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Index:

360° SPECIAL (Complete Coverage of the issue)

1. Tungabhadra Dam Rehabilitation: A new era of India's water cooperation
2. Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township (GBIT)

POLITY & GOVERNANCE:

1. University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru
2. BRICS Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) Leaders' Summit
3. BWSSB's 'Blue Force'
4. Karnataka State Education Policy (SEP)
5. Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi scheme
6. Prajaseva Department
7. Shakti scheme
8. Karnataka Public School (KPS)

ECONOMY

1. ELEVATE NxT programme
2. PM MITRA Textile Park
3. 'Namma Guide' app
4. Global Capability Centres
5. Global Start-up Ecosystem Report (GSER) 2026
6. Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

1. Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Programme
2. Wildlife forensic unit

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1. Semiconductor Training Fabrication Facility
2. Karnataka Quantum Task Force
3. Antimicrobial resistance surveillance programme
4. BRICS Heads of Space Agencies (HOSA) 2026 Meeting

GEOGRAPHY

1. Ingaldhal Copper mines
2. India's tallest wind turbine

HISTORY & ART & CULTURE

1. Kagodu Satyagraha: 75th anniversary
2. Kempe Gowda Jayanti

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Walls of Gratitude
2. Kempegowda International Airport

Tungabhadra Dam Rehabilitation: A new era of India's water cooperation**Why is News?**

- Recently, the Tungabhadra Dam got a new lease of life with the **replacement of all the 33 crest gates**

Background:

- Crisis : Crest Gate No. 19 washed away** on August 10, 2024 due to a snapped chain link, releasing an uncontrollable 35,000 cusecs of water from the reservoir. This sparked immense panic among downstream farmers.
- Emergency Fix:** Engineers & experts — led by **hydro-mechanical expert N. Kannaiah Naidu** — successfully installed a temporary 5-element steel stop-log gate halting the catastrophic water loss
- Overhaul Decision:** Following **technical committee** recommendations, **Tungabhadra Board** decided a comprehensive **replacement of all 33 crest gates** rather than just a patch-up

Installation of new gates:

- Execution :** The installation of all new 33 gates was contracted to Ahmedabad-based **Hardware Tools & Machinery Projects Pvt. Ltd.**, & it was completed between December 2025 – April 2026
 - Alongside the gates, 68 lifting chains & 100 bevel gear units were replaced as a precautionary measure.
 - The old ones operated through an overhead bridge mechanism involving **chains, gearboxes, motors, & counterweights**
- Cost:** The entire project cost ~ **₹51 crore**
- Outcome:** Completed in **April 2026**, the complete replacement has secured the dam's structural safety & extended its **operational lifespan by an estimated 50 years**
- It was one of the major overhaul of dams after nearly 70 years

Inauguration ceremony of the the newly installed gates:

- An event to mark the inauguration of the newly installed 33 spillway gates of the reservoir was organised by the **Karnataka government and the Tungabhadra Board in Munirabad in Koppal district** on June 25
- The event was attended by the
 - Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil**
 - Karnataka Chief minister D.K. Shivakumar**
 - Andhra Pradesh Chief minister N. Chandrababu Naidu**
 - Telangana Chief minister A. Revanth Reddy**
- Three riparian States - Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana** - stressed the need for cooperation in addressing the concerns of lakhs of farmers dependent on the reservoir

- These three governments signalled a **“historic” consensus on protecting the interests of farmers in the Tungabhadra basin** & pursuing long-term solutions to irrigation & water-sharing issues.
- They also discussed key concerns raised by farmers, including the proposed **Navali balancing reservoir**, & the need to remove accumulated silt from the reservoir



Chief Ministers of the three states -- Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, and Union Jal Shakti Minister C R Patil inaugurated the newly installed 33 spillway gates of the Tungabhadra Dam on June 25

Tungabhadra Dam:

- It is an **inter-State irrigation project** built across the **Tungabhadra River** serving **Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana**
- *Founded:* Work on the **project began in 1945**, & was first commissioned in **1953**, while the crest gates were installed in **1955**
- *Purpose:* It is one of India's largest **multipurpose river valley projects** as it provides irrigation, drinking water, hydroelectric power and industrial water supply.
- *Location:* Mallapur village, near **Hosapete (Vijayanagara district)**
- *Irrigated area:* The project facilitates irrigation for about **17.33 lakh acres** :
 - **9.26 lakh acres in Karnataka**
 - 7.20 lakh acres in Andhra Pradesh
 - 87,000 acres in Telangana
- *Capacity:* At the **Full Reservoir Level of 1,633 feet**, the reservoir was originally designed to store ~ **133 tmcft of water**
 - However, decades of heavy silt accumulation (which is estimated at ~ 33 tmcft at the rate of around 0.5 tmcft annually) have reduced its **effective storage capacity to 105.788 tmcft**
- *Discharge:* The spillway is designed to discharge up to **6.5 lakh cusecs**
- *Water Allocation:* Under the **first Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal award**, the project has a water allocation of **230 tmcft**, including 18 tmcft earmarked towards reservoir evaporation. Of this,
 - **Karnataka's share is 151.49 tmcft**
 - Andhra Pradesh & Telangana together account for **78.51 tmcft**

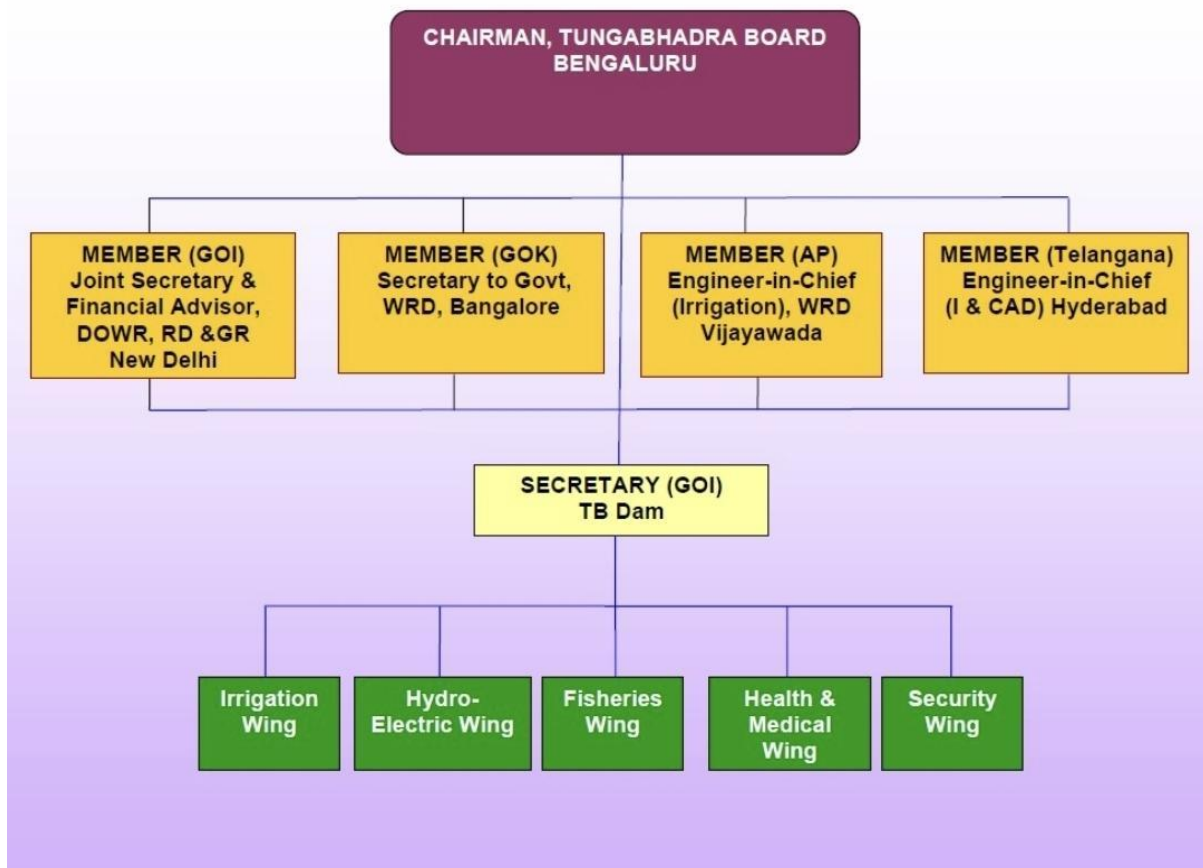
Why is the Tungabhadra Dam so important?

- It is considered as the lifeline of the **drought-prone districts of Ballari, Vijayanagara, Koppal & Raichur in Karnataka**, & also irrigates vast stretches of farmland in **Andhra Pradesh & Telangana** through an extensive canal network
- The project irrigates nearly **17 lakh acres across the three states** through the **Left Bank Canal, Right Bank Low Level Canal and High Level Canal systems**.
- Apart from **agriculture** it supports **fisheries, groundwater recharge, biodiversity, tourism, sustain tanks & lakes, & improve drinking water availability in rural areas**
- It also sustains **industries around Ballari & Vijayanagara**, making it a key economic driver for the region.
- For more than 7 decades, the dam has supported food security for millions by enabling the cultivation of paddy, cotton, sugarcane, chilli, pulses and horticultural crops.

Tungabhadra Board:

- The states worked jointly through the **Tungabhadra Board & the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti** to ensure the project's uninterrupted execution.
- by the President of India with effect from 1st October 1953
- Tungabhadra Board was established by the **President of India** on **29th September 1953** with effect from **1st October, 1953** under sub-section (4) of section 66 of the Andhra Pradesh Act, 1953 by the then Ministry of Irrigation and Power.
- **Chairman & Members:** The Board consisted of **Chairman** appointed by Government of India & **6 Members**.
 - Chairman of the Central Water & Power Commission was appointed the Chairman of the Board, in addition to his normal duties
 - The Members were Chief Engineers of both Irrigation and Power Departments of Governments of Andhra, Mysore and Hyderabad States
- **Reconstitution:** Board was **reconstituted with effect from 15th march 1955**. The reconstituted Board consisted of
 - **Chairman** nominated by Government of India
 - **4 Members** representing Government of India, Andhra, Mysore and Hyderabad
- Later, with the **reorganisation of the States in 1956**, the Hyderabad representative dropped out.
- **Present Status:** Board now consists of
 - **Chairman** nominated by Government of India
 - **3 Members** representing Government of India, Government of Andhra Pradesh & Government of Karnataka

ORGANIZATION CHART OF TUNGABHADRA BOARD



Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township (GBIT)

Why is in News?

- The Karnataka state government has issued a final notification on June 11 for the phase I land acquisition for the **Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township (GBIT) project near Bidadi**

Bidadi Township Project:

- Official Name: **Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township (GBIT) / Bidadi Township Project**
- Concept: **India's first AI-powered "Work-Live-Play"** futuristic satellite township.
- Location: Bidadi, Ramanagara Taluk, **Bengaluru South District**
- Implementing Agency: **Greater Bengaluru Development Authority (GBDA).**
- Integrated Infrastructure:** It is a 7,431-acre **mixed-use township** with housing, industries, offices, schools, hospitals, parks & public infrastructure, and will have about 2,000 acres of land reserved for **AI industries & allied sectors.**
- Area: **7,431-acre**

Strategic Objective:

- Core Objective: To **Decongest core Bengaluru city** & boost Karnataka's economic growth
- It aims to address traffic congestion, uneven urban growth, groundwater stress & flooding through integrated planning, transport, utilities & civic infrastructure developed from the outset

How is it funded and what economic benefits are expected?

- Total estimated project cost: **₹18,133 crore**
- Funding is proposed through **HUDCO loans**, a Rs 7,500-crore state government bank guarantee, Rs 2,000 crore from the BDA & other government resources.
- Job Creation: Expected to generate 1 lakh jobs, with a strong focus on local employment opportunities

What makes it an 'AI-powered' township?

- AI is proposed both as an industry focus and as a tool to manage urban services such as traffic, water, power, waste management, environmental monitoring, public safety and digital governance.

How does it compare with other planned cities?

