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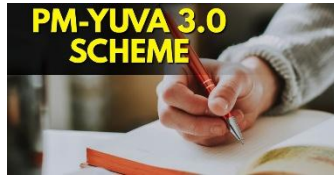
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WHAT IS THE PM-YUVA 3.0 SCHEME?



- The **Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors (PM-YUVA 3.0)** aims to **nurture young writers under 30 years of age**, providing them with **mentorship** and exposure to hone their creative writing skills.
- The scheme will help to develop a stream of writers who can **write on various facets of India**, encompassing the past, present, and future.
- PM-YUVA 3.0 intends to bring to the fore the perspectives of the young generation of writers on the **following themes**:
 - **Contribution of Indian Diaspora in Nation Building;**
 - **Indian Knowledge System; and**
 - **Makers of Modern India (1950-2025).**
- Besides, the scheme will also provide a window for the aspiring youth to **articulate themselves and present a comprehensive outlook of the contribution of Indians** across fields in ancient and present times.
- The **National Book Trust (NBT), India, under the Ministry of Education** as the **Implementing Agency**, will ensure phase-wise execution of the scheme under well-defined stages of mentorship.
- **Selection Process**:
 - The scheme **invites applications** from aspiring writers **through MyGov India's online portal**.
 - The **shortlisted candidates undergo a multi-stage selection process** before the final selection.
 - **Applicants who had qualified for the PM-YUVA Scheme 1.0 and PM-YUVA Scheme 2.0 are not eligible** for the PM-YUVA 3.0 scheme.
- **Mentorship and Support:**



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- Selected authors receive a **mentorship program** spanning six months.
- The authors undergo **workshops, interactions with mentors, and exposure to India's literary ecosystem.**
- At the end of mentorship, a **consolidated scholarship is offered.**
- A **book or a series of books written** by the young authors will be **published by NBT, India** as the outcome of the mentorship programme.
- A **royalty of 10%** will be payable to the authors on successful publications of their books at the end of the Mentorship Program.
- The **books** thus published under the scheme may be **translated into other Indian languages.**
- Selected authors get the **opportunity to present their work at literary festivals** and international forums.

NARSAPURAM LACE CRAFT



- Narsapur is situated on the bank of **Godavari River** in the state of **Andhra Pradesh.**
- **History of Narsapuram Lace Craft:**
 - It is believed that the **women of the farming community** of this region started creating highly attractive artefacts from colourful lace, **about 150 years ago.**
 - The craft has **survived the Indian famine (1899)** and the Great Depression (1929).
- **Raw Materials:** Primarily uses **fine cotton threads** in various thicknesses and colors.
 - Artisans also incorporate **silk, rayon, or synthetic threads** for decorative pieces, with beads and sequins added to enhance export-quality designs.
- **Tool used:** The main tool is **the crochet hook**, available in different sizes to create diverse patterns and textures.



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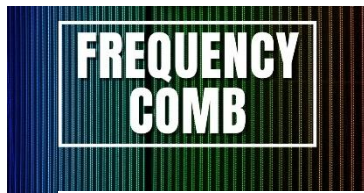


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- **Design:** This craft showcases **intricate floral, geometric, and paisley patterns** inspired by nature and **traditional motifs**.
 - Narsapur's famed hand-made crochet industry produces **doilies, pillow covers, cushion covers, bed spreads, table-runners, and table cloths** etc.
 - It was recognized with **Geographical Indication tag**.
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FREQUENCY COMB



- It is a **special kind of laser light** whose spectrum, or set of frequencies, resembles the teeth of a comb.
 - Frequency combs are simple and compact tools that phase coherently connect the **radio frequency domain** (say below 100GHz) with the **optical domain** (say above 200THz).
 - **Characteristics of Frequency Comb:**
 - Instead of containing just one colour (one frequency), it emits a large number of **evenly spaced frequencies**. The spacing is extremely regular.
 - Frequency combs are widely-used, **high-precision tools** for measuring and detecting different frequencies colors — of light.
 - It has high **stability and precision**.
 - **Applications of Frequency comb:**
 - It helps scientists compare an unknown light frequency to a stable reference with extraordinary precision.
 - It is an important modern tool to **calibrate atomic clocks** and **measure shifts in light caused by gravity**.
 - It is used to **detect exoplanets**.
 - It is also used in **high-speed spectroscopy**.
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SCHEME FOR PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR AYUSH



