



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

28th June 2026



Why is Seychelles important for India?



CONTEXT: The PM will attend island nation's Golden Jubilee National Day celebrations as the Guest of Honour. The trip also coincides with India and Seychelles commemorating 50 years of diplomatic relations since the archipelago gained independence in 1976.

Chapter 1: "Seychelles sits at merging point Between Indian Ocean & Africa vision"

Context of News :

Ahead of his departure from New Delhi, Modi said Seychelles is a valued maritime neighbour and a key partner in the Vision Mahasagar (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions) and India's shared commitment to the Global South.

Emerging challenges of Maritime Security for India

US's recent attack on 4 Vessels With Indian seafarers on board

Maritime disruptions caused by Conflict in West Asia

Pirate attack on Merchant vessel MV Fareeda 5

Grey Zone tactics : State backed paramilitary : Houthis as part of "Axis of Resistance"

Country's Posturing : China's String of Pearls policy

Chapter 1: "Seychelles sits at merging point Between Indian Ocean & Africa vision"

Both China & USA act as "Dialogue Partners" : Discuss Issue? Voting Rights?

Committee of Senior Officials is highest decision making body? NO. Council of Foreign Ministers

International Organisation consisting of 23 states Bordering Indian Ocean

Tripartite Nature : Government + Business + Academia

Statements For Prelims 2027

Indian Ocean Rim Initiative in Mauritius in 1995 & formalised in 1997

Coordinating Secretariat : Ebene, Mauritius

23 members: [hide]

- Australia
- Bangladesh
- Comoros
- France
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Oman
- Seychelles
- Singapore
- Somalia
- South Africa
- Sri Lanka
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- United Arab Emirates
- Yemen

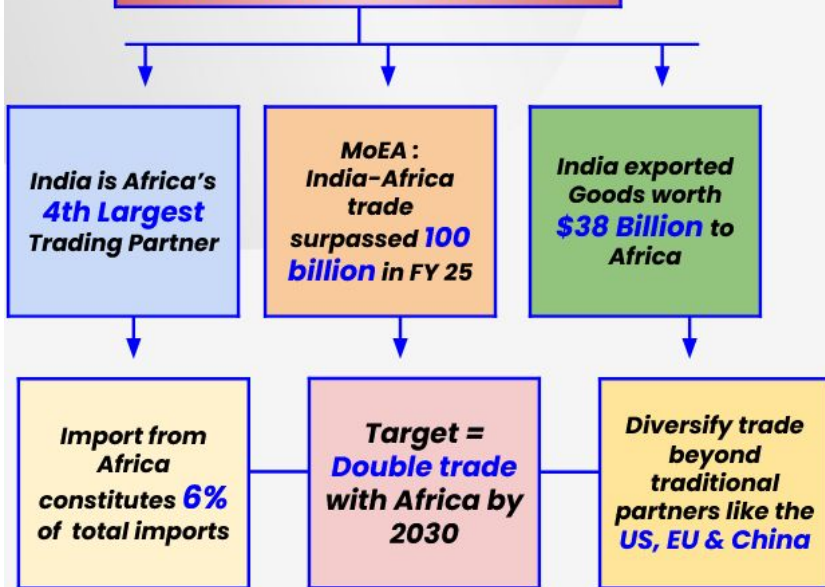


Why is Seychelles important for India?

CONTEXT: The PM will attend island nation's Golden Jubilee National Day celebrations as the Guest of Honour. The trip also coincides with India and Seychelles commemorating 50 years of diplomatic relations since the archipelago gained independence in 1976.

Chapter 2 :: "Importance" of Africa for India?

India - Africa Trade Potential :



Growing Trade Potential of Africa :

- 55 States = 1.5 Billion People (December, 2025)
- IMF = \$2.8 Trillion (3% of Global GDP)
- Projected Estimate = \$30 Trillion by 2050
- 48% population engaged in Agriculture
- 80% population = "Middle or Lower Middle" income category
- Increasing Propensity to consume = Attractive market for India's products

Chapter 2 :: "Importance" of Africa for India?

GTRI: "Overwhelming dominance gives Beijing potential leverage against India turning supply chains into a tool of pressure in times of political tension"

"Strategic Importance" :

Issue : India's "Over Reliance" on China for Critical Minerals :

- Critical Minerals Reserves : 30% of World's Cobalt, Lithium, Nickel, Manganese etc
- Namibia : 3rd largest Uranium producer & One of largest producers of Lithium, zinc & rare earth metals
- Key to curtail India's dependency on China
- Diversification of India's Energy mix : Oil (Nigeria & Angola) & Hydroelectric power
- Hydropower Potential : Major river systems like the Congo, Nile, and Zambezi

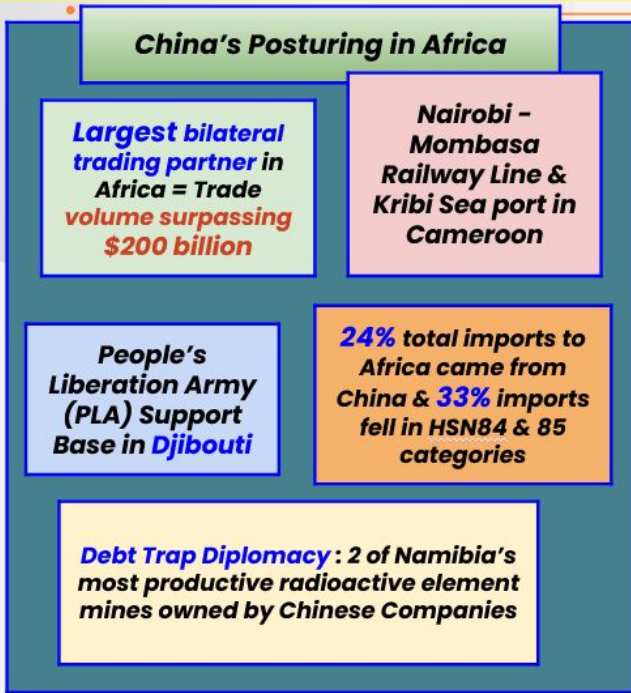
- July 2025 : India's Imports : \$113 Billion - India's Exports : \$14.25 Billion
- Antibiotics = 97% supply of Erythromycin
- Electronics = 86% of flat panel displays & 80% of Laptops
- Renewable Energy = 82% of solar cells & 75% of Lithium ion batteries



Why is Seychelles important for India?