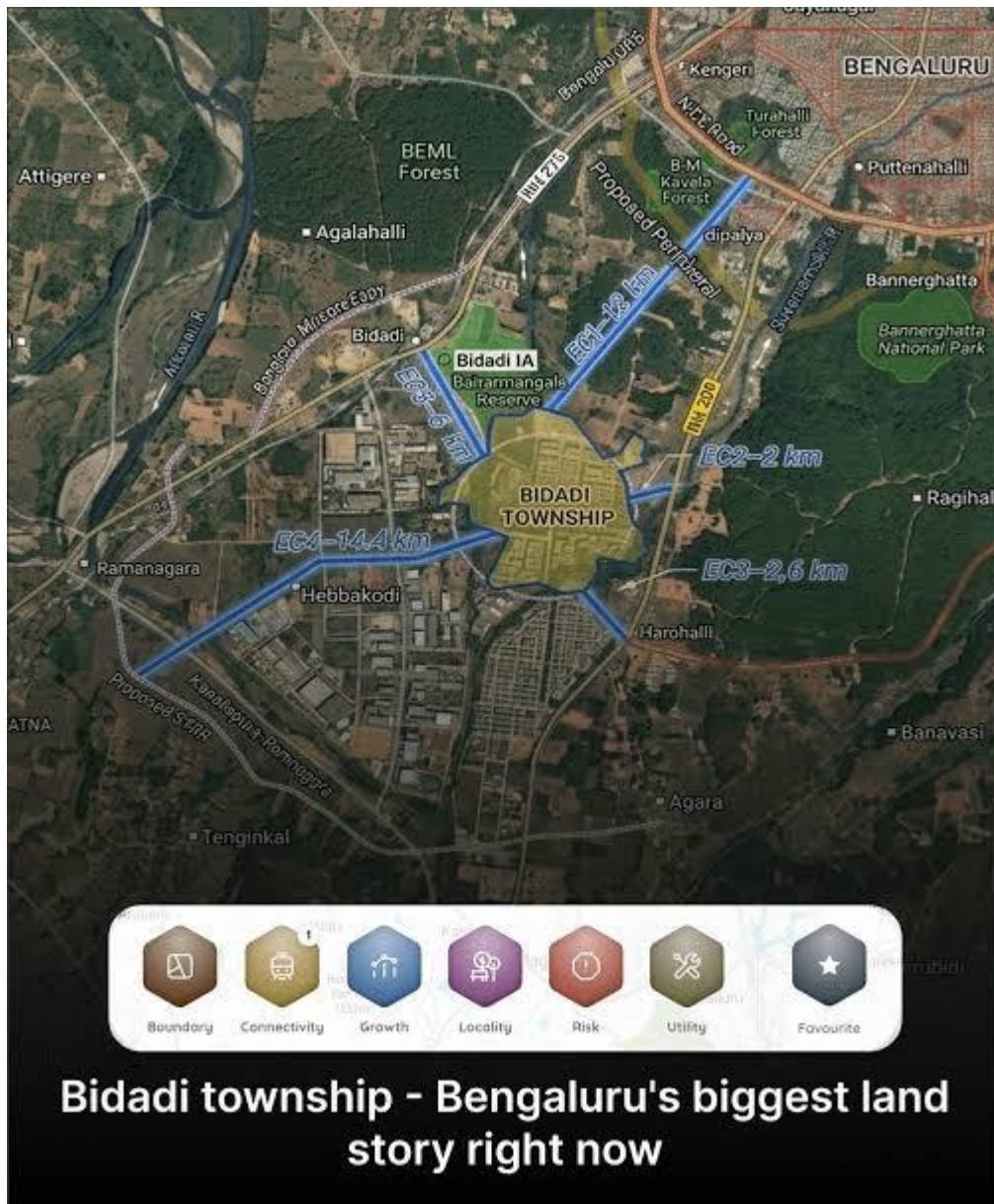
- Designed to ease pressure on an existing metropolis, the project is modelled on Navi Mumbai
- Unlike Amaravati, it is not a capital city, and unlike GIFT City, it is not a specialised financial hub

How is GBIT different from earlier satellite towns?

- Unlike earlier satellite townships that depended on Bengaluru for jobs, the **current project is planned as a self-sustaining city** with employment, housing and public services at one place.

Why was Bidadi selected?

- Located 35-40 km from Bengaluru, Bidadi is connected by the **Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway**, railway network & NICE Road
- It also has **industrial activity and large contiguous land parcels**



Land Acquisition & Phase Strategy:

- **Acquisition Framework:** Executed under the **2013 Land Acquisition Act**. Farmers are offered 9,693 sq ft of developed site per acre or equivalent market valuation
- **Land Area:** The project covers **7,431 acres across 9 villages**. These villages would be grouped into 3 packages & **land will be acquired across 3 stages**

Phase 1 Notification:

- **Notification Date:** Final notification issued on June 11.
- **Area Acquired:** 518.45 acres (~5% of the total requirement) across 3 villages: Kempayyanapalya, Mandalahalli & Vaderahalli

Key Issues & Challenges

- **Farmer Opposition:** Protesting groups are taking legal action, alleging the government failed to obtain the required 80% consent from affected landowners. A major farmer strategy assembly was set for June 16 in Bidadi.

- Environmental Impact: An estimated 2 lakh trees are likely to be felled during development

Current status?

- The government says the land already acquired for the project will not be denotified.
- However, it has promised that any future land acquisition will be based on the consent of landowners, while a committee headed by a retired judge will examine the legal and related issues and submit its report within 2 to 3 months.



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POLITY & GOVERNANCE:

University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru

Why is in News?

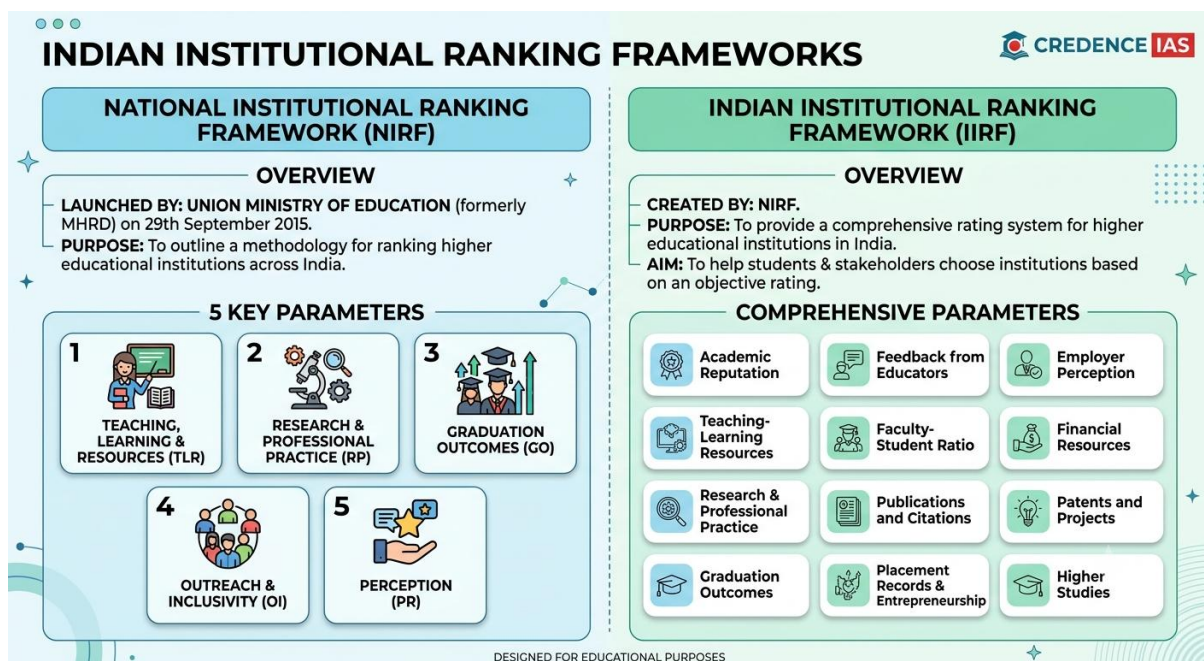
- **University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru (UAS-B)** has been ranked **7th place** among India's **top agricultural institutions** under **Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF)**

Highlights of the ranking:

- UAS-B is among the **top-10 best agricultural institutions** of the country in its institutional rankings **(IIRF) - 2026**
- **UAS-B is the only university or institution working in the area of agricultural & allied fields in Karnataka** to figure in the top-10 list
 - It holds the number 1 spot among the state's agricultural, horticultural, veterinary & research institutes
- IIRF has ranked the institutions based on their research performance, quality of faculty, placements, industry collaborations, support system for start-ups & other institutional parameters
- **Top rank: ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute**, New Delhi
- **South India:** Including UAS-B, **only 3 agricultural universities from the south** are in the list of top-10 agri institutions of the country
 - Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore - 3rd position
 - Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur - 9th position
- **Improvement over 2025:** UAS-B rank is improved compared to **2025 IIRF ranking (11th position)**

University of Agricultural Sciences-Bangalore (UAS-B):

- It was the **first State Agricultural University** in Karnataka established in **1963**
- It operates a vast network including the main **GKVK Campus (Bengaluru North)**, the **Hebbal Campus**, & associated agricultural engineering and sericulture colleges.
- **NAAC-A-Plus grade:** UAS-B got **National Assessment & Accreditation Council A+** (NAAC-A-Plus) **grade** in 2025 in the assessment process for India's higher educational institutions
- It is headquartered at the **Gandhi Krishi Vignana Kendra (GKVK)** campus in **Bengaluru**
- **GKVK Campus** is one of the **Biodiversity Heritage Sites** in Karnataka



BRICS Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) Leaders' Summit

Why is in News?

- The **5th BRICS Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) Leaders' Summit** was held in **Bengaluru** from **May 7–8, 2026**

Highlights of the Summit:

- It was a **two-day conference** chaired by the **Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) of India, K. Sanjay Murthy**
- It was as part of its India's **BRICS Chairmanship in 2026**
- **Theme: "Ease of Living with a Focus on Urban Mobility"**
- It brought together delegates & **heads of SAIs from BRICS member nations**, including Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Russia, South Africa & United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- **Aim:** To improve **data-driven audit methods** across BRICS nations
- **Deliberations:** audit themes of shared relevance, **urban development** such as the efficiency of public investments in urban transport, the environmental impacts of expanding cities & **strengthen public financial oversight**

The summit concluded with 2 major milestones adopted unanimously by all participating SAI heads:

1. **Bengaluru Declaration:** it cemented a shared commitment to developing more transparent, accountable, & technology-driven audit methodologies focused on improving the daily lives of citizens
2. **BRICS SAI Work Plan (2027–2028):** A collaborative roadmap designed to improve data-driven audit practices, encourage capacity building, & facilitate the exchange of best practices across member nations

Fact:

- **Indian cities occupy just 3% of land but contributed 60% of our national GDP**

BWSSB's 'Blue Force'

Why is in News?

- Recently, **BWSSB's 'Blue Force'** has taken rigorous city-wide inspections through its special operations across Bengaluru city.

Blue Force:

- It is a dedicated special squad of **Bengaluru Water Supply & Sewerage Board (BWSSB)** inaugurated in **November 2025**
- It comprises **18 teams**, each with 4 members
- Purpose: It is part of a broader effort to improve water supply & sewerage services through **crackdown on illegal water & sewerage connections across Bengaluru city**
- *Technology:* It utilises **robotic & AI-based technology** from the **Robotic Technology Deployment Programme** designed by the BWSSB to inspect internal pipelines, map the network, & pinpoint leakages. This technology eliminates the need for unnecessary road-cutting during inspections.
- It also aims to **reduce Bengaluru's 28% water loss** caused by leakages and illegal connections

Fact:

- Bengaluru Water Supply & Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is the **only water utility in India with Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) certification**

Karnataka State Education Policy (SEP)

Why is in News?

