



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

School of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

WHAT IS LOKPAL?



- It is a **statutory body** established under the **Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act 2013**.

- **Mandate:** To **inquire into allegations of corruption** against certain **public functionaries** and for related matters.

Organisational Structure:

- It consists of a **chairperson and eight Members**, out of whom **four are Judicial Members**.

How are members appointed?

- The **Chairperson and the Members are appointed by the President of India** on the **recommendation of a selection committee** composed of the **Prime Minister** as the **Chairperson**, the **Speaker of Lok Sabha**, the **Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha**, the **Chief Justice of India** or a **Judge nominated by him/her**, and **one eminent jurist**.
- They hold office for a **term of five years** from the date on which they enter upon the office **or until they attain the age of 70 years**, whichever is earlier.
- The salary, allowances, and other **conditions of services of the Chairperson** are the **same** as that of the **Chief Justice of India**.
- The salary, allowances, and other **conditions of services of the members** are the **same** as that of a **Judge of the Supreme Court**.

Jurisdiction:

- It has jurisdiction to inquire into allegations of corruption against anyone who is or has been **Prime Minister**, a **Minister** in the Union government, or a **Member of**



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

School of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

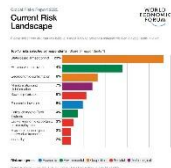
Parliament, as well as officials of the Union Government under Groups A, B, C, and D.

- It covers chairpersons, members, officers, and directors of any board, corporation, society, trust, or autonomous body either established by an Act of Parliament or wholly or partly funded by the Union or State
- It also covers any society, trust, or body that receives a foreign contribution above Rs 10 lakh.
- A complaint under the Lokpal Act should be in the prescribed form and must pertain to an offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, against a public servant.
- There is no restriction on who can make such a complaint.
- When a complaint is received, the Lokpal may order a preliminary inquiry by its Inquiry Wing or any other agency or refer it for investigation by any agency, including the CBI, if there is a prima facie case.
- The Lokpal, with respect to Central government servants, shall refer the complaints to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).

Exceptions for Prime Minister:

- Lokpal cannot inquire into allegations against the PM relating to international relations, external and internal security, public order, atomic energy, and space.
- Also, complaints against the PM are not to be probed unless the full Lokpal bench considers the initiation of the inquiry and at least 2/3rds of the members approve it.

GLOBAL RISK REPORT



- The first edition of the report was published in 2006 in which extreme weather events have been categorised under “environmental risks.”
- This year’s report presents the findings of the Global Risks Perception Survey 2024 - 2025 (GRPS).

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

Key points of the Report:

- These risks are assessed over **both short-term** (1-2 years) and **long-term** (10 years) horizons to guide policymakers in balancing immediate concerns with future challenges.
 - It classified global risks across economic, environmental, geopolitical, societal and technological domains.
 - **Top 3 short-term risks:** It includes misinformation and disinformation, extreme weather events and state based armed conflict.
 - **Top 3 Long term risks:** It includes extreme weather events, biodiversity loss & ecosystem collapse and critical change to earth systems.
 - The evolving global risk landscape is shaped by the interaction of four critical spheres: **technological, geostrategic, climatic and demographic.**
 - These forces are expected to intensify over the next decade and beyond, resulting in a complex and interconnected web of challenges.
 - The report further stresses the importance of addressing **short-lived climate pollutants**, such as black carbon, methane and hydrofluorocarbons, which have significant environmental and health impacts.
-

NAMDHARI SECT



- It was founded by **Satguru Ram Singh** of Baisakhi in 1857. He challenged the status quo, advocated social reform, and resisted the British rule in various ways.
- The Namdharis were **also known as “Kukas”** because of their trademark style of reciting the **“Gurbani”** (Sayings/Teachings of the Guru).
- This style was in a high-pitched **voice called “Kook”** in Punjabi. Thus, the Namdharis were also called “Kukas”.