CONTEXT: The PM will attend island nation's Golden Jubilee National Day celebrations as the Guest of Honour. The trip also coincides with India and Seychelles commemorating 50 years of diplomatic relations since the archipelago gained independence in 1976.

Chapter 3 : "Barriers" in the Pathway forward :



China's Dominance in Critical Minerals :

Chart 1: Country-wise share (in %) of global reserves of rare earths (as per U.S. Geological Survey 2025)

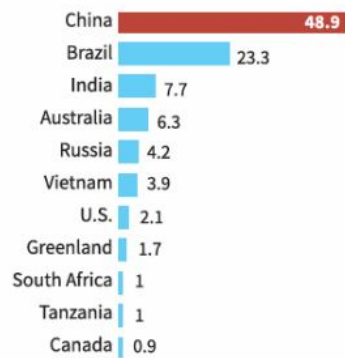
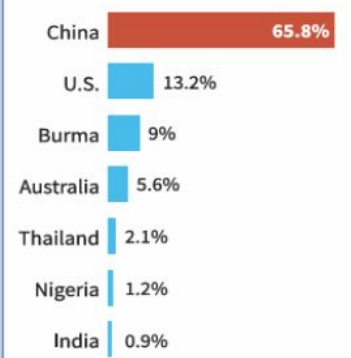
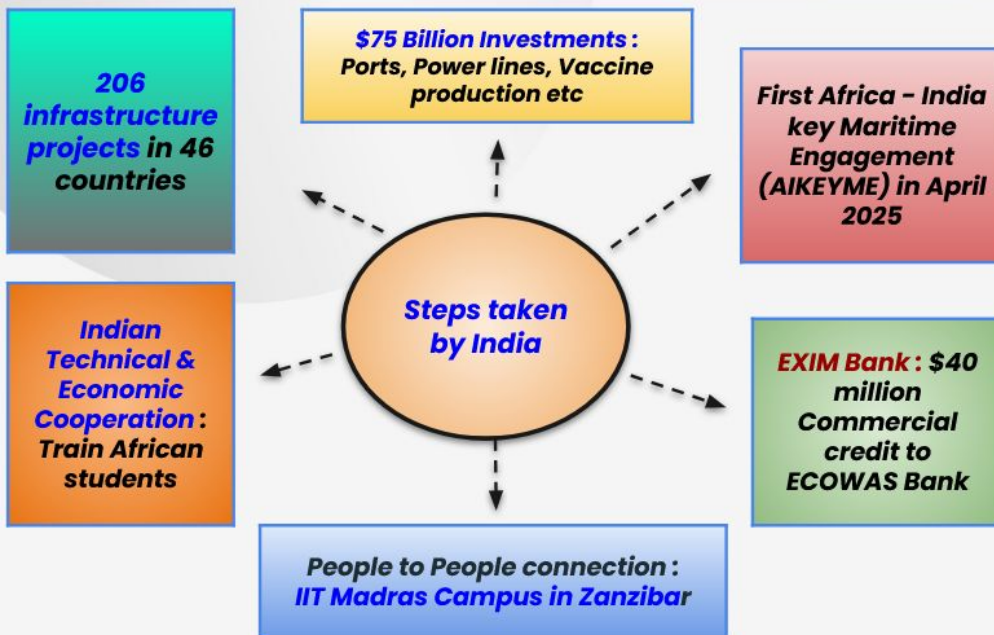


Chart 2: Country-wise share of estimated global mine production of rare earths in the last five years

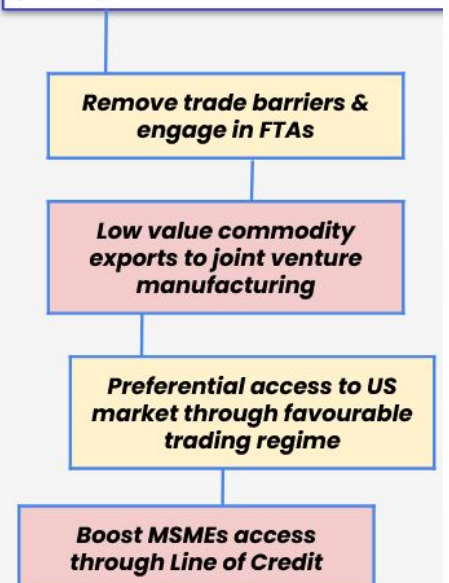


Chapter 4 : "Connect. Build. Revive with Africa"



Unlocking the potential of India-Africa economic ties

India's engagement with the continent must move towards developing long-term and sustainable partnerships