- Recently, the Karnataka government decided to set up a **Cabinet sub-committee headed by Home Minister** to study and recommend on implementing the **State Education Policy (SEP)** report submitted by the State Education Policy Commission

Karnataka State Education Policy Commission:

- It was a **15 member committee** constituted by the Karnataka government in **October 2023** to formulate the **draft new Karnataka State Education Policy** to replace the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in Karnataka
- *Members:* (1+15)
 - Chairman - **Prof. Sukhdeo Thorat** (former UGC chairman)

- 15-members
- 1 Member Secretary
- 8 subject experts/advisers
- It established **35 task forces** (16 for school education, 16 for higher education, & 3 for vocational education) engaging a total of 379 experts
- *Final report:* It submitted its **three-volume report** on **August 8, 2025** outlining reforms in school & higher education tailored to the state's socio-cultural, linguistic & economic needs — independent of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020
- **Mandate:** to undertake careful review of the **School & Higher Education in Karnataka** & to suggest policies to achieve a higher enrolment in the schools and higher education:
 - to expand the education with improved quality;
 - to provide equal access to all individuals to quality education;
 - to meet the prime goals of education effectively i.e., imparting scientific knowledge to the students, to inculcate democratic values, give skill & professional education to enhance employability and giving moral education to build good citizenship among the students

Recommendations of the Commission:

School Education:

- Develop a **Comprehensive Curriculum for School Education (CCSE)** to localize the curriculum content by replacing dependence on NCERT textbooks.
- Structural reform to replace the NEP's 5+3+3+4 model with a simplified **2+8+4 structure**: 2 years pre-primary education, 8 years primary education (elementary) & 4 years secondary education
- Implement a **Two-Language Policy** comprising Kannada (or Mother Tongue) & English. It would replace the existing three-language structure mandated by the NEP
- It mandates that the **medium of instruction in schools should be Kannada** or the home language, mother tongue, local language, or regional language up to at least Grade 5 across all school boards including CBSE & ICSE, and preferably up to Class 8. This step is in line with NEP 2020
- The state to **regulate private pre-primary schools** through a separate framework & introduce a **dedicated regulatory body for private schools** in view of concerns linked to high admission fees, age restriction criteria among others.
- Standardizes the **admission age for Class 1 to 6 years** and retaining small schools to ensure educational access and equity
- Institutionalize **"Constitutional Values Education"** a compulsory subject across all schools.
- **Universalize secondary education across the State:** Right to Education (RTE) extension of the right to free & compulsory education from the current 6-14 years to a **wider range of 4 to 18 years** in a phased manner, encompassing pre-primary to secondary education

- Establishment of the **Karnataka State Open School System (KIOS-Karnataka Institute of Open Schooling)** designed to offer flexible learning options for dropouts & working students
- Increase the **education budget to 30% of the state's total expenditure**, with a planned 5–10 % annual increase in per-student spending
- Establish **residential schools for migrant children**
- Align public school quality with Kendriya Vidyalayas
- **Discontinue contract/guest teacher appointments.**
- Discourage and arrest further privatization.
- Empower Block Education Offices for academic impact.
- Separate Committee to be constituted on Indian Knowledge system for the State
- Merge parallel agencies into an integrated Commissionerate
- Convert DSERT into an autonomous SCERT for R&D.
- Revive a **Directorate for Lifelong Learning.**
- Screen public library content to uphold constitutional & scientific values
- Allocate dedicated budgets for equity, quality, and training.
- Mobilize additional funds from non-State actors without substituting State obligations

Higher Education:

- ➔ **Higher Education Overhaul:** Degree model of 3+2 structure for general education (3-year undergraduate + 2-year postgraduate) & a 4+2 model for professional programs by scrapping the NEP's uniform 4-year degree model & multi-entry/multi-exit options
 - ◆ This reinstates the state's traditional pre-NEP **three-year degree program**
 - ◆ It also enables interdisciplinary & modular learning.
 - ◆ **Allow PG admissions from any state university** (50% seats as per roster norms) thereby opening up admissions across state universities
 - ◆ Introduce PG programs in Machine Learning (ML), Artificial Intelligence (AI+X), healthcare, agriculture & law
- ➔ **Bilingual teaching in higher education** institutions with Kannada (or another regional/mother tongue) alongside English
- ➔ Recognize top universities/colleges as **"State Institutes of Excellence"** & adopt a feasibility-based approach for opening new institutions.
- ➔ Establish **"Higher Education Teacher Academy centre"** in all divisions to provide training for all new teachers
- ➔ Create a **permanent Regulatory mechanism** to regulate fees in private institutions
- ➔ Offer **free higher education for girls** across government, aided & unaided institutions, with financial incentives to delay child marriage
- ➔ **Extend the state's reservation policy** (SC/ST/OBC) in admissions to private unaided institutions, including universities, deemed universities & autonomous colleges using the Article 15(5) of the Constitution
- ➔ All admissions in private institutions be brought under a transparent, merit-based and regulated framework, to safeguard against exclusion and ensure accountability

- **Governance & Administration:** merging parallel educational bodies under a single unified commissionerate, converting DSERT into an autonomous SCERT to lead curriculum innovation, & reducing the number of Regional Joint Director Offices from 6 to 4
- Set up a **Foreign Students' Cell** in each university, with a central hub in the Karnataka State Higher Education Council.
- Establish & strengthen **Equal Opportunity Cells** in all colleges, universities, and standalone institutions.
- Proposes **district-level academic administration units** led by educationists
- Set up **Karnataka State Council for Quality Assessment (KSCQA)** to help institutions improve quality & excellence
- Compulsory courses on **Constitutional Values Education & Environmental Studies.**
- Create **Centre for Knowledge Translation** for Kannada to global languages & vice versa.
- Filling of all sanctioned teaching posts within 5 years, & ensures that the vacancy gap remains below 5%
- **Assistant Professors in universities** to be filled through a via KEA-administered written exams & university interview.
- Create a **comprehensive financial framework** for timely & adequate funding.
 - ◆ Gradually increase spending to **4% of GSDP for education & 1% for higher education** by 2034-35
 - ◆ Reallocate budget share for higher education from 14% to **25-30% of the education budget**; consider an education surcharge on certain indirect taxes
 - ◆ Allocate **at least 25% of increased funds specifically for infrastructure**
- Continue pre-NEP 2020 re-admission policy.
- **Allow PG admissions from any state university** (50% seats as per roster norms).
- **Make a second language course compulsory** including Kannada/Mother tongue/Indian/foreign.
- Introduce **Comprehensive Sexuality Education** in undergraduate programs
- **Open Centre for Language Teaching & Training** under Higher Education Academy
- **Create a separate directorate under the Commissioner of Collegiate Education** to monitor infrastructure, admissions, reservations, teaching quality, faculty issues, accountability, and grievances in private unaided colleges
- Provide **Junior Research Fellowships** for Ph.D. students by the state
- Build a state-owned platform & collaborate with **SWAYAM/MOOC providers** for Kannada-medium courses

Funding & Research:

- Expand post-matric scholarships & raise the income limit to ₹10 lakh per year

- Create **Karnataka State Education Finance Corporation (KSEFC)** under Public-private funding partnership support for education with employment-linked loan repayment system to low-income students
- Establish a **State Research Foundation** with a ₹500 crore seed fund to boost research and innovation

Professional Education

- ★ Increase the **Job Oriented Professional Courses** in all streams of Education
- ★ Initiate paid internship facilities for students to enrol in both general degree courses & professional courses
- ★ Establish **Division-specific Skilling Councils** led by local industry leaders in each division of Karnataka.
- ★ Foster an Entrepreneurship and Innovation-centric Approach
- ★ Prioritize **Sustainable & Green Skills Development**
- ★ Integrate **Industry-Academia Collaboration** as a Core Policy Pillar
- ★ Prioritize **Technology-enhanced Learning & Digital Literacy**
- ★ Engineering & Polytechnic Education Curriculum must align with National/State Goals
- ★ Increase trending technologies like **quantum Computing, AI, ML, DS, Life science & Nano science** in Engineering and Polytechnic Education
- ★ **Strengthening Research & Innovation** in Engineering & Student Support & Entrepreneurship through **incubation centre**
- ★ Regional Imbalances in Distribution of Farm Science Universities & Colleges to be addressed.
- ★ Introduction of **New Courses with technology integration in agriculture**
- ★ Diploma in Food Processing & Precision Farming to be encouraged specifically in rural areas from agriculture universities
- ★ **Constitutional Values Education** shall be the part of undergraduate study in farm universities.
- ★ Introducing **Agriculture/Farm study** from School & Pre-University Education
- ★ Restrict the setting up of private agricultural universities.
- ★ Continue with NRI intake (increased to 10%) in public universities
- ★ Establishing **thematic Research Networks** across farm universities (e.g., Biotechnology Research Network of Karnataka) modelled on AICRP;
- ★ Development of **Kannada Language Textbooks for Agricultural Context**

Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi scheme

Why is in News?

- According to the recent data of Karnataka Health Department, the **Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi scheme** helped to save ~ 16,000 patients with serious cardiac complications since its launch in **March 2023**.

Highlights:

- **Early diagnosis & timely intervention at taluk hospitals** have helped save lives.
- Over 12 lakhs **electrocardiograms (ECGs)** had been conducted since the scheme's inception.
- Of these, 18,804 **ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI)** cases were identified. Of these, 15,908 patients (84.6% of the cases) were successfully treated through thrombolysis, angioplasty, stenting, & Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG) procedures treatment.
 - **STEMI is a severe type of heart attack** that requires urgent medical attention
- 1,560 patients have received the costly **Tenecteplase injection** free of charge
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled technology** has played a key role in facilitating rapid diagnosis
- Patients are categorised based on the severity of their condition, enabling doctors to quickly identify critical cases & initiate treatment



Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi scheme:

- It is a **flagship emergency cardiac care program** launched by the **Karnataka Department of Health & Family Welfare** on October 31, 2023
- It was announced earlier in **Karnataka government state budget 2023-24**
- **Primary Objective:** To avoid delay in providing diagnosis & treatment to heart attack patients in rural areas.
- It ensures that individuals experiencing symptoms of a heart attack receive immediate medical attention during the critical "Golden Hour" – the first hour after the onset of symptoms
- Provides **free, rapid treatment for severe heart attacks**, such as STEMI through government healthcare facilities across the state
- In 2023, the Health Department named **Heart attack (ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction - STEMI) management project** at taluk level as Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi scheme
- Nodal Agency: **Department of Health & Family Welfare**
- Benefits:
 - Free emergency cardiac care
 - ECG testing
 - Tenecteplase therapy for eligible patients
 - life-saving treatment during the Golden Hour

- **Expansion:** Originally started in 15 districts, the Government had announced the **expansion of the scheme to all taluk hospitals in September 2025**

What are the features of the scheme?

1. **Hub-and-spoke model:** The scheme is being implemented through a hub-and-spoke model.
 - Under this system, Taluk Hospitals, Community Health Centres, & selected government health facilities function as "Spokes," while District Hospitals, Medical Colleges, & higher-level cardiac care centres act as "Hubs."
 - At present, **86 district & taluk hospitals** function as "**spoke**" centres, while **10 "hubs" have been established across 16 super-speciality hospitals** including Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research. Hub-and-spoke model yields a healthcare network consisting of a main campus & one or more satellite campuses
 - Patients visiting local hospitals with symptoms such as chest pain, shortness of breath, excessive sweating, jaw pain, or arm pain can undergo immediate ECG testing.
 - The ECG reports are digitally transmitted to cardiologists and specialists at Hub hospitals for rapid interpretation and treatment guidance
2. **Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled technology:** Technology-enabled healthcare services plays a key role in facilitating rapid diagnosis as doctors can detect the severity of a patient's condition within 4 to 5 minutes
 - Digital ECG machines, tele-cardiology support, & real-time communication between doctors allow quick identification of heart attacks & other cardiac emergencies
 - This integrated approach supports the timely management of STEMI (ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction) and other serious cardiac conditions that require urgent medical intervention
3. **50 Automated External Defibrillators (AED):**
 - An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a portable, life-saving device that automatically analyzes heart rhythms & delivers electrical shocks to restore normal heartbeats during sudden cardiac arrests.
 - The emergency devices are installed in public places to cater to those suffering from heart attacks within the crucial response time

How the scheme works?

- Those experiencing any chest pain can immediately visit the spoke centres where doctors will perform an ECG & administer Tenecteplase injections to prevent a heart attack
- Also, within 4 to 5 minutes, using a specially designed **Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool**, doctors will be able to detect if the condition of the patient is critical
- For critical patients, **Tenecteplase injection** will be provided free of cost. This injection is very effective in preventing sudden heart attacks
- Depending on the need for advanced treatment, patients will be referred to the hub centres to get an angioplasty or an angiogram

Beneficiaries:

- **BPL card holders** will get free treatment in hubs of super specialty hospitals
- APL cardholders can get free treatment under our Arogya Karnataka Ayushman Bharat Health Card

Prajaseva Department

Why is in News

- Recently, the Chief Minister of Karnataka announced the creation of ‘**Prajaseva Department**’ (**Public service department**) dedicated to **addressing public grievance** & ensuring faster resolution of public issues



Features of the Department:

- It will serve as a **centralized platform for monitoring & resolving public grievances** across government departments
- **Primary Objective:** Strengthen citizen centric governance by exclusively **streamlining public grievance redressal** & improvong **citizen outreach**
- **Leadership:** A **dedicated Cabinet Minister** will be assigned responsibility for the department as the head while a **senior IAS officer** will oversee its functioning & review public grievances received from across the state
- **Taluk-Level Public Outreach meetings:** **District Ministers would be required to hold regular public interactions across all taluks one day every week** in the presence of local MLAs
 - Joint public interaction meetings will be held in the with District minister & local MLAs interact with citizens at the grassroots level
- **Dedicated Administrative machinery:** to examine petitions and ensure timely responses from the administration.

