



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

22nd November 2025

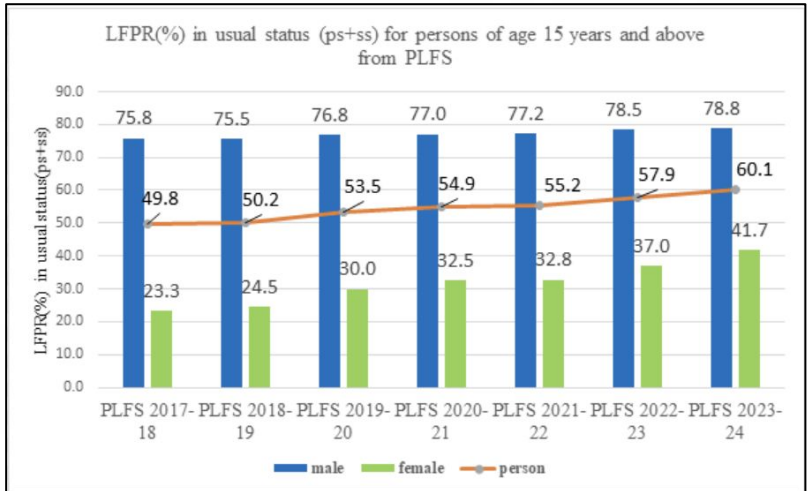


CONTEXT: The centre notified all four pending Labour codes, ushering in long due major labour reforms in Indian economy.

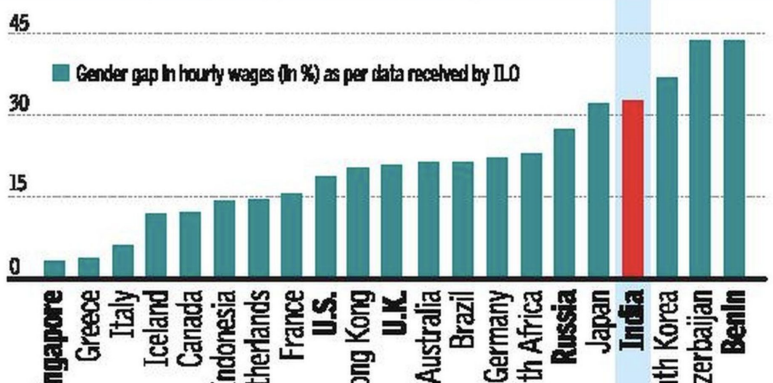
Need for Reform

These Reforms Were Needed

- Fragmented and Outdated Legal Framework
- Changing Nature of Work
- Ease of Doing Business
- Informalisation
- Demographic dividend
- Structural shift towards manufacturing
- Gender Parity



Gender wage disparity in India is among the worst in the world



What are the Codes

NEW CODES, NEW GUARANTEES

Code on Wages, 2019

- Mandatory appointment letters
- Social security for all, including gig & platform workers

Industrial Relations Code, 2020

- Timely payment of wages
- Health check-up for workers above 40
- Night shifts for women, in all types of work, subject to consent and safety measures

Code on Social Security, 2020

- ESIC coverage for establishments with even one employee engaged in hazardous processes

Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020

Consolidated Codes

An overview of the four Codes notified by the Centre and their scope

■ **Code on Wages (2019)** unifies four labour laws related to wages and bonuses

■ **Industrial Relations Code (2020)** consolidates laws governing trade unions, conditions of employment in industrial establishments, and the settlement of industrial disputes

■ **Code on Social Security (2020)** extends social security benefits to all employees and workers, covering both the organised and unorganised sectors

■ **Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code (2020)** consolidates and modernises 13 existing central labour laws related to workplace safety, health, and working conditions



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Significance of Reform

| Category | Key Advantage |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Broader Social Security Net | Gig workers formally recognized; eligible for social security schemes |
| | ESIC coverage extended to even small establishments in hazardous sectors |
| Standardized & Fair Wages | National wage floor reduces wage disparity across states/sectors |
| | Revised definition of “wages” ensures $\geq 50\%$ of salary as basic pay → prevents allowance-padding |
| Worker Rights Strengthened | Mandatory appointment letters ensure formal employment structure |
| | Fixed-term employees receive benefits similar to permanent staff (leave, gratuity, social security) |
| Improved Gender Equality | Women allowed night shifts with consent + safety measures → expands workforce participation |
| | “Equal pay for equal work” reinforced, improving gender wage justice |
| Better Workplace Safety | strengthens industrial safety standards and oversight mechanisms |
| | Inspector-cum-facilitator model promotes compliance through guidance, not punitive action |
| Enhanced Business Flexibility | Higher layoff threshold gives firms flexibility during economic fluctuations |
| | Longer workdays (8–12 hours) allowed with mandatory double overtime → supports sectors with peak demand cycles |