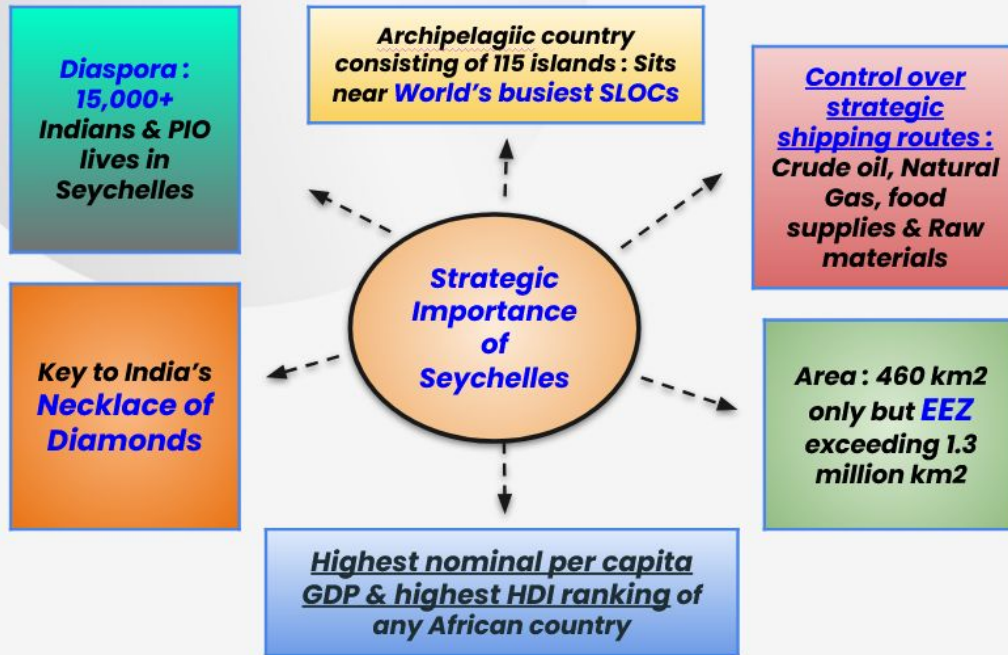


Why is Seychelles important for India?



CONTEXT: The PM will attend island nation's Golden Jubilee National Day celebrations as the Guest of Honour. The trip also coincides with India and Seychelles commemorating 50 years of diplomatic relations since the archipelago gained independence in 1976.

Chapter 5 : Real Importance of Seychelles?



Steps Taken?

- Increasing Defence ties : SDB Mk5 Patrol vessels & Dornier 228 Aircrafts
- Pact to develop military facility at Assumption Island
- Coastal Surveillance Radar System (CSRS) to fight piracy in Indian Ocean
- Export (\$68 million) - Import (\$8 million) = +ve BOP
- Special Economic Package : \$175 million
- Digital Public Infrastructure on line of UPI

Mains Practise Question

Question : Discuss the evolution of **India–Africa relations** in recent years. Highlight key areas of **cooperation** and the **challenges** faced.

(15 Marks, 250 words)



Impact of EU Carbon Tax

CONTEXT: The Central Government is working on a scheme to absorb 90% of compliance cost borne by MSMEs to soften the disproportionate impact of CBAM by European Union

Pillar 1: What is "European Union"?

Introduction?

It was born from the ashes of the World War 2 as a strong Political & Economic bloc of 27 countries

Creation of "Eurozone":

- Treaty of Paris 1951: European Coal & Steel Community
- Treaty of Rome 1957: European Economic Community
- Formal establishment : Maastricht Treaty 1992
- Economic Importance : 450 million + population & \$19 Trillion GDP
- Headquarter: Brussel, Belgium

THE EUROPEAN UNION

■ Original members, 1953 ■ Joined in 2007 ■ Former member
■ Joined in 1995 ■ Joined in 2013
■ Joined in 2004 ■ Candidate countries

Pillar 2: How significant is India - EU Trade?

Data to Quote :

- **EU is India's largest trading partner**
- **Merchandise Trade : \$136 billion (36% increase in 5 years)**
- **EU is India's 2nd largest destination for Exports**
- **EU's share in Foreign Investment stock = € 108 Billion (2023-24)**
- **6000+ Euro companies in India**
- **India is EU's 9th largest trading partner**
- **India's share in EU's trade = 2.2%**

India - EU bilateral merchandise trade trajectory

Year	Export	Import	Total Trade
2017-18	44	43	87
2018-19	48	51	99
2019-20	45	45	90
2020-21	41	40	81
2021-22	65	51	116
2022-23	75	61	136
2023-24	76	61	137
2024-25	76	60	136

Source : Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

India's merchandise exports to EU (Top 20 Items at 2 Digits level)

Sr.No	Major Items of exports (HS 2 Digits)	USD Billion
1	MINERAL FUELS, MINERAL OILS AND PRODUCTS	15
2	ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT AND PARTS	11
3	ORGANIC CHEMICALS	5
4	NUCLEAR REACTORS, BOILERS, MACHINERY AND MECHANICAL APPLIANCES	5
5	IRON AND STEEL	3
6	PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS	3



Impact of EU Carbon Tax

CONTEXT: The Central Government is working on a scheme to absorb 90% of compliance cost borne by MSMEs to soften the disproportionate impact of CBAM by European Union

India aims to wrap up EU FTA by early 2026, says Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agarwal

Agarwal said the final phase of negotiations effectively begun over the past two to three months, with regular engagement at all levels, including ministerial.