SCHEME FOR PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR AYUSH

- It is a **Central Sector Scheme**.
- It provides support to Indian Ayush drug Manufacturers/ Ayush Service providers to give boost to the **export of Ayush products & services**.
- **Objectives:**
 - To promote and **strengthen awareness and interest** about **AYUSH Systems of Medicine** at international level.
 - To **facilitate International promotion**, development and recognition of Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa and Homoeopathy.
 - To **foster interaction of stakeholders** and market development of AYUSH at international level.
 - To **support international exchange of experts** and information for promotion and propagation of AYUSH systems,
 - To **promote academics and research** through establishment of AYUSH Academic Chairs in foreign countries.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of AYUSH
- **Components of Scheme for Promotion of International Cooperation for AYUSH:**
 - International **exchange of experts & officers**,
 - **Incentive to drug manufacturers**, entrepreneurs, AYUSH institutions, Hospitals etc. for international propagation of AYUSH by participating in international exhibitions, trade fairs, road shows etc.
 - Support for **international market development & AYUSH promotion activities**,
 - Establishment of **AYUSH Information Cells** and establishment and strengthening of Health Centre/ Institution in foreign countries.
 - **International Fellowship/ scholarship Programme** for foreign nationals for undertaking AYUSH courses in premier institutions in India.



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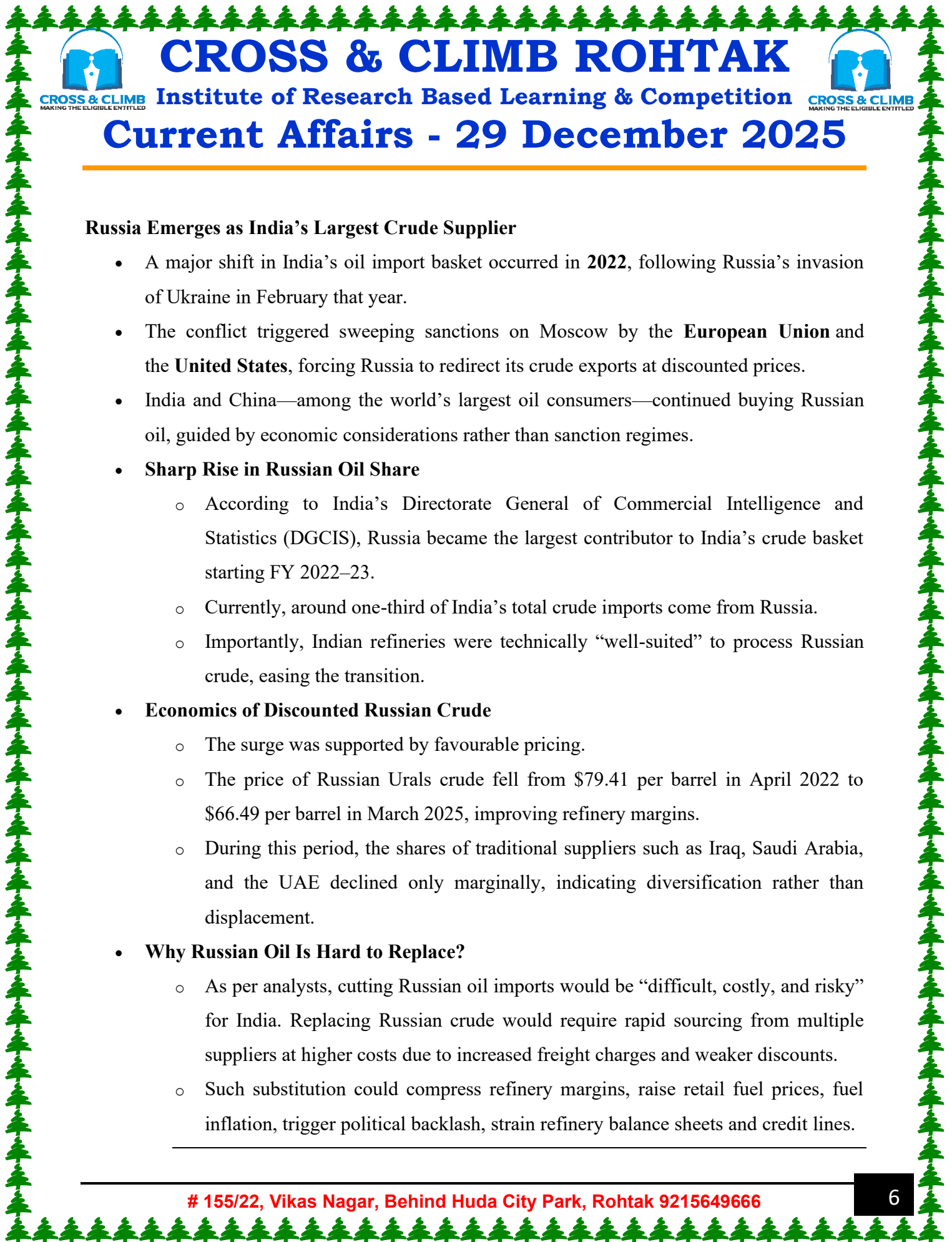
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INDIA'S OIL BASKET: A STORY OF SHIFTING SOURCES