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

School of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

- Namdhari Sikhs consider the **Guru Granth Sahib** as the **Supreme Gurbani**, but they also believe in a living human Guru.
- The Namdharis consider the cow to be sacred.
- The sect's **headquarters** is located in **Ludhiana's Bhaini Sahib** near village Raiyaan, where Ram Singh was born.

History of the Kuka martyrs' day:

- On January 13, 1872, a group of some 200 Namdharis led by **Kuka Hira Singh and Lehna Singh** reached **Malerkotla** following an incident of cow slaughter in the town. The Namdharis had long been agitating for a ban on cow slaughter.
- On January 15, the Kukas clashed with government officials. On the very same day, a 150-strong Kuka contingent also attacked the **Malauhd Fort** in Ludhiana, which was under the jurisdiction of a local ruler who was loyal to the British.
- The British retribution to the Kuka raids was brutal. **John Lambert Cowan**, the Deputy Commissioner of Ludhiana district, ordered the execution of 49 Kukas on January 17, and another 17 on January 18.

HYPERSPECTRAL IMAGING SATELLITE



- These satellites are uniquely designed to beam down **data in hundreds of wavelengths** to detect problems that are invisible to today's satellites.
- The constellation is designed to provide global coverage at a revisit of every 24 hours.
- Hyperspectral imaging (HSI) is a technique that **analyses a wide spectrum of light** instead of just assigning primary colours (red, green, blue) to each pixel, effectively spectrally fingerprinting the Earth to provide more information on what is imaged.
- The collected spectra are used to form an image in a way that each image pixel includes a complete spectrum.



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

School of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

What is Firefly' constellation?

- It is India's first **commercial satellite constellation**.
- It offers six times sharper resolution than the standard 30-meter resolution of existing hyperspectral satellites, achieving an unprecedented five-meter resolution.
- This capability allows it to **capture intricate details** previously invisible to conventional systems.

The satellites' advanced sensors, capable of **capturing data across more than 150 spectral bands**, enable the detection of subtle changes in chemical compositions, vegetation health, water quality, and atmospheric conditions.

NEW SANCHAR SAATHI MOBILE APP



- It is a user-friendly platform designed to **fortify telecom security** and empower citizens.
- It provides users with critical tools to secure their telecom resources and combat telecom frauds.

Key features include:

- **Chakshu-** Reporting Suspected Fraud Communications (SFC): Users can report suspected calls and SMS using app and directly from mobile phone logs.
- **Know Mobile Connections in Your Name:** Citizens can identify and manage all mobile connections issued in their name, ensuring no unauthorized usage.
- **Blocking Your Lost/ Stolen Mobile Handset:** Lost or stolen mobile devices can be swiftly blocked, traced and recovered.
- **Know Mobile Handset Genuineness:** The app offers an easy way to verify the authenticity of mobile handsets, ensuring users purchase genuine devices.

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

What is National Broadband Mission (NBM) 2.0?

- It builds on the success of NBM 1.0 which is part of the National Digital Communications Policy, 2018.
 - The NBM 2.0 aims to propel India into a **new era of digital transformation**.
 - Following will be the **key benefits of NBM 2.0**:
 - Extending **operational optical fiber cable (OFC)** connectivity to 2.70 lakh villages by 2030 with 95% uptime from ~50,000 as of now.
 - To provide **broadband connectivity to 90% of anchor institutions** like **Schools, PHCs, Anganwadi Centre, and Panchayat** offices by 2030.
 - To achieve 100% mapping of fiber networks owned by government PSUs by 2026 on PM GatiShakti National Master Plan Platform (PMGS) and use PMGS for planning of Additional Bharatnet project.
 - **For Ease of Doing Business** - reduce the Right of Way application average disposal time from 60 days (now) to 30 days by 2030. In 2019 it was 449 days.
 - Work on enhancing the usage of the ‘**Call Before u Dig**’ (CBuD) mobile app to protect underground Telecom infrastructure and other utilities.
 - Collaborate with all stakeholders viz. Central Ministries and departments, States, UTs and municipalities to ensure the effective implementation of the New RoW Rules 2024, issued under the Telecommunications Act, 2023.
-