- **Grievance-monitoring mechanism:** this administrative wing would be headed by a **senior IAS officer** by actively tracking the solutions rather than just forwarding petitions
 - All applications submitted directly to Ministers, including those received directly by the Chief Minister, are routed through this **centralized monitoring system** for strict review, follow-up, and timely resolution
- **Department Mergers:** it merges 3 citizen-service wings by integrating pre-existing citizen-service frameworks of
 - **Sakala Mission**
 - **Administrative Reforms wing**
 - **Public Grievances Division** under a single umbrella
- **Significance:** strengthens accountability, improves coordination among departments & makes governance more responsive to citizens' needs
- **Technology to Play a Key Role:** **Department of E-Governance** will provide technological support for the project, including the development of an upgraded **Integrated Public Grievance Redressal System (iPGRS) 2.0 & other digital platforms** required for efficient implementation

Shakti scheme

Why is in News?

- The Karnataka government is set to roll out **smart cards for women beneficiaries eligible for free bus travel under the Shakti scheme**
- Also the government has expanded its free bus pass scheme **to include male students from**

Shakti smart card:

- It is a **special travel card for women** under Shakti Scheme
- **Tap & go feature:** the new **contactless smart cards** are like a **tap-and-go card**. Instead of showing Aadhaar & getting a printed ticket every time, the conductor simply swipes the card on the **Electronic ticket machine (ETM)**
 - Hence, the card will replace the current Aadhaar-checking system
- **NMC:** The new card is based on the **NCMC (National Common Mobility Card) system** as it is designed for seamless travel across multiple modes of transport using a single card
- **Approval:** In February 2026, the Karnataka Cabinet approved the implementation of a **National Common Mobility Card (NCMC)-based Shakti Smart Card system**
- **PPP model:** cards will be issued **free of cost to women** under a **public-private partnership (PPP) model**
 - State government bear the processing costs for cards, while the selected private partner provide technical support & manage related operational services
- **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV):** A SPV would be constituted to oversee the implementation and distribution of the cards.

- *Phases:* The system will be **rolled out in phases** & is expected across the state by mid-2026.
- *Benefit:* It will eliminate manual ID verification, allow faster zero-ticket issuance by conductors by streamlining ticketing & passenger verification. And improve service delivery by preventing the cases of misuse under the current system
- *Current status:* Currently, women passengers avail free bus travel under Shakti scheme by presenting a valid **government-issued identity card** to the conductor & obtaining a **zero-fare ticket**
- *Committee:* A “**Transaction Advisory Committee**” has been appointed to finalise the smart card framework & guide transport corporations on technical requirements, tendering procedures & the distribution mechanism



The poster for the Karnataka Shakti Scheme features the Government of Karnataka logo at the top left. The title 'KARNATAKA SHAKTI' is prominently displayed in large, bold letters, with 'SCHEME' in a smaller font below it. To the right of the title is a stylized pink silhouette of a woman's face. Below the title, the text 'FREE BUS TRAVEL FOR WOMEN ACROSS KARNATAKA' is written. The central image shows three smiling women standing in front of a red KSRTC bus. To the right of the bus, there are three circular icons: a bus, a woman, and a shield with a checkmark. Below these icons are the labels 'FREE TRAVEL IN GOVERNMENT BUSES', 'EMPOWERING WOMEN', and 'SAFE, RELIABLE & CONVENIENT TRAVEL'. At the bottom, there is a pink banner with the text 'TRAVEL FREE. EMPOWER MORE. A STRONGER KARNATAKA BUILT FOR WOMEN.' and a small map of Karnataka. Below the banner, there are three more circular icons: a shield, a group of people, and a graduation cap, with the labels 'DIGNITY SAFETY', 'MOBILITY INDEPENDENCE', and 'OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL WOMEN' respectively.

Karnataka expands free bus pass scheme:

- Karnataka Government expanded the Shakti scheme **for male students** studying in schools, colleges, & other educational institutions across the state to reduce transportation expenses for students and improve access to education.
- **Free bus passes** will be distributed also to **male students** to travel free of cost on buses operated by KSRTC, KKRTC, NWKRTC & BMTc
- Female students continue to travel for free under the scheme
- *Eligibility criteria:* With effect from June 12, 2026, free bus passes will be issued to all students in the State.

- It will also **cover students residing in Karnataka but studying in neighbouring states**, as well as those living in border areas outside the state & pursuing education within Karnataka
- Students can apply online through the **Seva Sindhu portal**
- In addition, each student issued a **free bus pass will be covered under accident insurance**, with the government bearing a monthly premium of ₹5 per student.

Shakti scheme:

- Launched on **June 11, 2023**, as the first of state government's five guarantee schemes
- Provides **free travel for women on non-premium services operated by State transport corporations** (KSRTC, KKRTC, NWKRTC & BMTC)
- **Eligibility:** Women & transgender persons with Karnataka domicile
 - Now, the male students are also brought under the ambit of the scheme
- It was recognised by the **Golden Book of World Records** for recording the highest number of women beneficiaries availing free travel under a public transport programme
- Women get free travel under the scheme by presenting a **valid government-issued identity card** to the conductor & obtaining a **zero-fare ticket**

Karnataka Public School (KPS)

Why is in News?

- Karnataka State Government has decided to provide **STEAM-based high-tech education** across **Karnataka Public Schools (KPS) students** starting in high school

STEAM education initiative in KPS:

- **STEAM** stands for **Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics**
- For the **first time**, the government is introducing these subjects at state-run schools, with the addition of Arts
- STEAM-based classes will be introduced at **the 300 KPS schools** that are currently up and running across the state **from high school level** to strengthen **innovation-driven learning** in government classrooms
- Aim: to **shape the career paths** of students at the school level & to develop them into **creative entrepreneurs** in the future
- Effective: from the **academic year (2026-27)**
- Nodal department: **Department of School Education & Literacy (DSEL)**
- Unlike conventional teaching frameworks that assess students primarily through written examinations, the **STEAM module prioritises hands-on, project-based learning**

- *Future job market:* It **targets the future job market** where the multi-disciplinary agility, new ideas, design skills, teamwork & communication skills will be needed instead of the technical knowledge alone
- *Broader coverage:* STEAM education comprehensively covers all the aspects & will provide them with basic skills to succeed in even emerging fields like **artificial intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, data science & space technology**
- *Pilot program:* As a pilot project, the robotics, coding, AI & practical learning are already being emphasized at the **KPS in Kalasa, Chikkamagaluru district**, with the help of the **Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL)**
- *Expansion:* Following the insights gained from the Kalasa pilot, the government is now scaling the framework to cover all KPS institutions across the state
- *STEAM curriculum:* **Department of School Education & Literacy** is executing the curricular changes to integrate these subjects

STEAM Education Moves Beyond Traditional Learning :

- In the prevalent traditional model of education, students read & understand the contents of textbooks & write exams. In the STEAM education system, emphasis is placed **on developing skills to solve real-life problems**
- Learning is made more interesting & effective, primarily through experiments, **robotics, coding, electronics, model building & problem-solving skills**
- It encourages students to become creative & work collaboratively in a team as the students are empowered to engage in **project-based learning**.
- The **inclusion of 'Arts' in STEAM will enhance the imagination of students**, help them with design thinking, & enable them to find creative and innovative solutions

Karnataka Public School (KPS):

- Karnataka Public Schools have been **2018–19 academic year**
- To provide quality education from **pre-primary (from LKG) to Pre-University (Class 12)** under one roof with the administrative, academic & functional integration of existing schools
- **Vision:** to transform these schools into 'Centres of Excellence' by making them student-centred, community-oriented & community-supported schools that provide quality education
- **Objective:** To increase the enrollment & reduce the dropouts by providing a good learning environment with the infrastructure & dedicated teachers.
- *Under One Roof Education:* Consolidates multiple smaller schools into centralized KPS "magnet" campuses to ensure continuous schooling from pre-school through PUC
- **Bilingual instruction:** All KPS institutions will adopt a bilingual system (English & Kannada) from LKG to class 5, transitioning to a single medium from classes 6-10
- **Skill-Based Learning:** early exposure to computer education & Artificial Intelligence (from Class 3), and vocational training
- *Corporate & Community Support:* Utilizes **CCSR (Corporate & Community Social Responsibility)** funding to establish or upgrade schools, allowing for donor co-branding on KPS campuses while ensuring strict grievance redressal
- Administrative guidelines based on Kendriya Vidyalaya model

- **‘KPS magnet’ schools:** Smaller schools within 5 to 6 radius will be consolidated into magnet schools with up to 1,200 students, selected based on enrolment, grades, location, and infrastructure
- With an aim to develop these schools, a Taluk Education Reform Committee will be constituted headed by local MLAs

Infrastructure Components of KPS:

- ECCE - Early Childhood Care & Education
- **ICT Smart Class:** LED displays & UPS-1KV equipment to use technology in school teaching and learning.
- **Computer Lab:** laptops, projectors, & printer/scanner
- Science Kit & Mathematics Kit
- Library
- Incinerators: provide menstrual napkins for girls aged 6 to 16 years & to dispose of them safely.
- **Vocational Education** under the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) to equip students from grades 9 to 12 with various job skills. Vocational Education Cell, Project Innovation, & Skill Hub Initiatives programs are being conducted
- **Career Guidance Cell** to facilitate school students to integrate vocational education with their formal education & to help prepare their future educational & career plans.
- **Supplementary Teaching:** To appoint subject-based English, Science & Mathematics guest teachers for Primary and Secondary Sections on outsourced basis for a period of 10 months

Further expansion:

- In October 2025, government announced the **establishment of 800 new Karnataka Public Schools** backed by ₹3,900 crore investment. Of these,
 - 500 will be funded by the **Asian Development Bank**,
 - 200 by Kalyana Karnataka Regional Development Board,
 - 100 by Karnataka Mining Environment Restoration Corporation (KMERC)
- **First phase:** In 2026, the government is setting 500 KPSs (out of 800) in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank in the first phase at a cost of **Rs 2,500 crore**



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ECONOMY

ELEVATE NxT programme

Why is in News?

- Karnataka State Department of Electronics, Information Technology & Biotechnology (IT/BT) concluded its **2026 edition of ELEVATE NxT** on June 10, 2026

Highlights:

- ELEVATE NxT programme-2026 was announced by the Department of Electronics, IT & Biotechnology on May 20, 2026
- It was the 25th call under the ‘ELEVATE’, a **flagship grant-in-aid programme** supporting early-stage startups
- The 2026 edition marked 10 years of the ELEVATE initiative.
- It shortlisted 256 DeepTech startups as the finalists at the grand finale

ELEVATE NxT - 2026 edition:

- It is the **national grant-in-aid programme** for Deep-Tech startup launched under the **Local Economy Accelerator Programme (LEAP)** the programme
- It was the **first cohort** of ELEVATE NxT programme
- Cost : **₹150-crore**
- Why is this edition special?:** For the **first time the ELEVATE program is opened up to deep-tech start-ups across the country.** Earlier it was confined to deep tech start-ups from Karnataka.
 - Also the grants in aid was increased to **1 crore** (from 50 lakh)

- **Field:** It invited applications from start-ups that work in advanced technology sectors such as AI/ML, IoT, quantum technologies, cybersecurity, spacetechn, aerospace & defence, nanotechnology, agritech, robotics, & so on
- **Grants in aid:** The selected start-ups will be **eligible for up to ₹1 crore in grant-in-aid support**. But no cap has been fixed for the final cohort size which would depend on the quality of the start-ups
- During th edition, government launched as the government introduced **4 ELEVATE tracks (General, Aspire, Unnati, & Women) for the first time**, ensuring that opportunity is more inclusive, accessible and statewide.

10 years of ELEVATE:

- The year 2026 marks the 10-year milestone of the ELEVATE
- Hence the government, for the **first time**, has introduced **4 ELEVATE tracks** simultaneously to broaden participation & improve access across sectors & regions. These include
 - **ELEVATE General**, open to startups across domains;
 - **ELEVATE Shakti**, for ventures with at least 51 percent women ownership;
 - **ELEVATE Unnati**, focused on SC/ST founders to encourage inclusive entrepreneurship;
 - **ELEVATE Aspire**, aimed at startups from Tier-2 and Tier-3 regions outside Bengaluru
- Each track is a separate cohort

ELEVATE programme:

- Launched in **2017** by the Karnataka state **Department of Electronics, IT & Biotechnology to support & fund innovative start-ups** in Karnataka
- It offers a **one-time grant of up to Rs 50 lakh to eligible startups** to build prototypes, develop proof-of-concept solutions and scale early innovations.
- **Objective:** The programme continues to focus on enabling early-stage innovation and expanding access to funding across geographies & communities.
- So far, it held held 24 cohorts (excluding 2026 edition)
- Beyond funding, the programme provides access to mentorship, incubation support, networking opportunities and linkages with government-backed Centres of Excellence (**CoEs**) & Technology Business Incubators (**TBIs**).
- It is aligned with the **Karnataka Startup Policy 2022-27**, under which startups can also avail reimbursements for patent filing, marketing expenses, GST and quality certification costs.