| | PRE-LABOUR REFORMS | POST-LABOUR REFORMS |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Formalisation of employment | No mandatory appointment letters. | Mandatory appointment letters to all workers to ensure transparency, job security, and formalisation. |
| Social Security Coverage | Limited social security coverage | Under the Code on Social Security, gig & platform workers will also get social security coverage |
| Minimum wages | Minimum wages only for scheduled industries; large sections of workers not covered | Code on Wages introduced concept of floor wage, provides workers statutory right of minimum wage payment |
| Preventive healthcare | No legal requirement for employers to provide free annual health check-ups to workers | Employers must provide all workers with a free annual health check-up |
| Timely wages | No compliance for timely payment of wages | Mandatory for employers to provide timely wages. Provides financial stability, cuts work stress and boosts overall morale of the workers |
| Women's workforce participation | Female employment in night shifts and certain occupations was restricted | Women to be permitted to work at night and in all types of work across all establishments, subject to their consent and required safety measures |
| Compliance burden | Multiple registrations, licences and returns across various labour laws | Single registration, pan-India single licence and single return |



New Labour Codes – Labour Reforms

22nd November 2025

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Challenges / Concerns

- Opposition from Trade Unions
- Risk of Worker Exploitation
- Implementation Challenges
- Financial Burden on Employers
- Coverage and Awareness
- Short-Term Economic Strain

Missing piece in manufacturing, execution needs political hardsell

Aanchal Magazine
& Anil Sasi

New Delhi, November 21

A BIG missing piece in India's manufacturing story for long has been a complete overhaul of labour laws. In its second term, the NDA government boosted the sector through its production-linked incentives (PLIs), expanded the MSME definition to help them grow, and pushed for self-reliance in supply chains. With some ground work done for increasing the share of manufacturing in the economy, the government has now once again picked up the thread on stalled reforms by consolidating 29 Central labour laws into four

labour codes.

The government tried doing it 5-6 years ago after an absolute majority in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. It managed to enact the labour laws in 2019 and 2020, but dithered on their implementation. With the need to create more jobs in mind, it has now gone ahead to notify all the four codes, including the Industrial Relations Code that gives employers the flexibility to hire workers for shorter terms to meet seasonal demands. While this has been resisted by trade unions in the past, the government has walked the extra mile on employee welfare by allow-

ing for gratuity benefits in the Social Security Code after just one year of service instead of five years now.

There was little indication of the government's homework behind the notification of the labour codes, except for the meetings of trade unions with the Finance Minister on Thursday and of the RSS-backed Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh with the Labour and Employment Minister hours before the latter announced the decisions on social media.

The secrecy was partly to avoid a backlash from labour unions on either side of the

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Way Ahead

•Capacity Building for Enforcement

•Strengthen labour inspectorate with training, digital tools, and enough staffing to handle the new regime.

•Awareness Campaigns

•Launch nationwide worker awareness drives (through e-Shram, trade unions, NGOs) to educate about rights (appointment letters, social security, etc.).

•Provide easily accessible grievance redressal platforms (online + offline).

•Support to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

•Offer transitional financial support or incentives for compliance (especially for social security payments) to avoid small business distress.

•Encourage digital systems for record-keeping, wage payments, and social security contribution to reduce compliance burden.

•Regular Review Mechanism

•Set up a tripartite body (government, employers, workers) to regularly review the impact of the labour codes.

•Modify policies in response to actual working conditions, abuse reports, or emerging sectors (e.g., gig economy).

•Focus on Worker Safety and Health

•Expand occupational health and safety infrastructure: advisory boards, safety committees, periodic inspections.

•Promote preventive healthcare leverage the free annual health check-up provision to catch work-related illnesses early.



New Labour Codes – Labour Reforms

22nd November 2025

CONTEXT: The centre notified all four pending Labour codes, ushering in long due major labour reforms in Indian economy.

Mains Practice Question

Q. India's labour market has long been characterised by informality and regulatory fragmentation. How far do the recent labour reforms address these structural issues? (150 words)



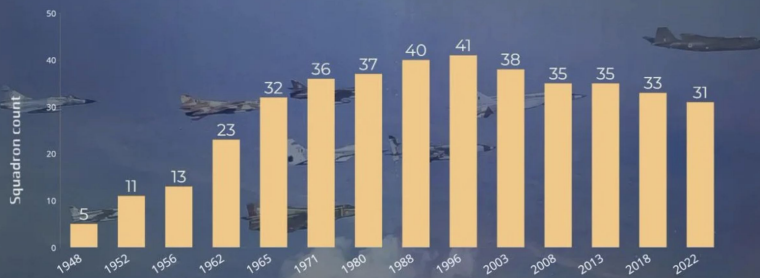
Indigenous LCA Tejas crashed

22nd November 2025

CONTEXT: IAF Tejas crashes at Dubai air show causing death of an IAF pilot.