INDIA'S AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY SHINES AT BHARAT MOBILITY GLOBAL EXPO 2025

Expo Highlights and Global Participation:

- The **five-day expo**, spanning three venues—**Bharat Mandapam, Yashobhoomi**, and the **India Expo Center & Mart, Greater Noida**—is a showcase of India's progress in mobility innovation:

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

Launches and Participation:

- Over **40 product launches** at the main event and **60 launches** at the components show.
- Participation from global leaders in the automotive and mobility industries.
- **Focus Areas:**
 - Emphasis on **EVs, sustainable technologies, and next-gen mobility solutions.**
 - A platform for innovation and collaboration among industry stakeholders.

Driving Factors for India's Automotive Growth:

- **Demographics and Demand:**
 - A large youth population, a growing middle class, and rapid urbanization are key drivers.
 - Modern infrastructure has addressed past barriers, such as inadequate roads, making vehicle ownership more accessible.
- **Policy Support:**
 - **Production Linked Incentive (PLI)** scheme has created **1.5 lakh direct jobs** & generated sales worth over ₹2.25 lakh crore in auto sector.
- **Future Prospects:**
 - The automotive sector is poised to benefit from India's innovation-driven ecosystem, robust demand, and increasing investments in technology and skill development.

Conclusion:

- The **Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025** reflects India's rising prominence in the global automotive landscape.
 - With a forward-looking approach emphasizing sustainability, technology, and infrastructure, India is well-positioned to lead the future of mobility.
 - Under PM Modi's vision, the automotive sector continues to evolve as a key driver of economic growth and global competitiveness.
-

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

CABINET APPROVES REFARMING OF 687 MHZ OF SPECTRUM

The Union Cabinet has approved the refarming of 687 MHz of spectrum for mobile services, increasing the total available spectrum to 1,587 MHz, with 320 MHz to be released immediately and the rest by 2028-29. The re-farmed spectrum primarily comes from the Ministry of Defence and ISRO.

Airwaves/Spectrum

- Airwaves are radio frequencies within the electromagnetic spectrum that can carry information wirelessly for a range of services including telecommunications.
- The government manages and allocates airwaves to companies or sectors for their use.
- The government auctions a fixed amount of spectrum within specified band/s to be utilised by operators for providing communication services to consumers.

Refarming of spectrum

- Spectrum refarming is the process of **repurposing spectrum bands** for more efficient technologies or new services.
 - For example, a provider using the 900 MHz band for 2G services may reallocate part of it for **LTE (Long-term evolution)** to meet increasing data demand.
- The GSMA defines spectrum refarming as reallocating frequency bands traditionally used for 2G (GSM technology) to newer mobile technologies like **3G (UMTS-Universal Mobile Telecommunications System)** and **4G (LTE)**.

Why is Spectrum Refarming important?

- To maximize the capacity and efficiency of a network by moving older, less demanding services to a smaller portion of the spectrum, freeing up space for newer, more data-intensive technologies.



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

School of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

Current Affairs - 18 January 2025

- It enables **Communications Service Providers (CSPs)** to upgrade from legacy networks to 4G or 5G based on consumer demand and market growth.

Benefits

- Increased network capacity
- Improved network performance
- Cost-effective way to upgrade networks without buying new spectrum

Challenges

- **Service Continuity:**
 - CSPs must ensure there are no interruptions or degradation in services during the refarming process.
 - **Device Compatibility:**
 - Some devices only support specific frequency bands, so they must continue operating on legacy networks.
 - **Thorough Analysis:**
 - CSPs must analyze device types and user behavior to determine the appropriate spectrum allocation for different technologies without compromising service quality.
 - **Channel Interference:**
 - Ensuring no interference between channels is crucial during spectrum refarming.
 - **Contiguous Spectrum:**
 - A sufficient, contiguous spectrum is needed to support the simultaneous operation of multiple technologies within a frequency band.
-