Market Access: Eliminate duties on over 99% of Indian exports by trade value

Tariff Reductions: Reduces EU tariffs on labor-intensive sectors (textiles, leather, gems) to ZERO + 40% import duties cuts on European luxury cars

Labour Mobility: Framework to facilitate seamless movement of skilled Indian professionals to EU

Absence of FTA = Edge to products of Vietnam & Bangladesh

EU = "India is a close market"

TEPA with EFTA

Commits \$1 Billion in Investment & 1 million direct jobs

Covers 92% of Tariff lines

Protecting key sectors: Dairy, Soya, Coal & Agriculture

MRA in Nursing, Accountancy & Architecture

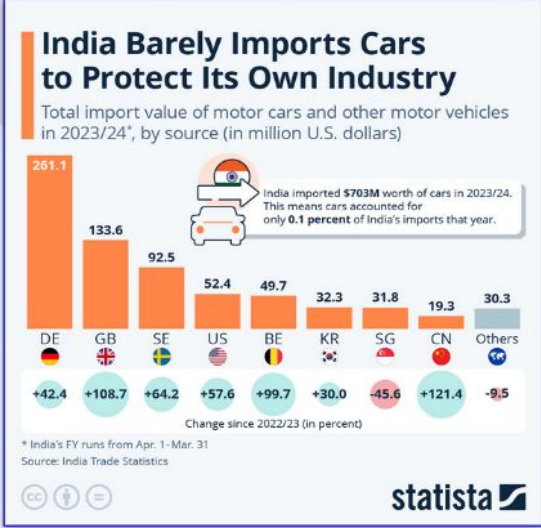
1960: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland (ILNS)

Pillar 3: Prevailing Impediments in India - EU Relations:

Issue 1: Contradicts "Make in India" & Atma Nirbhar Bharat Policy:

European Envoys: Luxury & Premium vehicles make 4-5% of total passenger car sales

Particulars		Amount
Assessable Value	A	24,00,000
Add: Basic Customs duty (100%)	B= A*100%	24,00,000
Add: Additional Custom Duty (CVD @ 12%)	C=(A+B)*12%	5,76,000
Add: Education Cess duty (3%)	D=(B+C)*3%	89,280
Add: Additional Custom Duty(Special CVD)	E=(A+B+C+D)*4%	2,18,611
Total Cost of Import		56,83,891
Total Custom Duty payable		32,83,891



EASY ON THE PURSE

The prices of luxury cars will be reduced by 38% after the free trade agreement

"Imports will shoot up: BOP Crisis"

Fully imported cars	Current price	Likely post-FTA
BMW 7 series	₹84 lakh	₹52 lakh
Audi A8	₹89 lakh	₹55 lakh
Jaguar XF	₹48.6 lakh	₹30 lakh
VW Beetle	₹21 lakh	₹13 lakh
VW Phaeton	₹76.4 lakh	₹47.4 lakh
Mercedes S65 AMG	₹2.5 crore	₹1.5 crore
Rolls Royce Ghost	₹2.5 crore	₹1.5 crore

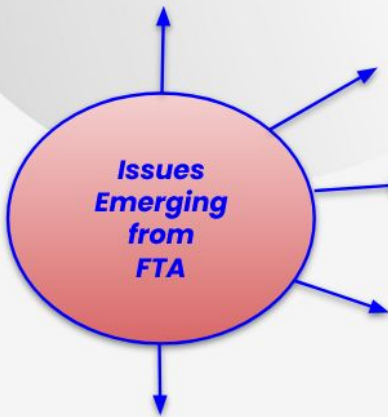


Impact of EU Carbon Tax

CONTEXT: The Central Government is working on a scheme to absorb 90% of compliance cost borne by MSMEs to soften the disproportionate impact of CBAM by European Union

Pillar 3 : Prevailing Impediments in India - EU Relations :

Highly competitive & subsidised EU products could undercut Indian farmer's earnings

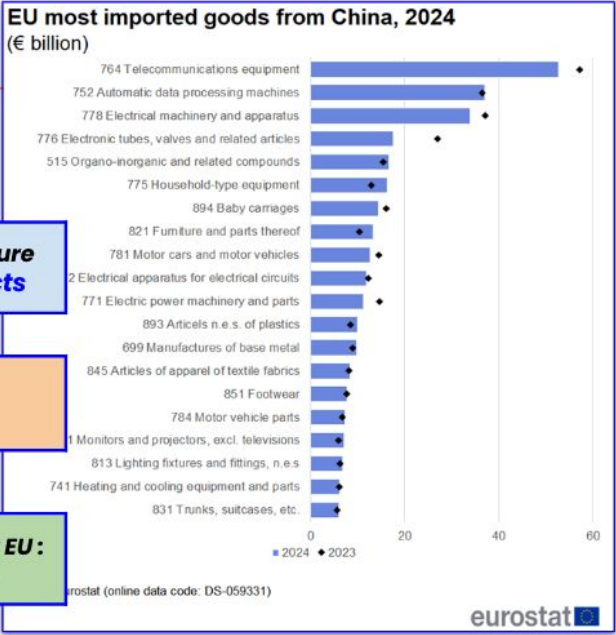


EU pushing for Sensitive Agriculture sector: Poultry & Dairy products

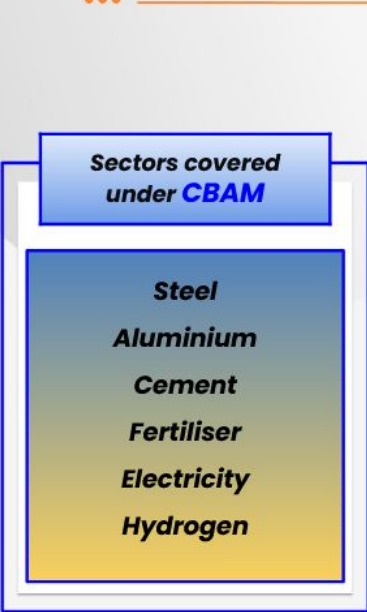
Ghost of RCEP & Horrors of CBAM

Non - Tariff Barriers imposed by EU: Curbs India's export prospect

EU seeks TRIPS + provisions: Higher compliance cost for India's Pharma companies



Pillar 3 : Prevailing Impediments in India - EU Relations :