Tejas Light Combat Aircraft

Combat Squadrons in India



DEAL & THE HICUP

Timeline of the mother of all defence deals

Aug 2007 MMRCA global tender floated after long delay. First 18 jets to be delivered to IAF within 36-48 months after contract inked, with rest 108 to be manufactured by HAL with transfer of technology over the next seven years thereafter

Apr 2011 American F/A-18 'Super Hornet' and F-16 'Super Viper', Swedish Gripen and Russian MiG-35 fighters ejected out of competition after extensive field trials

Nov 2011 Commercial bids of Eurofighter Typhoon (EADS) and French Rafale (Dassault) opened

Jan 2012 Rafale declared winner (lowest bidder) on both unit cost as well as "life-cycle costs" of operating the fighters over a 40-year period with 6,000 hours of flying

SO WHAT'S THE DELAY?

90% of the draft contract ready. But France yet to fully accept responsibility for the 108 fighters to be built by HAL as far as liquidity damages and timelines are concerned

Background

- 4.5-generation, supersonic, multirole fighter aircraft.
- Designed by Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) (DRDO); production by HAL.
- Conceived under the LCA programme (1980s) to replace MiG-21 and Su-7.
- India's second indigenous fighter after HF-24 Marut.
- Designed for offensive air support, close combat, and ground-attack roles.
- Three variants: Tejas Mk-1, Tejas Mk-1A, and Trainer version.

Key Features

- Smallest and lightest contemporary supersonic combat aircraft in its class.
- Tailless compound-delta wing design
- Powered by GE engine.
- Equipped to carry air-to-air, air-to-surface, and precision-guided weapons.



Indigenous LCA Tejas crashed

22nd November 2025

CONTEXT: IAF Tejas crashes at Dubai air show causing death of an IAF pilot.

THE DELAYED DESI FIGHTER

TIMELINE:

Aug 1983: Govt approves LCA project, with initial Rs 560 crore, to replace ageing MiG-21s

Jan 2001: First prototype flies

Dec 2013: Single-engine Tejas gets Initial Operational Clearance (IOC)

Jan 2015: IAF gets 1st jet (in IOC configuration)

July 2016: IAF raises first squadron (Flying Daggers) with only 2 jets

Feb 2019: Tejas gets final operational clearance (FOC)

Feb 2020: Only 16 jets (IOC) inducted by IAF till now (trainers yet to get FOC)



TOTAL COST: OVER ₹65,000 CRORE TILL NOW

Development of IAF/Naval variants, trainers & failed Kaveri engine:
₹17,269cr

Dec 2010 contract for 20 Tejas for IAF in FOC configuration:
₹5,989cr

March 2006 contract for 20 Tejas for IAF in IOC configuration:
₹2,813cr

Impending contract for 83 Mark-1A Tejas for IAF:
₹39,000cr

FUTURE PLANS

► Delivery of 83 Tejas Mark-1A jets to begin 3 years after contract inked. Total of 123 Mark-1 & Mark-1A jets

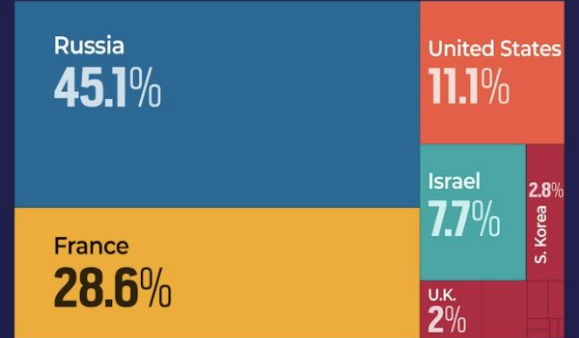
► Development of Tejas Mark-II or Medium Weight Fighter (MWF), with more powerful engines & advanced avionics. First test-flight planned for 2023. IAF wants 170 of them

► Get sanction this year to develop stealth fifth-generation fighter aircraft, the advanced medium combat aircraft (AMCA). First test-flight by 2025-2026. IAF wants at least 126 (seven squadrons) of them

India's Arms Imports

Russia was the largest supplier of arms to India during 2018-22

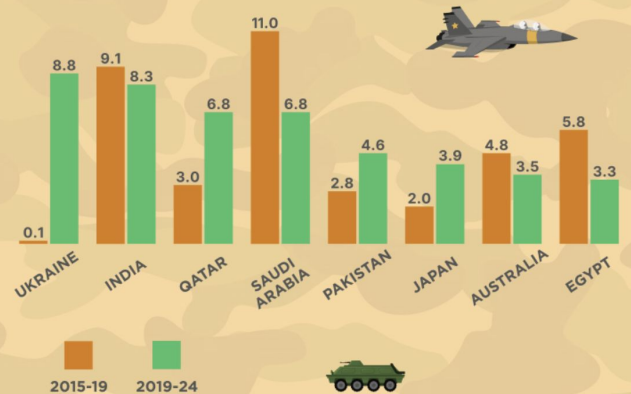
Main suppliers and their share in total imports



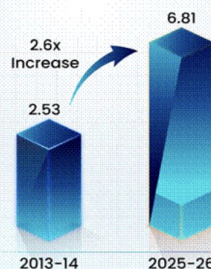
Indigenization of defence technology

- Strategic autonomy & supply security
- Operational suitability & iterative improvement
- Economic benefits & jobs
- Cost control and lifecycle independence
- Export potential & geopolitical influence