- Before 2005, India's energy security rested overwhelmingly on West Asia, which supplied over 70% of its crude oil, led by Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, Kuwait and the UAE.
- Although India gradually diversified its sources between 2005 and 2015—adding African suppliers like Nigeria and Angola and limited volumes from South America—West Asia remained dominant.
- Despite this gradual broadening, more than 60% of the crude oil imported in 2011-12 came from seven West Asian nations:
 - Saudi Arabia (About 17% of the overall basket),
 - Iran (11.3%), Iraq (10.5%),
 - Kuwait (7%),
 - United Arab Emirates (9%),
 - Oman (3.4%) and
 - Qatar (3.3%).
- African oil, mainly from Nigeria and Angola, formed a distant second, accounting for about one-fifth of total imports.

Iran Sanctions and the Reshaping of India's Crude Basket

- India's long-standing oil ties with Iran faced a major disruption after international sanctions tightened around Tehran.
- In June 2010, the **United Nations Security Council** imposed sanctions on Iran over concerns about its expanding nuclear programme.
- This was followed in 2011 by **unilateral sanctions** from the United States, including restrictions on Iran's Central Bank and threats to penalise foreign banks purchasing Iranian crude.
- This phase marked a crucial turning point in India's energy diplomacy, highlighting how geopolitical sanctions directly constrained sourcing choices despite economic considerations.



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Russia Emerges as India's Largest Crude Supplier

- A major shift in India's oil import basket occurred in **2022**, following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February that year.
 - The conflict triggered sweeping sanctions on Moscow by the **European Union** and the **United States**, forcing Russia to redirect its crude exports at discounted prices.
 - India and China—among the world's largest oil consumers—continued buying Russian oil, guided by economic considerations rather than sanction regimes.
 - **Sharp Rise in Russian Oil Share**
 - According to India's Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), Russia became the largest contributor to India's crude basket starting FY 2022–23.
 - Currently, around one-third of India's total crude imports come from Russia.
 - Importantly, Indian refineries were technically “well-suited” to process Russian crude, easing the transition.
 - **Economics of Discounted Russian Crude**
 - The surge was supported by favourable pricing.
 - The price of Russian Urals crude fell from \$79.41 per barrel in April 2022 to \$66.49 per barrel in March 2025, improving refinery margins.
 - During this period, the shares of traditional suppliers such as Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE declined only marginally, indicating diversification rather than displacement.
 - **Why Russian Oil Is Hard to Replace?**
 - As per analysts, cutting Russian oil imports would be “difficult, costly, and risky” for India. Replacing Russian crude would require rapid sourcing from multiple suppliers at higher costs due to increased freight charges and weaker discounts.
 - Such substitution could compress refinery margins, raise retail fuel prices, fuel inflation, trigger political backlash, strain refinery balance sheets and credit lines.
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INDUSTRIAL HEMP