Impact of CBAM on Indian Industries

EU : 22% of India's total merchandise Exports

25% of total export products to EU Fall under CBAM bracket

FY 2025 : 24% decline in Steel & Aluminium export

One tonne of steel using Coal based BF - BOF route = 2.4 tonne of CO2

Margin Loss on Profit : 16-22%

TAXING CARBON

CARBON BORDER Adjustment Mechanism is an EU policy designed to put a price on the carbon emitted during the production of carbon-intensive goods that are entering the block

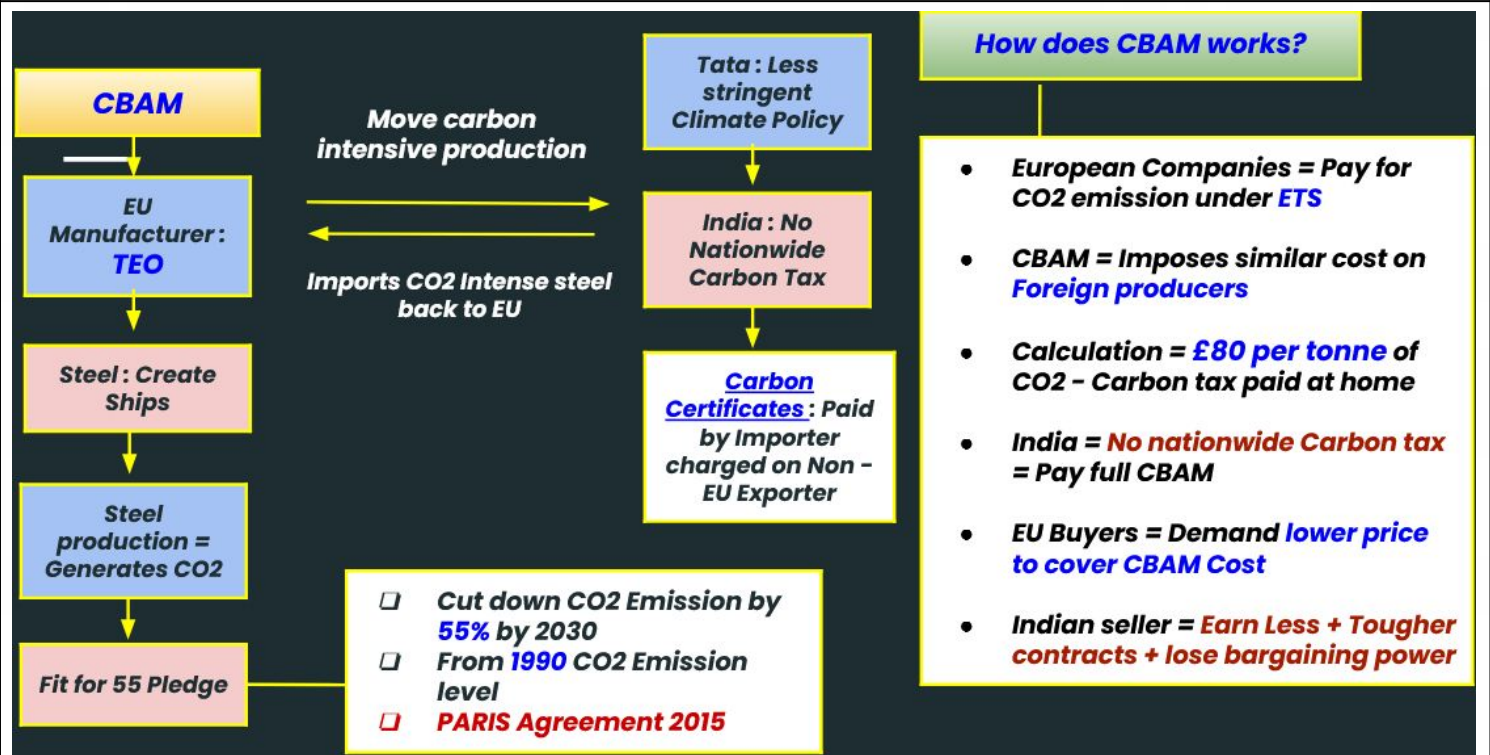
COMPLYING WITH the regulation is seen as a major global challenge, as declarants must track the embedded emissions of their goods, including direct emissions and, for certain sectors such as cement and fertilisers, indirect emissions.

COMPLIANCE COST for each MSME unit to meet the requirement under carbon tax is Rs 15 lakh-20 lakh.

