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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

17 Apr 2025

National and International News

Waqf Amendment Act 2025	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Supreme Court raised concerns over provisions of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 which include the derecognition of the “established” Waqf-by-user category of property, the inclusion of non-Muslims in Waqf administrative bodies, and the state’s authority to decide whether a property belongs to the Waqf or the government. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waqf Amendment Act 2025, also known as UMEED Act, passed in the Parliament in April 2025, proposes significant changes to the governance and management of Waqf properties in India. This legislation seeks to amend the Waqf Act of 1995, aiming to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the administration of Waqf properties while addressing long-standing issues within the system. Key Provisions of the Act include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renamed as UMEED Act – Stands for Unified Management Empowerment Efficiency and Development. Inclusion of Non-Muslims – Non-Muslim members can now be part of central and state Waqf boards. ‘Waqf by User’ Removed – This provision is abolished; existing registered properties remain, except disputed ones. Section 40 Removed – The power of Waqf Boards to declare any property as Waqf land is revoked. Trusts Excluded – Muslim trusts governed by other laws will not be treated as Waqf properties. Eligibility for Dedication – Only practicing Muslims (for at least 5 years) can dedicate property to Waqf. Inheritance Rights Protected – Property can’t be made Waqf until legal heirs, especially women and children, receive their share. Limitation Act Applied – Legal claims over Waqf property now follow the Limitation Act, 1963. Protection of Tribal Land – Waqf can’t be established on land under Schedules V and VI of the Constitution. Waqf Tribunal Structure Retained – A 3-member tribunal continues, as recommended by the JPC. Govt. Property Review – Claims on government land as Waqf must be reviewed by a senior officer above collector rank. Dispute Resolution – Final authority in land disputes
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	<p>lies with a senior government official.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appeals to High Court – High Courts can now hear appeals against Waqf Tribunal decisions. ○ Transparency Measures – Mutawallis must register all property details on a central portal within six months. ○ Financial Flexibility – Waqf Boards' share reduced from 7% to 5% to allow more spending on charity. ○ Income Audit – Institutions earning over ₹1 lakh annually will undergo government audits. <p>What is a Waqf Property?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Waqf is a property donated by Muslims for a specific religious, charitable, or private purpose. Ownership of the property is considered to belong to God, while its benefits are directed to the specified purposes.
<p>Kailash Mansarovar Yatra</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indian and Chinese officials are accelerating efforts to finalize an agreement to resume the annual Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, which has been suspended since 2019. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra includes visits to Mount Kailash and Mansarovar Lake in Tibet. ● It is organized by the Ministry of External Affairs (India) every year between June and September. ● The Yatra is conducted through two routes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lipulekh Pass (Uttarakhand) ○ Nathu La Pass (Sikkim) ● The Yatra is open to eligible Indian citizens holding a valid Indian passport. ● It is organized with the support of the state governments of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Uttarakhand ○ Delhi ○ Sikkim <p>About Mount Kailash:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mount Kailash is located in the Kailash Range (forms part of the Transhimalaya) in Tibet. ● Lake Mansarovar is a high altitude freshwater lake near Mount Kailash in Tibet. ● Four rivers emerge from the Kailash-Mansarovar region: Sutlej, Brahmaputra, Indus and Kamali (Karnali).
<p>Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Ministry of Ayush conducted a session of the Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme at Ayush Bhawan today, aimed at enhancing the service orientation and professional skills of its employees. ● The programme was organised in collaboration with the





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	<p>Capacity Building Commission under the Mission Karmayogi framework.</p> <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is an interactive event aimed to inspire, enlighten, and guide Central Government employees to adopt the Karmayogi Way, emphasizing a citizen-centric approach to governance. The initiative is launched by the Capacity Building Commission. The programme focused on fostering Seva-Bhav (a sense of service) and accountability. <p>About Mission KarmaYogi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2020, the Government of India launched Mission Karmayogi, a National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCP). It is anchored by an apex body and headed by the Prime Minister. The programme aims at building a future-ready civil service with the right attitude, skills and knowledge, aligned to the vision of New India. <p>About Capacity Building Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was established in 2021. It is a three-member Commission, supported by an internal Secretariat headed by a Secretary. Members have been appointed from diverse backgrounds such as private sector, academia, public sector, and civil society. The Commission's focus is on driving stand harmonisation across the public sector learning and development landscape.
Ladki Bahin Yojana	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently, the Maharashtra government has faced criticism over alleged budget cuts to the Ladki Bahin scheme. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana, commonly referred to as the Ladki Bahin Yojana, is a key welfare program introduced by the Maharashtra government in 2024. It aims to provide financial support to economically disadvantaged women aged 21 to 65, promoting their rehabilitation, economic development, and empowerment. Eligibility Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age Limit: The applicant should be between 21 and 65 years old. Family Income: The combined annual income of the applicant's family must not exceed ₹2.5 lakh. Income Tax: No family member should be an income taxpayer.





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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits: Under this scheme, eligible women will receive Rs 1,500 per month through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
Defence Exercise -VI	Exercises: DUSTLIK	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 6th edition of India- Uzbekistan Joint Military Exercise DUSTLIK-VI commenced today, at Foreign Training Node, Aundh (Pune). The Exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 16 to 28 Apr 2025. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is an annual joint military exercise between the Indian Army and the Uzbekistan Army. • It is conducted alternately in India and Uzbekistan. • The first edition of the exercise was held in Uzbekistan in November 2019. <p>About DUSTLIK -VI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The theme of the exercise will be based on the theme of Joint Multi Domain Sub Conventional operations in Semi-Urban Scenario. • It will focus on responding to a terrorist action involving the capture of a defined territory. • It will also include the establishment of a Joint Operations Centre at the battalion level for continuous joint operations, the execution of counterterrorism missions such as population control measures, raids, search-and-destroy operations, and the employment of firepower, including air assets, to neutralise terrorists.
Meghayan 25		<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, the 3rd edition of the Indian Navy's Meteorological and Oceanological Symposium - Meghayan 25 – was held to commemorate the formation of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and celebrating WMO Day 2025 at Delhi. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme: The seminar was organised to align with this year's WMO Day theme - 'Closing the Early Warning Gap Together'. • Leading institutions such as the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Indian Institute for Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Indian Air Force, Space Applications Center (SAC) of ISRO in Ahmedabad, National Maritime Foundation (NMF), and the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) took part in the event. • The event highlighted an incisive and thought-provoking Panel Discussion focused on "Closing the Early Warning Gap Together: Enhancing Maritime Security and Coordination" bringing together experts to deliberate on integrated strategies





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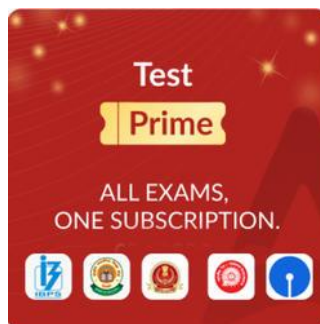
for maritime safety and preparedness.

About World Meteorological Organization:

- It is a **specialized agency of the United Nations (UN)**.
- It originated from the **International Meteorological Organization (IMO), which was founded in 1873**.
- Its main goal is to facilitate international cooperation in the development of meteorology and the exchange of information and technology related to weather, climate, hydrology and related environmental fields.
- **Members:** It has 193 Members, including 187 Member States and 6 Territories, maintaining their own meteorological services.
- **Headquarter:** Geneva, Switzerland.

Do you know?

- World Meteorological Day is observed on **23 March every year as a celebration of establishing the World Meteorological Organisation in 1950**. This day also highlights the important role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in providing public safety, economic well-being and protection of the environment.



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