

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. Goods and Services Tax](#)
- [2. Ashadhi Bij](#)
- [3. Grand Hackathon on Agriculture](#)
- [4. Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator](#)
- [5. Journalist Welfare Scheme](#)
- [6. India's largest floating solar power project commissioned](#)

1. Goods and Services Tax

Syllabus: GS-3, Economy; Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, and development

Prelims: Facts about Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Mains: Significance and achievements of the GST regime

Context:

PM lauds GST on marking 5 years.

Details:

- The major tax reform initiated by the government, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) marks five years.

Know more about [GST](#), its benefits and challenges, in the link.

2. Ashadhi Bij

Syllabus: GS-1, Indian Heritage and Culture; Important festivals in India

Prelims: Ashadhi Bij Festival

Context:

PM greets everyone on Ashadhi Bij.

About Ashadhi Bij:

- Ashadhi Bij is an auspicious day for the farming communities in northern India especially Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and some other places.
- The festival falls on the second day of the Shukla Paksha of the Ashadha month of the Hindu calendar.
- The festival is associated with the beginning of rains in the Kutch region of Gujarat and is celebrated as the Kutchi New Year.
- On this festival, farmers, astrologers and others predict the monsoon to assess which crop would be best in the coming season.

3. Grand Hackathon on Agriculture

Syllabus: GS-3, Economy; Agriculture: e-technology in the aid of farmers

Prelims: About Grand Hackathon on the Agriculture and ONDC

Context:

Union Minister launched a three-day “Grand Hackathon” on the Agriculture domain to promote an open eCommerce network.

About the Hackathon:

- It is organized by the [Open Network for Digital Commerce \(ONDC\)](#) in collaboration with NABARD.
- Aimed at showcasing the innovations to aid the adoption of eCommerce in the agricultural sector, the hackathon is classified into two categories:
 - Agri Grant Challenge
 - Agri Innovation Hackathon
- The hackathon is expected to see about 700 participants.
- The participants will try to solve the challenges and offer technical solutions for large-scale future applications.
- This is expected to help the farming community and help state governments realise their goal of promoting their local agricultural products at a national level.

4. Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator

Syllabus: GS-3, Science & Technology, Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology

Prelims: Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator and UAVs

Context:

DRDO conducted the successful maiden flight of the Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator.

Details:

- This flight marks a major milestone in terms of proving critical technologies towards the development of future unmanned aircraft and is a significant step towards self-reliance in such strategic defence technologies.
- The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle is designed & developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru, a premier research laboratory of [DRDO](#).
- It is powered by a small turbofan engine.
- The airframe, undercarriage and entire flight control and avionics systems used for the aircraft were developed indigenously.

5. Journalist Welfare Scheme

Syllabus: GS-2, Governance; Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors

Prelims: Journalist Welfare Scheme Details

Context:

Government approves assistance for 7 journalists and 35 families of journalists under the Journalist Welfare Scheme.

Details:

- The Central Government has approved a proposal of the Journalist Welfare Scheme Committee to provide financial relief to the families of 35 journalists who have lost their lives.
- This includes 16 families of journalists who died due to Covid-19 under the Journalist Welfare Scheme (JWS).
- The families will be provided with assistance up to Rs. 5 lakhs.
- Under the scheme, the families of journalists are provided with financial assistance up to Rs 5 lakh in the event of the death of the journalist causing extreme hardship.
- Assistance is also provided to journalists in case of permanent disability, serious accidents and major health ailments.

6. India's largest floating solar power project commissioned

Syllabus: GS-3, Environment & Ecology; Conservation

Prelims: Floating Solar PV Project in India

Mains: Advantages and the role of Floating Solar PV Project in environmental conservation

Context:

India's largest floating Solar Power Project, the **Ramagundam Floating Solar PV Project** at Ramagundam, Telangana, is now fully operational.

Advantages of Floating Solar Power Projects:

- Floating solar power projects deploy photovoltaic panels on the surface of water bodies.
- They are a viable alternative to solar installations on land since they offer many advantages such as:
 - No land acquisition issues
 - Freeing up the land for agriculture
 - The cooling effect of water proximity enhances the performance of the photo voltaic cells by 5-10%
 - Less grid interconnection costs
 - Less water evaporation
 - Improvement in water quality
 - Decrease in algal blooming

Examples of other floating solar power projects in India:

- Omkareshwar Reservoir, Madhya Pradesh
 - Kayamkulam Project, Kerala
 - Getalsud Dam Project, Jharkhand
 - Rihand Dam, Uttar Pradesh
-