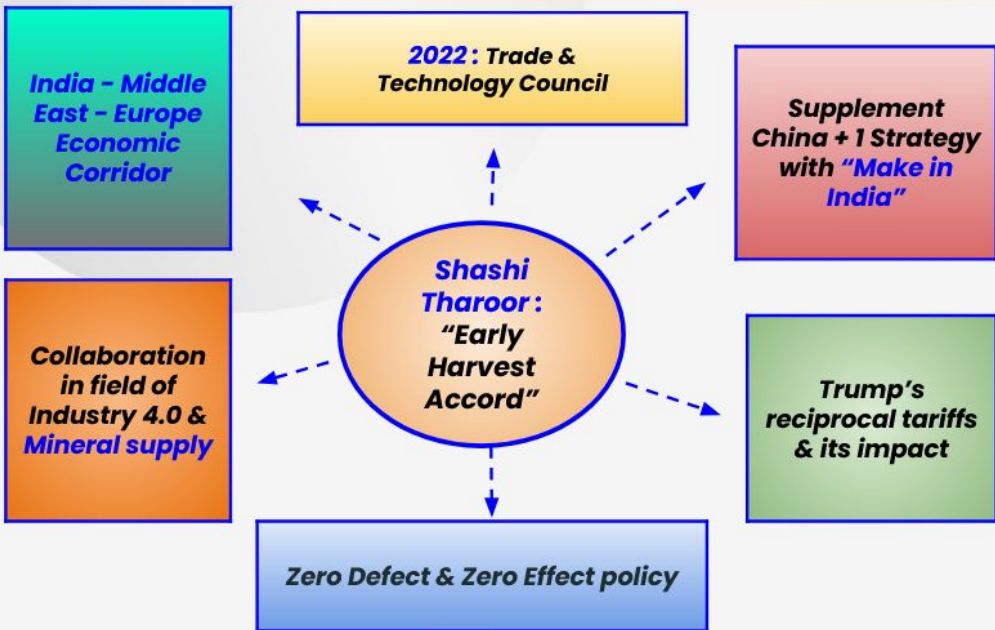


Impact of EU Carbon Tax

CONTEXT: The Central Government is working on a scheme to absorb 90% of compliance cost borne by MSMEs to soften the disproportionate impact of CBAM by European Union

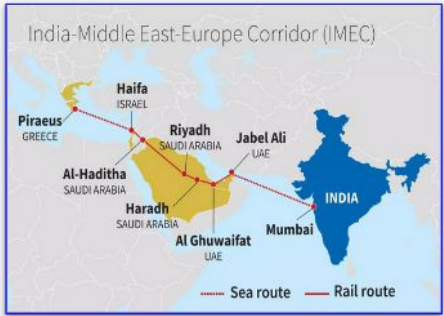


Pillar 4 : Way Forward in India - EU Relations :



India-EU Resilience Forum seeks to foster dialogue on non-traditional security challenges

India-Europe Resilience Forum fosters dialogue on shared security challenges, emphasising cooperation in critical technologies and raw materials



Impact of EU Carbon Tax

CONTEXT: The Central Government is working on a scheme to absorb 90% of compliance cost borne by MSMEs to soften the disproportionate impact of CBAM by European Union

Mains Practise Question

Question : What are **emerging concerns** between India - EU trade relations especially in the context of Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) ? Provide suggestive measures.
(10 Marks, 150 words)

Utility of
Analyst?

31. Consider the following statements with reference to India's response to climate change :

- I. India's Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) is a crucial tool for achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.
- II. India's 4th Biennial Update Report (BUR-4) submitted in December, 2024 recorded around 8% decrease in Greenhouse gas emissions in 2020 over 2019.
- III. Climate-resilient development necessarily depends on quick and short-term achievement of emission reduction targets.

100. Which of the following countries are members of the European Union ?

1. Belarus
2. Poland
3. Germany
4. Switzerland

Select the answer using the code given below :

(a) 1, 2 and 4

(b) 1 and 4 only

(c) 2 and 3

(d) 2 and 4 only



Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 5

Telangana govt. launches e-autos to ease travel woes of persons with disabilities

Context of News :

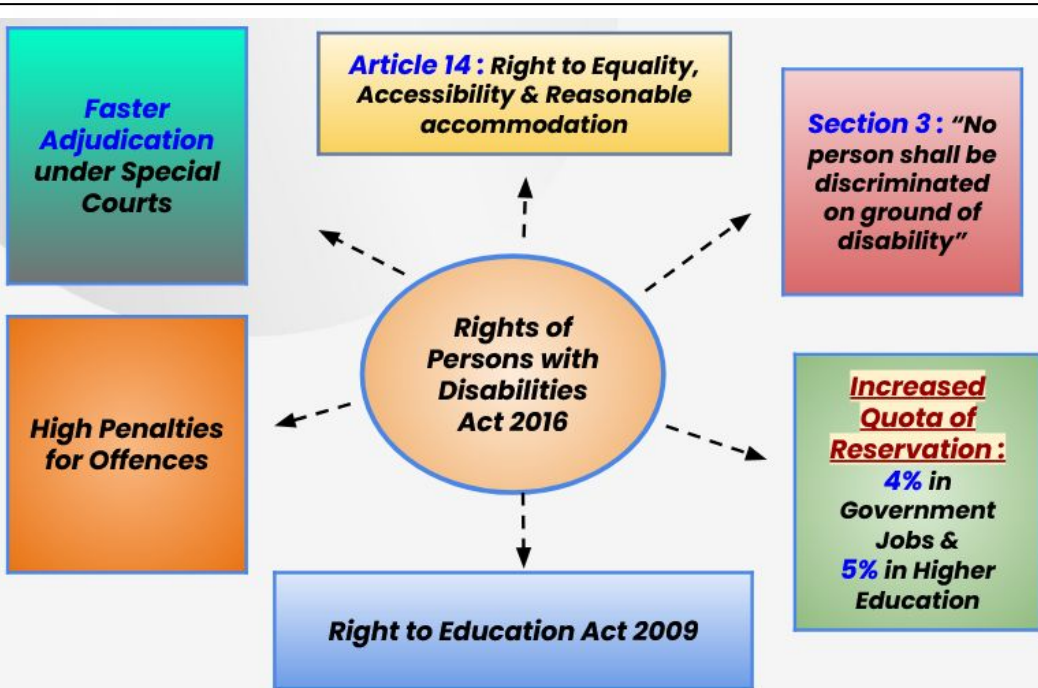
"E- autos would address **transportation challenges** faced by families & ensure free doorstep transport for children requiring regular therapy & training particularly those with **autism & intellectual disabilities**"

"Mains" Note Making Format :

Readymade INTRO	As per WHO , any person facing Impairment, activity learning & participation restrictions which is normal for other human beings is categorised as Person with Disability (PwD)
Data to QUOTE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MoSJ reply in LS 2024 : 2.68 crore or 2.21% of population• 21 categories of Disabilities have been identified under RoPWD Act 2016 : Blindness, Mental illness, Acid attack victims etc
Major Issues Faced by PwD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy Blindness : Only 21.8 % receive some aid from government• Policy Paralysis : High taxation on assistive devices or medical aids• Underrepresentation : Reservation in Union Govt Jobs have never crossed 1.1% (TH Report)• Non - Accessible India : Only 3% of Public buildings in India are "fully accessible" (UNESCO Report)



NewsPaper : The Hindu, Page No : 5



SUGAMYA BHARAT ABHIYAN



Key Achievements So Far

1748 government buildings retrofitted with accessibility features.