Achievements:

- Over the past decade, ELEVATE has completed **24 calls** & supported more than 1,250 startups, with a total committed grant support of around **Rs 292.57 crore**.
- Of this, women-led startups accounted for 330 ventures receiving Rs 77.39 crore, while 464 startups from Beyond Bengaluru regions were supported with Rs 102.89 crore

Deep Tech Decade:

- During Bengaluru Tech Summit 2025, Karnataka Minister for IT-BT had announced an **investment pool of ₹600 crore** to power the State to enter the '**Deep Tech Decade**' and drive various initiatives aimed towards it

PM MITRA Textile Park

Why is in News?

- The first phase of the proposed **PM MITRA Textile Park project** will be developed in **Kalaburagi** through the **Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB)**

First phase of the PM MITRA Textile Park:

- The infrastructure blueprint & administrative framework for the first phase of the **PM MITRA Textile Park** near **Kalaburagi**, have been finalized
- The project falls under the **PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel scheme**, which is a Central Government textile infrastructure programme.
- **Location & Scale:** Spans across **1,000 acres in Kalaburagi**, aimed at becoming a major industrial hub for the Kalyana Karnataka region
- The project will be developed by the **Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB)**
- **Execution Model:** It will operate on a "**plug-and-play**" model, allowing investors to start production quickly with minimal delays.
- **Funding Structure:** Under the **Central Government's Development Capital Support Scheme**, the textile park will receive a subsidy of Rs 500 crore covering up to 30% of the project cost
 - **Utilization:** The grant will fund internal infrastructure such as roads, water supply, electricity supply, a Common Effluent Treatment Plant, and hostel facilities.
- **Infrastructure:** focus on creating **core infrastructure**, including civil & land development, construction of internal roads, & a **modern RCC drainage network** for efficient stormwater management

Infrastructure Highlights (Phase 1)

The park is designed with world-class, sustainable infrastructure focusing on 3 core areas:

1. Civil & Power Infrastructure:

- Construction of internal roads and an RCC drainage network for stormwater management.
- Underground high-tension (HT) and low-tension (LT) power lines.
- Energy-efficient solar street lighting.

2. A comprehensive water management system:

- **Potable Water:** A 5-lakh-litre Ground Level Service Reservoir (GLSR) for potable water supply,
- **Treated Water:** A 10-lakh-litre Elevated Level Service Reservoir (ELSR) for treated water

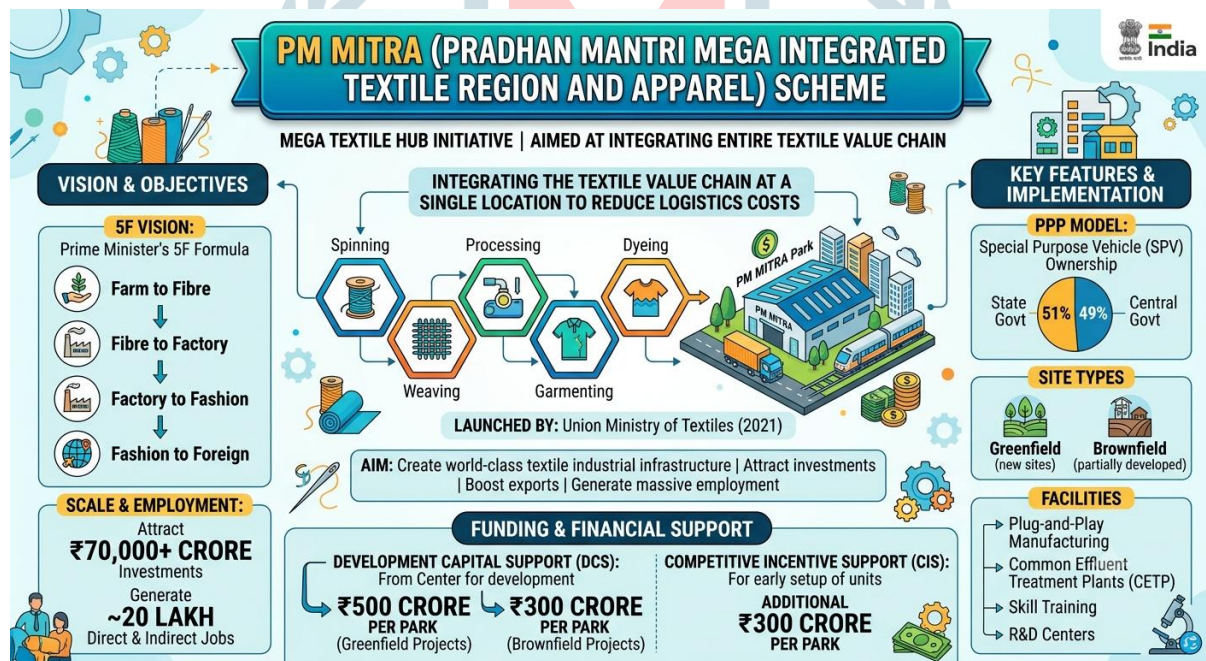
3. Environmental Sustainability:

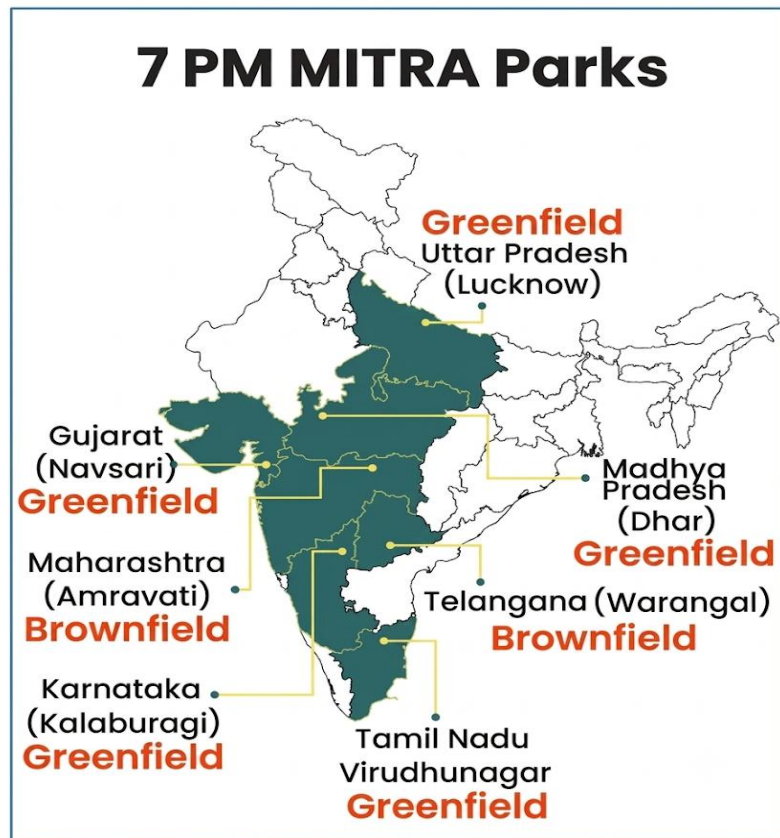
- Effluent Treatment: A state-of-the-art Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) with a capacity of 2.5 million litres per day (MLD).
- Eco-Friendly Tech: The facility will deploy Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) technology, ensuring no liquid waste leaves the facility, thereby minimizing environmental impact.

Project Framework and Approvals:

- Karnataka government has directed the **Department of Handlooms and Textiles** to revise the Detailed Project Report (DPR) to include external infrastructure works.
- This will be submitted to the Central Government's Project Approval Committee for final clearance

PM MITRA (Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region & Apparel) scheme:





Brief Facts:

- **Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP)** is used for collective treatment of industrial wastewater from multiple units
- **Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD)** is a strict wastewater management system where all wastewater is purified and recycled, leaving zero liquid waste from the facility.
- **Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB)** is a statutory body associated with industrial area development in Karnataka. It is responsible for securing industrial lands & infrastructure in Karnataka

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‘Namma Guide’ app

Why is in News?

- The **Karnataka Department of Tourism** is planning to launch ‘**Namma Guide**’ **application** to connect tourists with licensed tour guides

Key Features & Objectives:

- Modelled on Global Systems: Inspired by international tour booking platforms to offer a transparent & convenient online guide booking experience.
- Tour guides: Namma Guide website & app includes **details of licensed tour guides** to enable tourists to access guide services easily & transparently

- **Enhanced Tourist Experience:** Connects domestic & international tourists with trained local guides to provide accurate details on Karnataka's history, culture, and heritage sites.
- **Start-up Collaboration:** The department has invited tech-savvy organizations & local Karnataka start-ups to build & innovate the platform.
- **Promotion of Site Preservation:** Aims to strengthen cleanliness, maintenance, and awareness around historical and natural sites.

Current Status & Implementation

- **Guide Network:** Karnataka currently has ~ 500 licensed tour guides (certified by both Central & State tourism departments).
- **Directory Listing:** Details for 240 approved guides (names, contact numbers, & addresses) are currently available on the official Tourism Department website.
- **Upcoming Upgrades:** The portal and upcoming app will feature video portfolios, expertise, language proficiencies, & regulated payment models to streamline bookings.
- **Addressing Unlicensed Guides:** Officials are warning unauthorized guides and advising tourists to rely exclusively on licensed professionals to ensure authenticity & fair employment

Global Capability Centres

Why is in News?

- **Zyoin Group** has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM)** to support the growth and expansion of Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in Karnataka

MoU between Zyoin Group & KDEM:

Core Objective:

- Attract high-value global investments & **strengthen Karnataka's position as a global digital & enterprise hub**

Key Roles & Responsibilities:

- a. **Zyoin Group:** Leverages expertise in Global Capability Center (GCC) advisory, talent intelligence, & employer branding.
- b. **KDEM:** Facilitates ecosystem-level engagement, industry collaboration, and strategic initiatives

Major Focus Areas:

- **GCC Lifecycle Support:** Assists companies across market entry, operational setup, and scale-up stages.
- **Ecosystem Growth:** Enhances operational readiness for global organizations and enables startup and innovation collaborations.
- **Knowledge Exchange:** Shares industry insights to address evolving workforce and business needs.

- **Regional Expansion:** Drives GCC ecosystem development across key emerging tech clusters, including **Mysuru, Mangaluru, Hubballi-Dharwad-Belagavi, & Kalaburagi**

Fact:

- **Karnataka has the highest concentration of GCCs in the world** & currently hosts more than 800 GCCs.
- Karnataka has its own State **Global Capability Centres policy 2024-2029**

Global Start-up Ecosystem Report (GSER) 2026

Why is in News?

- **Bengaluru-Karnataka ranked 15th among the world's top 40 start-up ecosystems** according to the **Global Start-up Ecosystem Report (GSER) 2026** released recently at VivaTech, Paris

Global Rankings & Ecosystem Comparison:

- **Top 3 Globally: Silicon Valley (1st), New York City (2nd), & London (3rd)** retained their top positions.
- **Bengaluru's Rank:** Placed 15th globally (moved from 14th in 2025 due to Toronto-Waterloo & Paris tying at 13th; no 14th rank was awarded)
 - It also emerged as the **second-best AI-native cluster in the Asia** after Beijing

Evaluation Methodology & Scores:

The rankings evaluate **6 success factors** on a **1–10 scale**:

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Bengaluru-Karnataka's start-up edge

Bengaluru-Karnataka is India's highest-ranked start-up ecosystem, emerging as:

15 global start-up ecosystem

6 Asia start-up ecosystem

2 Asia ecosystem in AI native cluster

Scorecard*

Performance	9
R&D engine	9
AI-native cluster	8
Funding	7
Market reach	7
Talent and experience	4
*out of 10	

India's Silicon Valley in the global league

	Bengaluru-Karnataka	Global average	Regional (Asia) average
Ecosystem value (H2 2023-2025)	\$153 billion	\$25 billion	\$24 billion
AI-native ecosystem value	\$2 billion	\$4.4 billion	\$2.6 billion
Total VC funding (2021-2025)	\$39 billion	\$5 billion	\$5 billion
Total early-stage funding (H2 2023-2025)	\$2.3 billion	\$554 million	\$490 million
Exit amount (2021-2025)	\$46 billion	\$7.6 billion	\$11.9 billion
Number of active unicorns	30	11	10
Software engineer salary	\$19.6K	\$54K	\$27K

Bengaluru City vs. global averages:

- The city surpassed global averages on several counts such as ecosystem value, total Venture Capitalist funding, total early-stage funding, exit amount and exit count.
- With **30 active unicorns**, Bengaluru is well ahead of the global average of 11. The ecosystem is valued at \$153 billion.