INDIA RANKS SECOND FOR TOP ARMS IMPORTERS (2020-2024)



India's Defence Budget Growth (₹Lakh Crore)



Source: Ministry of Defence

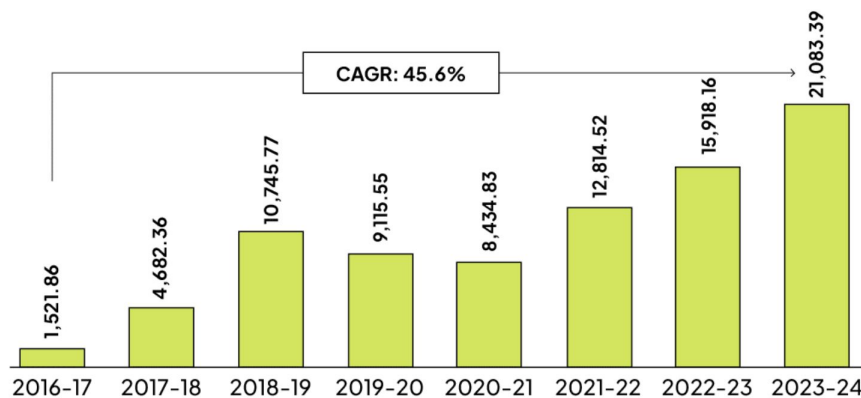


CONTEXT: IAF Tejas crashes at Dubai air show causing death of an IAF pilot.

Initiatives and Achievements

| Initiative | Key Features / Actions |
|--|--|
| 1. Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritises 'Make in India' categories: Buy (Indian-IDDMM), Buy (Indian), Buy & Make (Indian) Mandates 50–60% local content |
| 2. Positive Indigenisation Lists (MoD) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500+ weapon systems & components prohibited from import (Lists 1–5) Includes artillery systems, helicopters, radars, ammunition |
| 3. Corporatisation of Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 41 OFB factories reorganised into 7 defence PSUs |
| 4. iDEX – Innovations for Defence Excellence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports start-ups & MSMEs; 350+ development contracts Outputs include swarm drones, AI surveillance tools, autonomous vehicles |
| 5. Defence Industrial Corridors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corridors in Uttar Pradesh & Tamil Nadu Developing integrated defence manufacturing clusters |
| 6. FDI Reforms in Defence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FDI limit increased to 74% (automatic route) |

India's Defence Export (in Rs Cr)



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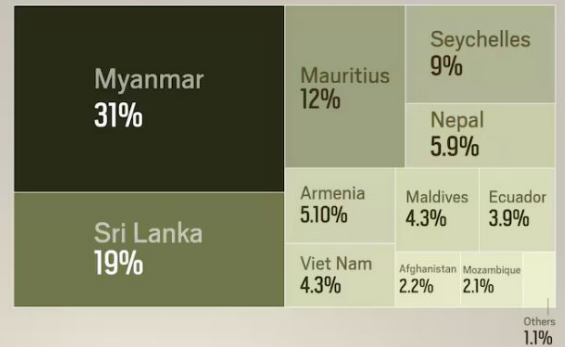
Initiatives and Achievements

Recent Achievements

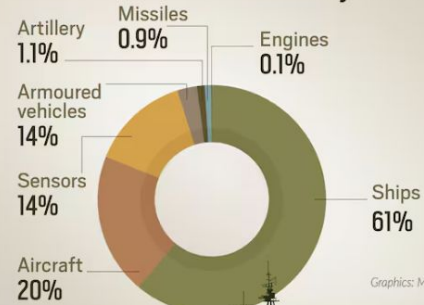
- (a) Rise of Indigenous Platforms
- (b) Strong Momentum in Missile Technology
- (c) Naval Indigenisation Success
- (d) Growth of Dual-Use Technologies
- (e) Expanding Export Portfolio

Where do India's Defense Exports Go?

Key defense partners



Key defense exports



Source: SIPRI
Graphics: Mudita Singh & Subham Singh



| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Arjun MBT Mk-1A | Main Battle Tank |
| INS Vikrant (IAC-1) | Aircraft Carrier |
| Arihant-class SSBN | Nuclear Submarine |
| Agni-V Missile | Ballistic Missile |
| Astra Mk-1 | Beyond-Visual-Range A2A Missile |
| Akash Missile System | Surface-to-Air Missile |
| Pinaka MBRL | Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher |
| BrahMos (Indian-Russian JV but largely Indian components now) | Cruise Missile |
| Dhanush Howitzer | Artillery Gun |
| Prahar / Pralay | Tactical Ballistic Missiles |
| Rudram-1 | Anti-Radiation Missile |
| INS Kalvari-class (Scorpene, but Indianised systems) | Conventional Submarine |
| HAL Dhruv (ALH) | Utility Helicopter |
| HAL Prachand (LCH) | Attack Helicopter |