709 railway stations fully accessible, 4,068 partially accessible.

All 35 international airports now feature accessibility features such as ramps and Braille systems.

95 Central Government websites made accessible under MeitY's Content Management Framework.

3,120 out of 3,533 bus stations across 24 States /UTs equipped with accessibility features.



Who are Nihangs?

SYLLABUS: Prelims: History : Significant events & personalities
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 4**

Who are the "Nihangs"?

Context of News :

On June 16, a minor dispute between local residents and Nihang Sikhs in Karnaprayag escalated into an alleged sword attack, leaving a few people injured. A Nihang Sikh was also injured in the incident. Later, police had registered a case and arrested the four Nihang Sikhs.

During the hearing, the defence counsel argued that the accused were falsely implicated.

10th Guru **Gobind Singh** initiated "Khalsa Panth"



Fact Sheet For Prelims 2027

Akali Nihangs : Designated As "Knights" to protect Guru

Nihang : Freedom from fear of death & Non - attachment to worldly possessions

Two Dals : **Buddha Dal** (Bathinda) & **Taruna Dal** (Amritsar)

Celebrate "**Hola Mohalla**" festival introduced by **Guru Gobind Singh** At **Anandpur Sahib**

Who are the "Nihangs"?

Guru Nanak (1469-1539) :

Sermon at age of 5 to **Pandit Gopal Das** at **Pathshala**

Rejected **Upanayana ceremony** to recognise as **Dvija**

Work in Revenue Department of **Daulat Khan Lodi** (Governor of **Lahore**)

Age 33 : **Disappearance at Bein River & Revelation**

"**Ik Onkar**" : There is **ONE GOD**

Naam Simran, Daan & Sevaa

"**Udaasis**" with **Bhai Mardaana**

Bhai Lalo : 1st Sikh Missionary appointed by **Nanak**

Kartarpur Sahib at bank Of **Ravi River**

There is but one God, True is His Name,
 The Creator, Fearless, without rancour,
 Timeless, Unborn, Self-existent
 By God's grace he is known
 Meditate on Him
 He was True
 In the beginning, in the Primal time,
 O Nanak, True He is and will be hereafter.



SYLLABUS: Prelims: History : Significant events & personalities
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 4**



Guru Nanak Dev Ji's First Udasi (1500–1506)

On his first Udasi, Guru Nanak Dev Ji traveled
With Bhai Mardana across Eminabad, Hardwar
Banaras, Gaya, Kamrup, and Puri, spreading the message
of One God and challenging superstition and injustice



SYLLABUS: Prelims: History : Significant events & personalities
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 4**



Operation Amistad

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important Schemes & Initiatives of the Government
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No : 10**

Context of News :

THE SITUATION has grown more desperate by the hour in Venezuela as people dig through the rubble of collapsed homes and apartment buildings three days after the devastating one-two punch of 7.2 and 7.5-magnitude earthquakes, knowing time is running out to find survivors.

News Agency Reuters quoted Venezuela's top lawmaker Jorge Rodriguez announcing on state television that the toll has risen to 1,430, another 3,200 people were injured and 3,100 left homeless.

Operation Olivia

By Indian Coast Guard (ICG) to protect **Olive Ridley Turtle (Vulnerable)**

Operation Shiva

By Indian Army to provide security for **Amarnath Yatra**

Operation Kalanemi

By Uttarakhand to take strong **actions against fake saints** who cheat people

Operation Rising Lion

By Israel to attack on Nuclear sites of Iran : **Natanz & Isfahan**

Operation Hawk

By CBI to tackle International **Online Child Sexual Exploitation**

Operation Devil Hunt

By Muhammad Yunus Govt to target loyalists of former **PM Sheikh Hasina**

Operation Nanhe Farishte

During 2018-24 RPF Saved 84,119 Children from by **Child Trafficking**

Operation Sadbhav

To provide Humanitarian aid to **Myanmar, Vietnam & Laos** affected by Typhoon Yagi

Operation Sindhu

To evacuate Indian citizens during **Iran - Israel War**

Operation Brahma

To provide Humanitarian aid for **Earthquake Hit Myanmar**

Operation Indravati

Evacuate Indian Citizens from **Haiti**

Operation Ajay

To Evacuate Indian Citizens From Israel during 2023 **Israel - Hamas War**

Operation Karuna

Launched To Assist Cyclone Mocha hit **Myanmar**

Operation Kaveri

To Evacuate Indian Citizens From **Sudan** due to the Civil War In Sudan



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important Schemes & Initiatives of the Government
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No : 10**

OPERATION AMISTAD

INDIA'S FRIENDSHIP IN ACTION

India extends a helping hand to earthquake-hit Venezuela



1 LAUNCHED BY
Government of India in coordination with the Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF).



2 OBJECTIVE
To provide emergency humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) to earthquake-affected regions of Venezuela.



3 MEANING
Amistad means "friendship" in Spanish, symbolizing India's solidarity with the people of Venezuela.



4 DEPLOYMENT
Two IAF C-17 Globemaster aircraft carried a specialized Indian Army medical contingent and relief materials.



5 RELIEF PACKAGE
India dispatched a field hospital and more than **35 tonnes** of humanitarian supplies, including medicines and emergency equipment.