Strong subsectors:

- Bengaluru-headquartered start-ups have raised a total of ~ \$79 billion in VC funding since 2010.
- The State has captured about 46% of all VC investments into Indian start-ups, playing a key role in a national ecosystem that has created over 140,000 technology start-ups during the same timeframe
- Terming AI and deeptech, aerospace, space and defence tech, and quantum computing as the subsector strengths of the region, the report also highlights the Karnataka government's **Start-up Policy 2.0, programmes** such as **KATALYST & LEAP**, & the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM)

Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board

Why is in News?

- **Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB)** will digitise all stages of its operations, from land acquisition to industrial plot allotment

Governance & Administrative Reforms: Complete Digitisation of KIADB Industrial Plot Allotments

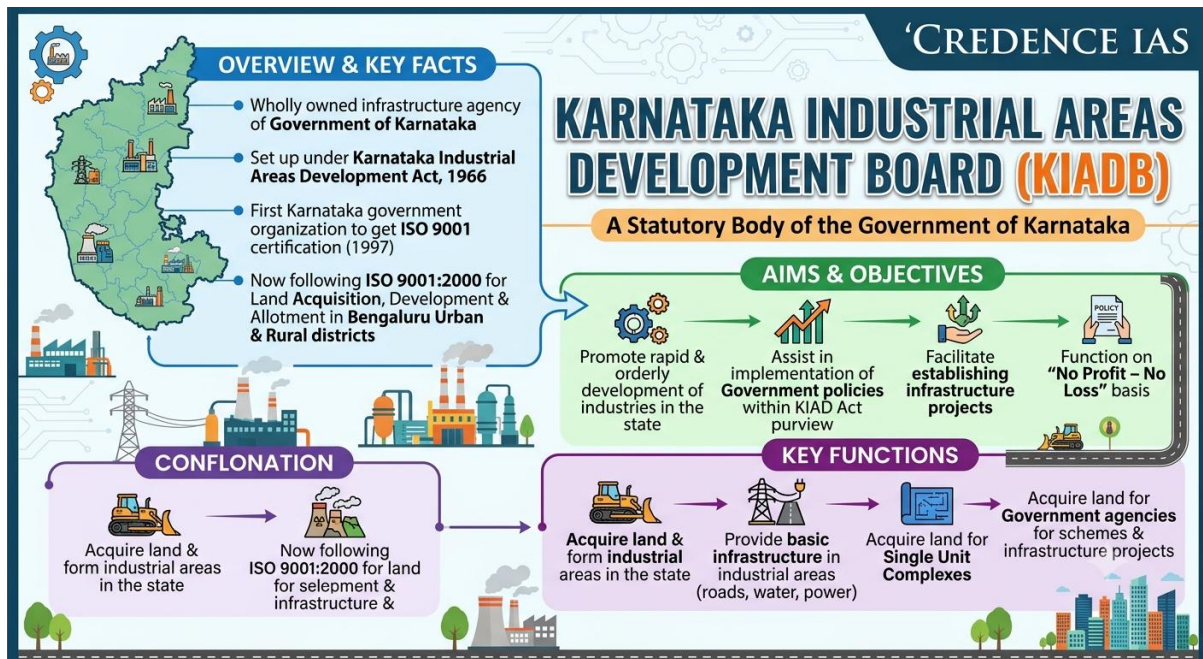
- Initiative: **End-to-end digitisation of Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) operations** — spanning land acquisition, plot allotments & administrative workflows.
- Deadline: **100-day target** for complete digital transition.
- Scanning Phase: Scanning of older allotment records to be completed within 1 month
- Scope: **Covers all the 224 industrial areas with records relating to plots in Karnataka** across existing & new developments
 - Karnataka currently has 224 industrial areas with records relating to plots, which are set to be scanned and digitised
- System Integration: Every detail related to plots in both existing & newly developed industrial areas would be brought under the **Integrated Land Management System developed by the e-Governance department**
- Data Depth: Maintains **77 data fields** per industrial plot.
- *Inter-Agency Coordination*: **Integrates with the Rural Development Department's e-Swathu platform** to streamline administrative services, including e-Khata issuance.

Database Capabilities & On-Demand Access

- Provides real-time information access across multiple operational metrics:
 - Plot allotments & status
 - Industrial activity & investment tracking
 - Employment generation numbers
 - Farmer compensation records
 - Pending court cases & legal updates

Primary Objectives & Benefits:

- Transparency: Reduces reliance on intermediaries and physical file handling.
- Discrepancy Prevention: Eliminates past issues such as duplicate compensation payments for identical land parcels.
- Data Security: Ensures secure, long-term preservation of industrial land records.



ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Programme

Why is in News?

- The Federation of Bengaluru Lakes has recently sent a letter to the **World Bank Group** raising concerns over a disconnect between project goals & actual field execution pertaining to lakes & Storm Water Drains (SWD) in Bengaluru

Concern:

- FBL's field monitoring and hydrological surveys suggest current design choices under the Karnataka Water Security & Resilience Programme (KWSRP) may violate the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017, and contradict the programme's environmental objectives.

Karnataka Water Security & Resilience Programme (KWSRP):

- It is a **₹5,000 crore** initiative aimed at **flood mitigation & building climate resilience in Bengaluru**.
- Approved by the World Bank on **June 23, 2025**
- Funding Breakdown:**
 - World Bank: ~₹3,500 crore (\$426)**
 - Karnataka Government: ~₹1,500 crore**
- Scope of Work:** Reinforcing storm water drains (SWDs) and lake bunds, installing sluice gates, & related lake infrastructure works
- The **World Bank is funding Karnataka Water Security & Resilience Programme (KWSRP)**,

- Period of implementation: during **five-year period (2026-31)**
- the money will be disbursed in **3 to 5 installments** & each installment is linked to these DLIs
- **Authority:** Under the project, the **Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike & the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board** will take up the work of **fortifying storm-water drains (SWDs) & building sewage treatment plants (STPs)**

Disbursement-linked indicators:

- The loan is being given under **World Bank's Program-for-Results Financing (PforR)**, where the grant of loans are linked to outcomes.
- World Bank has imposed **9 disbursement-linked indicators (DLIs)**, including service benchmarking, digital governance, climate financing, & mobilisation of own resources, for the loan
- The money will be disbursed in 3 to 5 installments & each installment is linked to these DLIs

Disbursement-linked indicators imposed by World Bank

■ Strengthening of integrated flood management system	■ Disaster-risk governance institutional reform programme implemented
■ Operationalising of circular economy	■ BBMP to find own source revenues and improve financial reporting and transparency
■ Institutionalising of service benchmarking, digital governance system	■ BWSSB to find own source revenues and improve financial reporting and transparency
■ Municipal operations and maintenance institutions integrated and professionalised	■ Financing for addressing disaster and climate risks
■ Implementation of nature-based solutions	

Projects to be taken up under water resilience project

■ Nine new sewage treatment plants: ₹600 crore	■ 400 km of new sewer lines: ₹400 crore	■ Fortifying retention walls of SWDs of 80 km length: ₹400 crore	■ Control room to manage climate risks of the city at KSNDMC: ₹350 crore
■ Building 173 km retention walls for storm-water drains: ₹1,600 crore			

Wildlife forensic unit

Why is in News?

- Karnataka is set to establish its **first-ever dedicated Wildlife Forensic Unit** under the **Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL)** framework

Core Objectives & Role:

- Targeted Investigations: Provide scientific & forensic support to enforcement agencies to **investigate wildlife crimes, poaching incidents, and illegal trafficking.**
- Crime Control: Strengthen the state's capacity to tackle organized wildlife crime networks and significantly boost conviction rates.
- Modernization: Mark a major step in expanding Karnataka's scientific capabilities in criminal investigations.

Efficiency Gains:

- Technological advancements have drastically reduced report delivery times across divisions from ~ 40 months down to just 1–4 months, despite rising caseloads

Fact:

- Presently, the **Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL)** is headquartered in **Madiwala, Bengaluru**

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Semiconductor Training Fabrication Facility

Why is in News?

- President Droupadi Murmu virtually inaugurated the **Semiconductor Training Fabrication (Fab) Facility** at the **Centre for Nano Science & Engineering (CeNSE)** in the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru on June 1



The newly inaugurated Semiconductor Training Fabrication Facility at CeNSE, IISc in Bengaluru

Semiconductor Training Fabrication (Fab) Facility:

- Location: **Centre for Nano Science and Engineering (CeNSE)**, Indian Institute of Science (**IISc**), Bengaluru.
- Supported by: **Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs**
- Established with support from the **Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)**
- Primary Aim: Build a **skilled & inclusive semiconductor workforce** to support India's rapidly expanding semiconductor & electronics manufacturing ecosystem.
- The facility builds upon successful **semiconductor skilling programme launched by IISc CeNSE with support from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs**

Key Features & Capabilities:

- **Cleanroom Infrastructure:** Features a dedicated 3,200 sq. ft. semiconductor cleanroom facility equipped with advanced processing and characterisation tools.
- **Hands-on Training Focus:** Offers industry-relevant training in:
 - Semiconductor fabrication & microfabrication processes
 - Cleanroom operations
 - Device manufacturing
 - Characterisation techniques

Semiconductor skilling programme:

- The **Semiconductor Training Program for Tribal Students** is led by the CeNSE, **IISc Bengaluru** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)** and supported by MY Bharat under the **Department of Youth Affairs**
- Aims to provide tribal students & faculty members with advanced exposure to semiconductor fabrication, nanoengineering processes, & emerging technologies.
- It consists of an online self-paced learning module, lectures by IISc faculty experts, and a 10-day residential training program at IISc Bengaluru with free travel, lodging & food support for participants

- Since its inception, the programme has trained more than 1,400 participants from **Scheduled Tribe communities**, delivered over 48,000 hours of specialised semiconductor training, & awarded more than 1,000 **NSQF (National Skills Qualification Framework) certifications**.
- It has achieved nationwide reach, engaging participants from over 30 States & Union Territories, & more than 273 institutions, including IITs, NITs, universities & colleges

Karnataka Quantum Task Force

Why is in News?

- Recently, the Karnataka State government has issued an order constituting the **Karnataka Quantum Task Force**

Overview & Objective:

- Goal: Establish Karnataka as **a national hub for quantum technology & innovation**
- Issued By: **Department of Electronics, Information Technology, Biotechnology, & Science & Technology**, Government of Karnataka
- Implementation Focus: Execute the strategies and outlines set under the **‘Karnataka Quantum Roadmap’** (unveiled recently at the Quantum India Bengaluru Summit).

Task Force Composition & Leadership:

- Structure: A **16-member high-level panel of experts** from academia, research institutions, tech industry, and government.
- Chairperson: **Arindam Ghosh** (JRD Tata Chair Professor & J.C. Bose National Fellow, Dept. of Physics, IISc, Bengaluru)
- **Member-Secretaries:**
 - Director of the Department of Science & Technology (Govt. of Karnataka)
 - Managing Director of the **Karnataka Science & Technology Promotion Society (KSTePS)**

Key Responsibilities & Scope:

- **Strategic Growth:** Provide necessary policy formulation, institutional guidance, & strategic direction for quantum research, innovation, and startup support.
- **Industrial Adoption:** Drive industrial integration & adoption of quantum technologies across sectors.
- **Infrastructure Blueprinting:** Plan & oversee major cutting-edge projects, including the development of the **mega Quantum City in Hesaraghatta**

Antimicrobial resistance surveillance programme

Why is in News?