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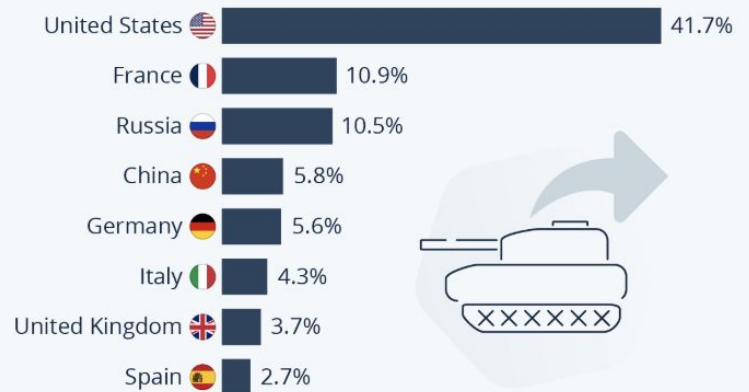
Challenges in Indigenisation

Challenges Hindering Full Indigenisation

- Technology Gaps in Key Areas
- Fragmented Industrial Ecosystem
- High Dependence on Public Sector for Big Platforms
- Research and Development Constraints
- Procedural Complexity
- Export Challenges

The World's Biggest Arms Exporters

Share of global arms exports from 2019 to 2023, by country



Way Forward

(a) Invest in 'Core Technologies'

- Prioritise long-term national missions for propulsion, sensors, advanced materials, AI-enabled warfare, and secure communication systems.

(b) Strengthen the R&D Ecosystem -Stable, multi-year funding with clear targets.

- Encourage joint R&D between public sector, private industry, universities, and global partners.

(c) Build a Competitive Defence Industry

- Encourage private sector lead-production roles.
- Expand defence corridors into multi-state clusters with shared testing and certification facilities.

(d) Procurement Reform

- Faster decision-making, realistic timeline setting, and simplified user trials to accelerate induction of indigenous platforms.

(e) Export-Oriented Mindset

- Design products that meet global standards.
- Provide training, maintenance, and life-cycle support to buyers.
- Integrate defence exports with foreign policy goals.

(f) Build Talent and Skills

- Strengthen technical education, defence universities, and industry-academia collaboration in frontier technologies.



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Mains Practice Question

Q. *“India’s quest for defence indigenisation is not merely an economic imperative but a strategic necessity.”* Discuss the statement while highlighting , key challenges that still hinder self-reliance. (250 words)



TABLE 1

• India's top agricultural export items

| | 2024-25* | Apr-Sep 2024* | Apr-Sep 2025* | Growth in % |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Marine Products | 7405 | 3385.82 | 3974.94 | 17.4 |
| Non-Basmati Rice | 6527.98 | 2251.3 | 2871.05 | 27.53 |
| Basmati Rice | 5944.49 | 2869.88 | 2763.46 | -3.71 |
| Spices | 4451.97 | 2091.02 | 2146.89 | 2.67 |
| Buffalo Meat | 4060.54 | 1806.15 | 2187.08 | 21.09 |
| Coffee | 1805.57 | 932.47 | 1048.75 | 12.47 |
| Fruits & Vegetables | 2068.93 | 848.8 | 948.9 | 11.79 |
| Tobacco | 1979.01 | 986.12 | 993.96 | 0.8 |
| Processed F&V | 1805.83 | 852.82 | 918.4 | 7.69 |
| Oilmeals | 1346.8 | 698.66 | 585.39 | -16.21 |
| Oilseeds | 1343.98 | 628 | 632.2 | 0.67 |
| Castor Oil | 1152.37 | 622.09 | 612.29 | -1.58 |
| TOTAL | 51951.15 | 23768.61 | 25867.48 | 8.83 |

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

TABLE 2

• India's top agricultural import items

| | 2024-25* | Apr-Sep 2024* | Apr-Sep 2025* | Growth in % |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Vegetable Oils | 17366.26 | 8806.46 | 9991.77 | 13.46 |
| Pulses | 5477.28 | 2187.21 | 1031.87 | -52.82 |
| Fresh Fruits | 3043.7 | 1299.58 | 1549.15 | 19.2 |
| Cashew | 1669.43 | 937.13 | 1590.5 | 69.72 |
| Spices | 1625.42 | 761.24 | 725.59 | -4.68 |
| Raw cotton | 1219.32 | 477.38 | 676.71 | 41.75 |
| Alcoholic Beverages | 1115.36 | 511.42 | 563.52 | 10.19 |
| Natural Rubber | 1069.05 | 592.71 | 542.09 | -8.54 |
| TOTAL | 38,542.23 | 18,444.42 | 19,528.88 | 5.88 |

*IN MILLION DOLLARS

84. Among the agricultural commodities imported by India, which one of the following accounts for the highest imports in terms of value in the last five years?

- (a) Spices
- (b) Fresh fruits
- (c) Pulses
- (d) Vegetable oils



India's Agri export posted impressive growth

22nd November 2025

SYLLABUS: GS 3: Issues of Buffer Stocks and Food Security
Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No : 15

lion in 2015-16, before recovering to \$41.9 billion in 2020-21, \$50.2 billion in 2021-22 and a peak of \$53.2 billion scaled in 2022-23.