**A MISSION OF HUMANITY,
A BOND OF FRIENDSHIP**
FROM INDIA WITH CARE,
FOR VENEZUELA



**STRONGER TOGETHER.
BETTER TOGETHER.**



**VENEZUELA
WE STAND WITH YOU!**



Financial Burden of VB – G RAM G



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important Schemes & Initiatives of the Government
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 1**

Context of News :	MGNREGA	VB – G RAM G?
<p>At least three States, two of them with BJP-led governments, have raised concerns over the increased financial burden on them under the new rural employment programme, the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G), which comes into effect on July 1.</p>	<p>Guarantees 100 Days of employment in financial year to every rural household</p>	<p>Act increases the guarantee to 125 days per financial year</p>
	<p><u>Unemployment Allowance</u> = Paid by State Government if work NOT provided within 15 days</p>	<p>Act retain this provision</p>
	<p>Central government provides entire cost of wages for unskilled manual work & 75% of material cost</p>	<p><u>Centrally Sponsored Scheme</u> : 60 :40 share & 90 :10 for Himalayan states</p>
	<p>State Govt's share Administrative costs & compensation in case of delay in wage payments</p>	<p>Act retain this provision</p>

MGNREGA	VB – G RAM G?
<p>Central government will determine state wise normative allocation for each financial year</p>	<p>State governments will announce in advance a period of up to 60 days for every financial year during which works under the scheme will not be undertaken</p>
<p>Establishes Councils at the Central and state levels to undertake implementation and monitoring</p>	<p>Constitutes the National Level Steering Committee which will provide high-level oversight</p>

Similar features :

- ❑ Biometric authentication for transactions
- ❑ Geospatial technology for planning and monitoring
- ❑ Mobile application based dashboards for real time tracking



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important Schemes & Initiatives of the Government
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 1**

The Centre has also highlighted provisions such as:

- ▶ Mandatory appointment letters

- ▶ Free health check-ups for workers aged 40 years and above

- ▶ Equal work, equal pay and equal opportunity provisions for women working in different shifts

- ▶ Creation of a National Reskilling Fund for workers who lose jobs

- ▶ Weekly working hour cap of 48 hours

- ▶ Mandatory overtime payments



Elephant : Ecosystem Engineers



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important Flora & Fauna
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 8**

Elephant : Ecosystem Engineers

Context of News :

The researchers found that India's elephant reserve network expanded from 18,297 sq. km. (across three elephant reserves) to 80,777 sq. km. (33 elephant reserves), while the elephant population increased by about 6.7% from 25,604 estimated during 1992-93. Despite the marginal increase in the number of pachyderms, the estimated carbon stored within the elephant reserves increased by 38%.

"Elephants play an important role in maintaining ecosystems"

"Disperse seeds from fruits they eat in dung they deposit"

Helps fertilise plant seedlings & support tree renewal over large areas

Break & fell trees : Opening up vegetation for new seedlings & grasslands to thrive

Drought prone area : Dig for water in river beds creating pools

Safari Tourism : Significant income to marginalised communities

Snapshot on Elephants for Prelims :

Elephas Maximus Indicus is smaller than African elephant	Grasslands, dry deciduous & evergreen forests	IUCN : Endangered List	Schedule 1 of WPA 1972
Gestation Period : 22 months (longest gestation period of any animal)	Lifespan : 40-65 years	Western Ghats : 53% of total elephants in India	Highest : Karnataka > Assam > TN > Kerala



Elephant : Ecosystem Engineers



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important Flora & Fauna
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 8**

**Project Elephant 1992, "Gaj Yatra"
Campaign & MIKE Programme**

Nilgiri ER	TN, Kerala & Karnataka
Periyar ER	Kerala
Mayurbhanj ER	Odisha
Kaziranga ER	Assam
Rajaji - Corbett ER	Uttarakhand



Q1. With reference to Guru Nanak, consider the following statements:

1. He rejected the Upanayana ceremony to challenge the concept of Dvija.
2. He worked in the revenue department under Daulat Khan Lodi.
3. Guru Ram Das was appointed as the first Sikh missionary by Guru Nanak.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

Q2. With reference to various Indian rescue operations, consider the following statements:

1. Operation Sindhu was undertaken to evacuate Indian citizens during the Iran–Israel conflict.
2. Operation Brahma was related to the evacuation of Indian citizens from Haiti.
3. Operation Indravati was conducted for humanitarian aid in earthquake-hit Myanmar.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Q3. With reference to the employment guarantee under VB-GRAM-G, consider the following statements:

1. It guarantees 125 days of employment per financial year to every rural household.
2. Unemployment allowance is paid by the Central Government if work is not provided within 15 days.
3. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a 60:40 funding pattern between the Centre and the States, excluding the Himalayan states.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: c

Q4. With reference to Elephants in India, consider the following statements:

1. They are included in Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
2. The gestation period of elephants is about 12 months.
3. Around 90% of India's elephant population is found in the Western Ghats.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Q5. Match the following treaties with their significance:

Treaty	Significance
1. Treaty of Paris (1951)	A. European Economic Community
2. Treaty of Rome (1957)	B. European Coal & Steel Community
3. Maastricht Treaty (1992)	C. Formal establishment of the European Union

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1-A, 2-B, 3-C
- b) 1-B, 2-C, 3-A
- c) 1-C, 2-A, 3-B
- d) 1-B, 2-A, 3-C

Answer: d





VAJIRAM & RAVI

Institute for IAS Examination

A unit of Vajiram & Ravi IAS Study Centre LLP

9-B, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar,
New Delhi - 110060 • Ph.: 41007400, 41007500

New No. 62, P Block, 6th Avenue, Anna Nagar,
Chennai - 600040 • Ph.: 044-4330-2121

Visit us at : www.vajiramandravi.com