- **Karnataka's Health Department** has launched a State-wide **scientific surveillance programme** to map and monitor **antimicrobial resistance (AMR)** patterns across all districts

Programme Overview & Objectives:

- Goal: Identify resistance trends, emerging microbial threats, and geographical variations in **Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) across Karnataka**.
- Primary Focus: Systematic sample collection and analysis across selected surveillance sites to drive evidence-based public health interventions, antibiotic stewardship, and policy formulation.
- Key Partners: Implemented by the **Karnataka Department of Health and Family Welfare** in collaboration with the **Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (TIGS), Bengaluru**

Key Leadership & Technical Support:

- Nodal Coordinator: Dr. Swetavalli Raghavan (Advisor to the State Government on AMR) leads site selection, data collection, harmonisation, and dataset analysis.
- Technical Partner: TIGS, led by Director Dr. Rakesh Mishra, provides scientific and technical support, focusing on:
 - **Genomic surveillance**
 - **Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST)**
 - **Advanced analytics, modelling, & simulation to translate raw data into actionable intelligence.**

Strategic Impact & Applications:

- **Clinical Decision-Making:** Delivers local resistance trends & prescribing insights to clinicians, improving direct treatment outcomes
- **Supply & Policy Optimisation:** Assists in antimicrobial stock planning, diagnostic access, and targeted enforcement by drug inspectors.
- **Research & Innovation:** Identifies priority gaps for researchers, startups, and industry to innovate new diagnostics and therapeutics.
- **Public Health Transformation:** Transitions state-level AMR management from fragmented academic reporting to continuous, governance-integrated public health intelligence

BRICS Heads of Space Agencies (HOSA) 2026 Meeting

Why is in News?

- Recently, a **2-day meeting of the Heads of Space Agencies (HOSA)** from **BRICS nations** was held in **Bengaluru**

Overview:

- Event: **2-day meeting of the Heads of Space Agencies (HOSA)** from **BRICS nations**.
- Dates & Location: Started **June 23, 2026**, in Bengaluru

- Host: **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**, under India's BRICS Chairship for 2026.
- Theme: **"Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"** (aligned with India's humanity-first, people-centric approach).
- Participants: Space agency heads & senior officials from 11 BRICS member countries – Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa & United Arab Emirates



Key Discussion Areas & Initiatives:

- **Space Sustainability:** Focus on sustainable space operations and domestic governance frameworks.
 - Policy approaches and best practices to ensure debris-free space missions and long-term sustainability.
- **BRICS Remote Sensing Satellite Constellation (RSSC):** Proposed amendments to include new member countries into the existing agreement.
- **Institutional Expansion:** Deliberation on the Terms of Reference (ToR) for establishing a proposed BRICS Space Council
- **Joint Collaborations:** Future joint efforts centered on earth observation and disaster management

Vision for a "BRICS Space Economy":

- During the valedictory session, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh emphasized the following key points:
 - **Collective Growth:** Called for unified action among BRICS nations to drive innovation, investment, entrepreneurship, and sustainable growth in the space domain.
 - **Global Ecosystem:** Highlighted that the future space economy relies on partnerships and shared ambitions rather than nations working in isolation.

- Pillar of Innovation: Positioned BRICS nations as a potential core pillar of the emerging global space sector



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GEOGRAPHY

Ingaldhal Copper mines

Why is in News?

- Karnataka government is planning to restart the copper mining in the **Ingaldhal Copper mines in Chitradurga district**

Highlights:

- This planning is due to **increasing demand for copper** because of **increasing price for Gold**
- **Copper (Cu) is used as a raw material** in the Gold production

Ingaldhal Copper mines:

- These mines are situated in the **Bangalore-Bombay National Highway** in **Ingaldhal in Chitradurga district** (~11 km from Chitradurga town)
- The main mineral is **chalcopyrite (Cu FeS₂)** occurring as a vein deposit in chlorite schist.
- Karnataka state government started copper mining in **1965**.
- There was rampant copper mining in the Ingaldhal hills till 1994. This copper was exported to different areas.
- **Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL)** purchased a large portion of copper from here
- But the mining was suspended after 1994 as HCL stopped the procurement of copper due to **decreased demand for copper**
- Later, Ingaldhal Copper mines was merged with the **Hutti Gold Mines Limited (HGML)**
- Between 1992 & 2002, Ingaldhal mines extracted the gold under the name **HGML Chitradurga Gold Unit (CGU)**. But later it was also stopped

Concern:

- **Jogimatti Wildlife Sanctuary** is the nearest Sanctuary to this copper mine. Hence the plan to restart the mining may affect the sanctuary

Jogimatti Wildlife Sanctuary:

- This protected in **Chitradurga district** was established in **2015**
- The wooded region of Jogimatti is a **hill station**
- The region is known as the "**Ooty of Dryland**" or '**Ooty of Central Karnataka**' due to the presence of heavy breeze, snowfall and greenery
- It encompasses '**Himavad Kedara**' featuring a natural cave temple
- **Flora type** : grasslands, shrub forests & also has Sandalwood & teak
- **Fauna**: Jackals, leopards, wolves, porcupine, civets, jungle cat, sloth bears & birds mainly peacock & peahen

India's tallest wind turbine

Why is in News?

- **India's Tallest Wind Turbine** has been commissioned in **Vijayanagara district** on June 15, 2026

Key Highlights & Location:

- Manufacturer: **Suzlon Energy** (Pune-based wind turbine manufacturer).
- Location: **Vijayanagara district**, Karnataka.
- Milestone: Installation of the **S175 (5 MW)**, claimed to be **India's tallest & most powerful wind turbine** powerhouse.
- Height & Engineering: Stands at a hub height of **160 metres**, built using 30+ years of operational insights from Suzlon's 15.5 GW turbine fleet.

Strategic Significance:

- FDRE-Ready: **India's first turbine designed for Firm & Dispatchable Renewable Energy (FDRE) integration.**
- Unlocking New Frontiers: Expands wind addressable markets by making low to medium wind regions & previously unviable sites commercially viable.
- **Clean Energy Transition:** Positions wind energy to play a larger role in meeting domestic and global energy transition ambitions

Energy Generation & Economics:

- **Advanced Technology:** Combines proven reliability with next-generation turbine technology.
- **Optimised Yield:** Delivers higher energy generation and improved project economics, specifically tailored for low to medium wind regimes across India

HISTORY & ART & CULTURE

Kagodu Satyagraha: 75th anniversary

Importance for KAS exam : Crucial part of Karnataka History for KAS prelims and Mains (GS 1 , Part A). It also forms a major part of Land Reform Topic for Commercial Tax Inspector (CTI) exam

Why is in News?

- ❖ Activists from several progressive organisations have decided to observe the **75th anniversary of the historic Kagodu Satyagraha** through a series of programmes spread across 2026
- ❖ Kagodu Satyagraha is considered the **first peasant movement in independent India**

Celebration of the Anniversary:

- ❖ 75th anniversary of the Kagodu Satyagraha is currently being marked with year-long state-wide events **beginning in March 2026**
- ❖ The initiative aims to revive public memory of a movement that shaped the course of land reforms in the country
- ❖ The first programme of the anniversary year was held recently at **Vadnala village, near Sagar**

Kagodu Satyagraha: An uprising that demanded dignity for peasants:

- In Kagodu, the **feudal system** was prevalent during the time of British rule. Jodidars, Inamdaars, Jahagirdars & the Desais were the local landlords. Tenants had to pay the landlords a fixed measure of the agricultural produce.
- Although this measure was fixed as **sixty measures (60 kolaga)** in other places, the landlords of Kagodu had fixed the measure at **sixty three (63)**
- The **disparity in the size of the kolagas** became a contentious issue: While the landlords used a **smaller kolaga (of three measures)** to loan grains to the tenant farmer, they used a **bigger kolaga** during the loan repayment.
- In **March 1951**, tenant farmers of **Kagodu village in Sagar taluk in Shivamogga district** revolted against landlords over a dispute regarding the size of the **'Kolaga'** (ಕೊಳಗ)
 - **Kolaga is a container used to measure & divide agricultural produce grown by the tenant farmer** (Geni Raitha)
- Dissatisfied with the **landlords' unilateral changes to the terms of yield-sharing**, the tenants refused to comply.
- The slogan **'uluvavane neladodeya (tiller is the owner)'** was first coined during this agitation — after socialist leaders started associating with it

Deevara community: Social Oppression

- ★ The movement was mainly driven by the **landless peasants from a backward community called Deevaras**.
- ★ The Deevaras were the main contributors of the crop produce to the landlords but the landlords tried to oppress them through manipulative crop sharing
- ★ **Broader social tension:** Kannada writer from Sagara Na D'Souza authored Kannada novel **'Kolaga'** inspired by the farmers' movement
 - He points out that before the satyagraha, a Deevara was even not allowed to wear footwear, or new clothes while walking in front of his zamindar's house.
 - food was served to the genidaara only at the naayi katte [place where dogs are fed] in the zamindar's backyard

Course of the agitation:

- The **tenants agitated against the feudal lords** to claim their rights over the land, & also to protest against fixing excess agricultural produce to be given by them to the landlords.
- The landlords retaliated by barring them from entering the very land they had tilled for generations. When the farmers defied the order, they were beaten up by the police and landlord supporters. Mass arrests followed, & the unfolding events drew nationwide attention
- **K.G. Wodeyar**, a Gandhian Congress leader (who had won the Lok Sabha seat from Shivamogga in 1952 & 1957), was the main target of the satyagraha
 - **Guruvayya Gowda**, the youngest brother of Wodeyar, refused to budge to the demands of the peasants. He argued that the terms of tenancy were non-negotiable as the **geni (food grains)** collected from the tenants in Kagodu was much less compared with those in nearby villages
 - Gowda then issued a diktat against the agitating farmers entering his fields. He had the support of other zamindars and government officials.

- However, in **April 1951**, a **section of farmers entered the fields for sowing**. The landlords chased them out, confiscated their ploughs and filed cases of criminal trespass against them. This made Ganapathyappa & others intensify the movement.
- The satyagraha which was started with the **Kolagada jagala** (a dispute over kolaga) snowballed into a **full-fledged peasant agitation**
- The agitation soon spread to surrounding villages of Sagar taluk. Villagers of Sooraguppe, Valakundli, Chikkanellooru, Maasooru, Kaanle, Tadegalale & keladi joined the agitation under the leadership of **H. Ganapathyappa, Shantaveri Gopalagowda, Sadashivaraya** & many others.
- Soon, **farmers from other taluks & socialists from Bengaluru, Kolar, Davangere, Chitradurga & Shivamogga** came in batches to be part of the movement
- Every day, the agitators would try to enter the fields and the police would arrest and bundle them into the sub-jail in Sagara. Mass arrests followed
- With the entry of National socialist leaders, the movement took a new turn. Soon, the farmers were released, but without a clear roadmap on the agitation.

Local Leadership:

1. **H. Ganapathyappa:** He was a freedom fighter belonging to the Devara community from the neighbouring Siddapura village. He had taken part in the Quit India Movement, and had spent time in Sirsi and Hindalagi jails. He was the architect of the Satyagraha & played a central role in organising the movement.
 - He printed a handbill in the name of **Devara Mandali (Devara Circle)**, which made the landlords furious
 - On January 4, 1951, with the support of leaders from the community, he founded the '**Sagara Taluk Raitha Sangha**'. He then began to sensitise the Devara youth about their rights.
2. **Shantaveri Gopalagowda, Sadashivaraya** played important roles in mobilizing the peasants.
3. The agitation had the support of the **great thinkers & socialist**

Entry Of National Leaders:

It drew nationwide attention,

1. Prominent socialist leader **Ram Manohar Lohia** landed in Kagodu on **June 14, 1951** & expressed solidarity with the tenants. He was subsequently arrested at **Sagar railway station** and lodged in the Central Prison in Bengaluru. With his entry, the movement took a new turn.
 - A peepal tree was planted in Kagodu by Ram Manohar Lohia. It is called as "**Lohia mara**" by the locals
2. On **September 21, 1951**, socialist leader **Jayaprakash Narayan** visited the Sagara jail & told the satyagrahis that their agitation had caught national attention.

Importance of Kagodu Satyagraha:

- It is considered the **first peasant movement in independent India**
- It spelled the end of exploitative **gowda-genidaara (landlord-tenant farmer)** relation in Karnataka's Malenadu region
- The movement **attracted nationwide attention** during 1950-51 & made the national leaders to enter the movement to support the farmers' cause

- Though land rights were not granted to the tenants immediately, the **movement laid the foundation for the landmark land reform legislation** in the decades that followed.
- ◆ The government was forced to announce its decision to allot the land to the tiller.
 - ◆ About two & a half decades later, **‘Land to the tiller’ was legalized & was introduced in the 20 point programme of the Government.** The seeds of such a move were sown in the ‘Kagodu Satyagraha’
 - The slogan **‘uluvavane neladodeya (tiller is the owner)’** was first coined during this agitation was adopted as the slogan of the Karnataka government land reforms initiatives such as Karnataka Land Reforms Act, 1961 & The Karnataka Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1974
 - Some experts drew comparisons between the Kagodu Satyagraha & 2 other landmark movements —
 - **Chavdar Tank Satyagraha** led by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in 1927, which challenged the exclusion of untouchables from a public water tank
 - **Dandi Satyagraha** led by Mahatma Gandhi.