The above trend has broadly mirrored movements in international agri-commodity prices. The Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) food price index plunged from an average of 119.1 points in 2013-14 to 90 points in 2015-16. The index — a weighted average of world prices of a basket of food commodities over a base period value (in this case, taken at 100 for 2014-16) — stayed below 100 points till 2019-20, and then soared to 102.4, 133.1 and 140.6 points in the following three fiscals.

As the FAO index has come down from those highs, it has been reflected in India's agriculture exports falling to \$48.8 billion in 2023-24 and \$52 billion in 2024-25. Some of that has also been a result of export clamp-downs — on a host of produce, from wheat, rice and sugar to onions and de-oiled rice bran — by the Modi government as part of its inflation-containment policy measures.

The export performance in the second half of 2025-26 will be influenced both by global prices and the Trump tariffs.

The FAO index averaged 126.4 points in October 2025, well below the record March 2022 level of 160.2 points immediately after

Food and Agriculture Organization

- It is a **specialized agency of the United Nations (UN)** that leads international **efforts to defeat hunger**.
- It is the oldest permanent specialized agency of the UN, **established in 1945**.
- **Mandate:** To improve nutrition, increase agricultural productivity, raise the standard of living in rural populations, and contribute to global economic growth.
- **Members:** It currently has 195 members – 194 countries and the European Union. **(India is a founding member of FAO)**
- **Reports published by the FAO:**
 - The State of the World's Forests (SOFO)
 - The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA)
 - The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO)
 - The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI).

Headquarters: Rome, Italy



22nd November 2025

SYLLABUS: GS 2: *Important International Institutions*
Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 12

About the IAEA

- **World's premier intergovernmental body** for nuclear science & technical cooperation.
- Established under the **IAEA Statute (1956)**; came into force in **1957**.
- An **autonomous organisation** within the UN system.
- Reports to both **UN General Assembly & UN Security Council**.
- **Primary mandate:** ensure nuclear material is **not diverted to weapons**; promote **peaceful uses** of nuclear energy.
- **Membership: 180 countries.**
- **Headquarters: Vienna, Austria.**

Functions of the IAEA

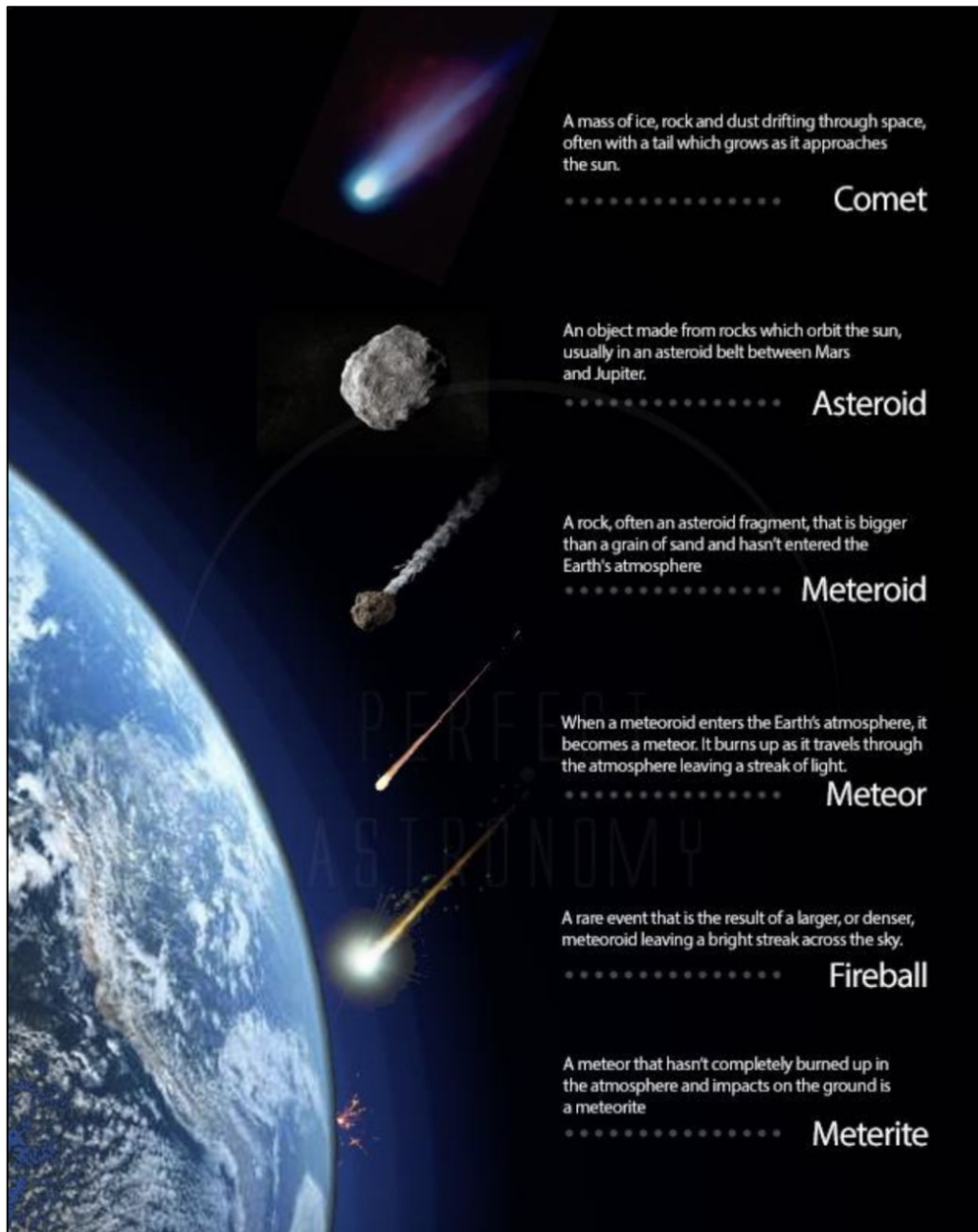
- Ensures nuclear technology is used **exclusively for peaceful purposes**.
- Implements **comprehensive safeguards** through:
 - Monitoring & surveillance.
 - On-site inspections.
 - Nuclear material accounting.
 - Information analysis & verification technologies.
- **Supports member states in:**
 - Nuclear safety & security.
 - Radiological protection.
 - Nuclear energy development.
 - Medical, agricultural & industrial use of radiation.



