 9 million) and Pakistan (by 9.7 million).



## UNOC3

The third **United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3)** concluded with the adoption of the **Nice Ocean Action Plan**.

- UNOC3 was held in Nice, France.
- It was co-hosted by France and Costa Rica.

### Key Highlights of Action Plan

- A global roadmap adopted to support the achievement of **SDG 14**, focused on conserving and sustainably using oceans, seas, and marine resources.
  - Declaration recognized that **SDG 14** is the least funded of all SDGs.
- Reaffirms commitment to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution.
- Called for coordinated global action to reduce climate and acidification impacts on oceans and coastal communities reliant on them.



## NAKSHA

Second phase of NAKSHA training begins at four National Centres of Excellence.

### About NAKSHA (National geospatial Knowledge-based land Survey of urban Habitations)

- Overview:** one-year pilot programme under the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP).
- Ministry:** Ministry of Rural development.
- Objective:** To revolutionize urban land records across 157 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in 27 States and 3 Union Territories.
- Strategy:** Uses advanced aerial and on-ground survey methods to create a detailed, GIS-based digital map of urban land parcels.

## Place in News



## Cyprus (Capital: Nicosia)

The Prime Minister of India visited Cyprus.

### Political Features

- An island country in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea**
- It is a member of the **European Union (EU)**.
- Maritime neighbours:** Turkey (North), Syria (East), and Lebanon (Southeast).

### Geographical Features

- It is **third largest island in Mediterranean Sea** after Sicily and Sardinia.
- Mountain Range:** Kyrenia and Troodos Mountains.
- Highest Point:** Mount Olympus



AHMEDABAD



BENGALURU



BHOPAL



CHANDIGARH



DELHI



GUWAHATI



HYDERABAD



JAIPUR



JODHPUR



LUCKNOW



PRAYAGRAJ



PUNE



RANCHI