Legacy:

- In **Vadnala village, near Sagar** a memorial of Ganapathiyappa was erected
- Kannada writer **Na D’Souza** from Sagara authored the Kannada novel **Kolaga**, inspired by the farmers’ movement
 - **Shivamogga Rangayana** (the State government’s theatre repertory) has proposed to adapt novelist Na. D’Souza’s celebrated novel Kolaga — which is based on the Kagodu Satyagraha — for the stage this year.
 - The State government has announced financial support for the production in its Budget.
- **G. Rajashekhar** authored the book **‘Kagodu Satyagraha’**
- **In 1974, the Congress government led by D. Devaraj Urs brought in reforms that granted land ownership to peasants**

Contrast view:

- **G. Rajashekhar**, author of **Kagodu Satyagraha**, says that the movement ended on a compromising note.
- It neither demanded land ownership nor challenged the status quo, the social hierarchy or the power equation between the landlord and the tenant farmer
- It did not factor in the rights of landless labourers or dalits in the village. The satyagraha seemed like a mere dispute over the kolaga. However, **it did mobilise the oppressed Devara community to unite and find their voice**

Fact:

- The **Varada river** flows along Kagodu village nourishing vast tracts of paddy fields, coconut, banana & areca plantations

Kempe Gowda Jayanti

Why is in News?

- Recently, **Kempegowda Jayanti 2026 was celebrated on June 27**, marking the **517th birth anniversary** of **Nadaprabhu Kempegowda**
- Nadaprabhu Kempegowda was the **founder of the Bengaluru city**

Kempegowda Jayanti 2026:

- The state-level event was held at the newly developed **Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout near Kengeri**
- The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) launched a mega **afforestation drive** aiming to plant 15 lakh native saplings across Bengaluru in a single day



The statue of Kempe Gowda at the Kempegowda International Airport

Major Projects Announced for Kempegowda Jayanti:

- A **Town Planning College** named after Kempegowda to be established within the Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) campus.
 - A **Kempegowda Theme Park near Kempegowda International Airport in Devanahalli** was inaugurated
 - The government is undertaking a ₹100 crore comprehensive development of the **Kempegowda Fort**.
-
-

MISCELLANEOUS

Walls of Gratitude

- The Karnataka government announced that it would establish “**Walls of Gratitude**” to honour landowners who voluntarily give up land for public infrastructure & development projects
- The names of those who gave up their land will be etched on these walls.
- The **first such memorial wall came up at S.M. Krishna Road**, where the names of landowners who contributed land for the project were inscribed



The Wall of Gratitude displaying the names of farmers who parted away with land for the construction of S.M. Krishna Road, in Bengaluru

Kempegowda International Airport

Why is in News?

- **Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), Bengaluru ranked 3rd globally** on the list of top 10 **family-friendly airports for 2026**

Global Recognition: Kempegowda International Airport

- Global Milestone: KIA ranked 3rd globally on the list of top 10 family-friendly airports for 2026.
- Overall Score: KIA scored **18.6 out of 20**.
- Indian Representation: **One of only two Indian airports to feature in the top 10** (alongside Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at 4th place with an 18.5 score).
- Study Publisher: Conducted by UK-based travel experience provider **AttractionTickets.com** as part of its Happiest Airports Ranking.

Top 5 Family-Friendly Airports Worldwide:

1. **Helsinki-Vantaa Airport (Finland)** – 19.4/20
2. **Singapore Changi Airport** (Singapore) – 18.7/20
3. Bahrain International / Kempegowda International (KIA) – 18.6/20
4. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (Hyderabad, India) – 18.5/20

Key Evaluation Parameters:

- The assessment evaluated over 140 popular airports across 9 core parameters:
 - Dedicated children's play areas
 - Family security lanes
 - Baby-changing facilities
 - Stroller/pram hire services
 - Sleep pods and rest zones
 - Support for neurodivergent families
 - Google review ratings
 - Quality Wi-Fi for streaming
 - Overall airport size

Quick Fact:

- Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) is **south India's busiest airport** & the **third largest in the country**

MCQ Practice Questions based on June month Karnataka Current Affairs

1) Consider the following statements:

1. Recently Karnataka government rehabilitated the Tungabhadra Dam by replacing all 33 crest gates
2. Tungabhadra reservoir is an inter-State irrigation project built across the Tungabhadra River in Chikkamagaluru
3. The present Tungabhadra Board consists of a Chairman nominated by the Government of India & 3 Members representing Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 & 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 2 & 3

- 2) Recently, the Karnataka government has revived and initiated land acquisition for the Greater Bengaluru Integrated Township (GBIT) near Bidadi.

Consider the following statements with respect to the initiative:

1. It is envisioned as India's first AI-powered integrated "Work-Live-Play" township designed to serve as a second central business district.
2. The project is being executed by the newly constituted Greater Bengaluru Development Authority (GBDA).
3. The township is located in the Mysuru district along the Mysuru–Kodagu expressway corridor.
4. Funding is proposed through International Monetary Fund (IMF) loans

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) 2 & 3 only
- b) 1 & 2 only
- c) 2 & 3 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 & 4

- 3) Which of the following statements with respect to the University of Agricultural Sciences-Bengaluru (UAS-B) is **incorrect**?

- a) It secured the 7th rank among India's top agricultural institutions under the Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) 2026, improving from the 11th position in 2025
- b) Four agricultural universities from South India made it to the top-10 list, with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University securing the 1st rank overall

- c) It is the only agricultural and allied fields institution from Karnataka to figure in the top-10 list of the IIRF 2026 rankings.
- d) It is the first State Agricultural University in Karnataka, and its main Gandhi Krishi Vignana Kendra (GKVK) campus is recognized as a Biodiversity Heritage Site.

4) Consider the following statements with respect to the 5th BRICS Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) Leaders' Summit held in Bengaluru:

- 1. The summit was held under India's BRICS Chairmanship in 2026 under the theme "Ease of Living with a Focus on Urban Mobility".
- 2. It concluded with the unanimous adoption of the Bengaluru Declaration and the BRICS SAI Work Plan (2027–2028) to improve technology-driven audit methodologies.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

5) Consider the following statements with respect to the recommendations of the Karnataka State Education Policy (SEP) Commission:

- 1. It proposes replacing the National Education Policy's (NEP) 5+3+3+4 model with a simplified 2+8+4 structural framework for school education.
- 2. The Commission recommends implementing a Two-Language Policy comprising Kannada (or Mother Tongue) and English for school education.
- 3. It advocates replacing the traditional 3-year undergraduate degree model with a uniform 4-year degree model with multi-entry/multi-exit options.

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

6) Consider the following statements regarding the Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi scheme:

- 1. Under the hub-and-spoke model, Taluk Hospitals and Community Health Centres function as "Hubs," while super-speciality hospitals act as "Spokes."
- 2. The scheme utilizes AI-enabled technology to help doctors detect the severity of a patient's cardiac condition within 4 to 5 minutes.
- 3. Critical patients in eligible cases are provided free Tenecteplase injections at spoke centres to prevent sudden heart attacks.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 & 2 only
 - b) 2 & 3 only
 - c) 1 & 3 only
 - d) 1, 2 & 3
- 7) Which of the following statements is **incorrect** with respect to the 'Prajaseva Department' recently launched by the Karnataka government?
- a) It will serve as a centralized platform dedicated to streamlining public grievance redressal and improving citizen outreach.
 - b) It merges pre-existing citizen-service frameworks including the Sakala Mission, Administrative Reforms wing, & the Public Grievances Division.
 - c) Under its public outreach framework, District Ministers are required to hold regular public interactions across all taluks one day every week alongside local MLAs.
 - d) The administrative wing & grievance-monitoring mechanism will be directly headed and overseen by the Department of E-Governance.
- 8) The initiative to provide STEAM-based high-tech education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) across Karnataka Public Schools (KPS) was launched by the:
- a) Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department
 - b) Department of School Education & Literacy (DSEL)
 - c) Karnataka State Higher Education Council
 - d) Department of Information Technology and Biotechnology
- 9) Consider the following statements with respect to the ELEVATE NxT 2026 programme launched by the Karnataka government:
- 1. It marked the 10-year milestone of the flagship ELEVATE initiative and served as its 25th call for early-stage startups.
 - 2. For the first time since its inception, the program was opened to deep-tech startups from across the country, expanding beyond Karnataka.
 - 3. The grant-in-aid support for selected deep-tech startups in this edition was increased up to ₹1 crore.

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

- a) Only one
 - b) Only two
 - c) All three
 - d) None
- 10) The first phase of the PM MITRA Textile Park project is being developed through the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) in:
- a) Hassan
 - b) Bengaluru
 - c) Kalaburagi

d) Bidar

11) The 'Namma Guide' website and mobile application was launched by the?

- a) Greater Bengaluru Authority
- b) Karnataka Department of Tourism
- c) Department of Information Technology and Biotechnology
- d) Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation

12) Consider the following statements with respect to the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB):

- 1. It is a statutory body of the Government of Karnataka set up under the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Act, 1966.
- 2. It holds the distinction of being the first government organization in Karnataka to obtain ISO 9001 certification

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

13) Consider the following statements with respect to the Karnataka Water Security & Resilience Programme (KWSRP):

- 1. It is a ₹5,000 crore initiative aimed at flood mitigation and building climate resilience in Bengaluru, co-funded by the World Bank and the Karnataka Government.
- 2. The funding mechanism operates under the International Monetary Fund's Program-for-Results Financing (PforR), where disbursements are tied to specific Disbursement-Linked Indicators (DLIs).
- 3. The project is implemented exclusively by the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) over a five-year period (2026–31).

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

14) Consider the following statements with respect to the Semiconductor Training Fabrication (Fab) Facility inaugurated at IISc Bengaluru:

- 1. It was set up at the Centre for Nano Science and Engineering (CeNSE) with support from the Union Ministry of Science & Technology
- 2. It features a dedicated 3,200 sq. ft. cleanroom facility equipped with tools for semiconductor fabrication & device manufacturing.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

15) Which of the following statements with respect to the Karnataka Quantum Task Force is **correct**?

- a) It was constituted by the Karnataka Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department to integrate quantum technology in rural governance.
- b) The high-level panel is chaired by Prof. Arindam Ghosh from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru.
- c) It limits its implementation scope strictly to academic research & higher education policy reforms.
- d) The task force is tasked with establishing a new Quantum Technology University in Kalaburagi

16) Consider the following statements with respect to the State-wide Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) surveillance programme launched in Karnataka:

- 1. It is implemented by the Karnataka Department of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with the Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (TIGS), Bengaluru.
- 2. The programme utilizes genomic surveillance & Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST) to identify resistance trends and map microbial threats across districts.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

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

17) Recently, the 2-day meeting of the Heads of Space Agencies (HOSA) from BRICS nations under India's 2026 Chairship was hosted by ISRO in:

- a) Hyderabad
- b) Chennai
- c) Mysuru
- d) Bengaluru

18) The Karnataka government is planning to restart the copper mining in the Ingaldhal Copper mines. It is located in which of the following districts?

- a) Tumkur
- b) Chikkamagaluru
- c) Ballari
- d) Chitradurga

19) India's tallest and most powerful wind turbine powerhouse, the S175 (5 MW) manufactured by Suzlon Energy, was recently commissioned in which district of Karnataka?

- a) Vijayapura
- b) Vijayanagara
- c) Chitradurga
- d) Tumakuru

20) Recently, the 75th anniversary of the historic Kagodu Satyagraha was observed in Karnataka.

Consider the following statements with respect to the historic Kagodu Satyagraha of Karnataka:

- 1. It is widely considered the first peasant movement in independent India
- 2. It originated over a dispute regarding the size of the Kolaga used to measure agricultural yield.
- 3. The slogan "Uluvavane neladodeya" (The tiller is the owner) was first coined during this agitation.
- 4. Prominent national socialist leader Madan Mohan Malaviya actively participated in the movement & was arrested at Sagar railway station.

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

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

21) 'Jogimatti Wildlife Sanctuary' is located in which of the following districts?

- a) Chitradurga
- b) Shivamogga
- c) Udupi
- d) Koppal

Solutions:

1. a 2. b 3. b 4. c 5. b 6. b 7. d
8. b 9. c 10. c 11. b 12. c 13. a 14. c
15. b 16. c 17. d 18. d 19. b 20. c 21. a



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