22nd November 2025

SYLLABUS: GS 3: Awareness in the fields of IT, Space
Newspaper : The Indian Express, Page No : 15

| Feature | Asteroid | Comet |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Composition | Rock + metal | Ice + dust + rocky material (“dirty snowball”) |
| Origin Region | Mainly Asteroid Belt (between Mars–Jupiter) | Kuiper Belt (beyond Neptune) |
| Tail Formation | No tail (generally) | Develops a tail when near the Sun due to sublimation of ices |
| Orbit Shape | More circular or mildly elliptical | Highly elliptical orbits |
| Visibility | Not visually bright; seen through telescopes | Bright coma & tail; visible even to naked eye during close approach |
| Examples | Ceres, Vesta, Bennu | Halley’s Comet, Comet NEOWISE |



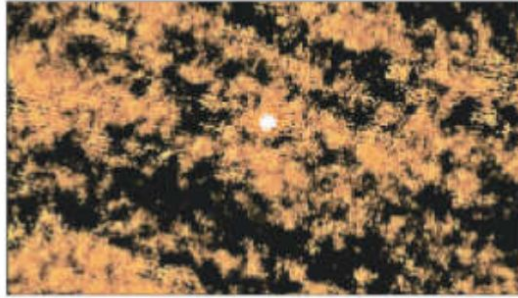
NASA releases new images of Comet 3I/Atlas: what are interstellar objects?

NASA ON Wednesday released new images of Comet 3I/Atlas, an interstellar object which was first spotted on July 1. It is the third interstellar object that scientists have discovered so far, after 1I/'Oumuamua and 2I/Borisov.

Interstellar objects are celestial bodies that originate outside the solar system, and are not gravitationally bound to a star. They can come from other solar systems and be thrown into interstellar space due to collisions or be slingshotted by another body's gravity.

To determine if a celestial body is interstellar, scientists compute its trajectory. All planets, asteroids, and comets within the Solar System move in closed elliptical orbits.

When they come closest to the Sun (a point called perihelion), they travel the fastest, trying to move away from the Sun, but are slowed down by solar gravitational pull. When these celestial bodies are farthest from the Sun (a point called



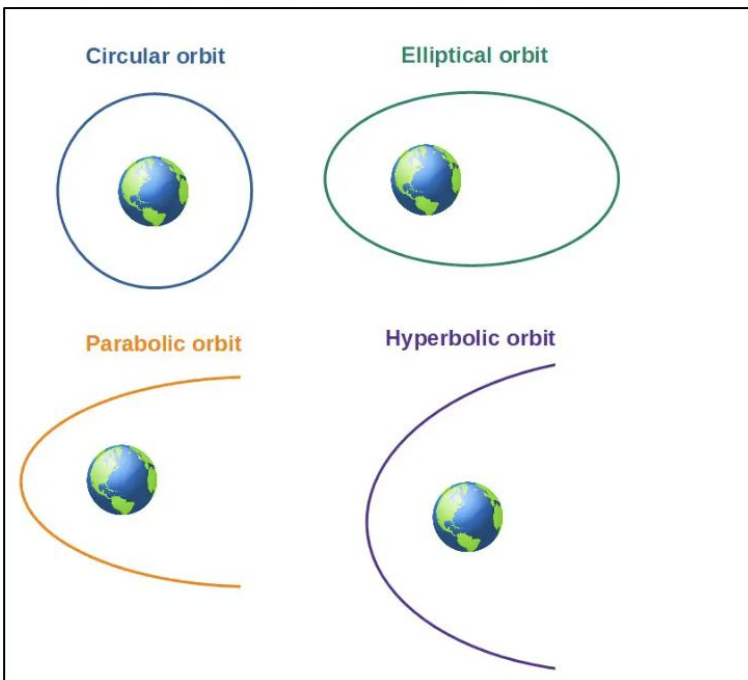
3I/ATLAS observed by the ESA/NASA SOHO mission. NASA

aphelion), they are brought back close to the Sun by solar gravitational pull.

{ SCIENCE }

But interstellar objects move in an open-ended hyperbolic orbit; they move at such speeds that the Sun's gravitational pull is not able to slow them down enough during their outbound leg, allowing them to escape our Solar System.

ENS



22nd November 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: *Important Awards*
Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 09

- It was instituted in the memory of the former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi **by a trust in her name in 1986.**
- It is also known as the **Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development**
- It is awarded annually to a person or organization in recognition of creative efforts towards:
 - Promoting international peace and disarmament
 - Racial equality, and goodwill and harmony among nations;
 - Securing economic co-operation and promoting a new international economic order;
 - Accelerating the all-round advancement of developing nations;
 - Ensuring that the discoveries of science and modern knowledge are used for the larger good of the human race
 - Enlarging the scope of freedom and enriching the human spirit



22nd November 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: *Important Awards*
Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 09

- Mikhail Gorbachev, former leader of the Soviet Union (1987);
- UNICEF (1989)
- Jimmy Carter, former president of the US (1997)
- UN and its secretary-general Kofi Annan (2003)
- Angela Merkel, chancellor of Germany (2013)
- Indian Space Research Organisation (2014)
- Former Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh (2017)
- Sir David Attenborough (2019)
- Pratham NGO (2021)
- Indian Medical Association and the Trained Nurses Association of India (2022)
- Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu Awwad (2023)

50. Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2014 was given to which one of the following?

- (a) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
- (b) Indian Institute of Science
- (c) Indian Space Research Organization
- (d) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research



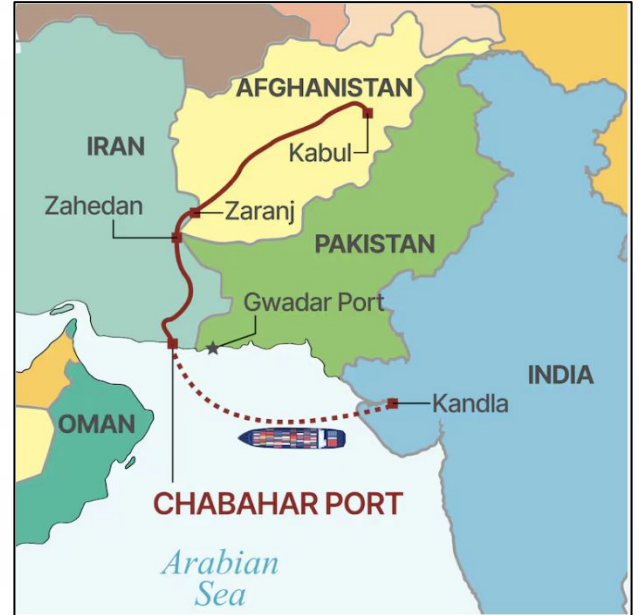
Afghan minister urges expanded use of Chabahar Port

22nd November 2025

SYLLABUS: GS 3: *Regional Agreements*

Prelims: *Location in News*

Newspaper: The Hindu, Page No : 11



22nd November 2025

Q1. With reference to the Labour Codes in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Code on Wages (2019) unifies four labour laws related to wages and bonuses.
2. The Industrial Relations Code (2020) consolidates laws governing trade unions, conditions of employment in industrial establishments, and industrial dispute settlement.
3. The Code on Social Security (2020) extends social security benefits only to organised-sector workers.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: b

Q2. With reference to the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), consider the following statements:

1. It is a 4.5-generation, supersonic multirole fighter aircraft.
2. It has been designed by ISRO and produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a

Q3. Arrange the following agricultural items exported by India for 2024–25 in descending order of their export value:

1. Oilseeds
2. Marine Products
3. Spices
4. Basmati Rice

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a) 3 > 2 > 4 > 1
- b) 4 > 2 > 1 > 3
- c) 2 > 3 > 4 > 1
- d) 2 > 4 > 3 > 1

Answer: d

Q4. With reference to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), consider the following statements:

1. The IAEA reports to both the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council.
2. Its primary mandate includes preventing diversion of nuclear material to weapons and promoting peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
3. The headquarters of the IAEA is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
4. It currently has 180 member countries.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) Only Three
- d) All four

Answer: c

Q5. With reference to Asteroids and Comets, consider the following statements:

1. Asteroids primarily originate from the Asteroid Belt between Mars and Jupiter, while comets typically originate from the Kuiper Belt beyond Neptune.
2. Unlike asteroids, comets generally do not have a tail.
3. Comets usually have highly elliptical orbits, whereas asteroids have more circular or mildly elliptical orbits.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a





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