- Industrial hemp (*Cannabis sativa* L.) is botanically related to marijuana, but with very different properties.
 - While marijuana is rich with **tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)**, the psychoactive component that makes pot a drug of choice by many, hemp contains only the **smallest traces of THC (<0.3%)**,
 - It is an **herbaceous, dioecious plant** belonging to the *Cannabis* genus within the **Cannabaceae family**.
 - It is high in fiber and **low in active tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)**.
 - **Applications of Industrial Hemp:**
 - It is used for varieties used for **recreational, therapeutic, and industrial purposes**, commonly referred to as marijuana and hemp, respectively.
 - Its stalk can be used to **produce biofuel**, auto parts, paper, upholstery, and fiber for cloth and other textile items.
 - Its **stem** can also be processed into **building materials, industrial products** and different kinds of papers.
 - Its **seeds** can be used to **produce feed or food or the sources** of oil that can be converted into a lotion or cosmetic products.
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WHAT IS THE PASSENGER ASSISTANCE CONTROL ROOM (PACR)?



- It was launched by the **Ministry of Civil Aviation**, Government of India.
 - It is aimed at significantly improving the promptness and effectiveness of **addressing air traveller grievances**.
 - It functions as an integrated hub **bringing together officials** from the **Ministry of Civil Aviation**, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Airports Authority of India
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(AAI), airline operators, and other key stakeholders under one roof at Udaan Bhawan, in New Delhi.

- It operates 24x7, continuously monitoring aviation operations, attending to passenger calls, and coordinating real-time assistance and grievance resolution.
- The AirSewa system has also been fully integrated into the PACR, enabling seamless handling of passenger grievances received through it.
- An omni-channel technology backbone converts passenger inputs into actionable cases, supported by data-driven dashboards that provide live visibility on grievance types, timelines, and stakeholder actions.
- The physical presence of airline representatives within the control room allows immediate coordination and on-the-spot resolution of issues.
- Grievances related to flight delays, cancellations, refunds, and baggage issues are prioritised and addressed in accordance with the provisions of the Passenger Charter.

PARVATI-ARGA BIRD SANCTUARY



PARVATI-ARGA BIRD
SANCTUARY

- **Location:** It is situated in Gonda district of Uttar Pradesh.
- It is a permanent freshwater environment consisting of two oxbow lakes namely Parvati and Arga.
- It is designated as Ramsar site.
- **Fauna:** It is the critically endangered white-rumped vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*) and Indian vulture (*Gyps indicus*), and the endangered Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*) have all been recorded.
 - Invasive species such as the common water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) is also found here.
- **Flora:** The Vegetation of the Sanctuary is representative of that of the indo-gangetic ecosystem.



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What is Eco-Sensitive Zone?

- It is also known as **Ecologically Fragile Areas (EFAs)**.
 - These are areas **notified and regulated by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** around **Protected Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries**.
 - **Purpose of declaring ESZs:**
 - To create **some kind of shock absorbers** to the protected areas by regulating and managing the activities around such areas
 - **Extent of ESZ:** An ESZ could extend up to 10 km around a protected area.
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KEY FACTS ABOUT KOLLERU LAKE



- It is **one of the largest freshwater lakes** in India, located in **Andhra Pradesh**.
 - It is located in the **inter-deltaic plain of rivers Krishna and Godavari** near the city of Eluru and serves as a **natural flood-balancing reservoir** for these two rivers.
 - It is the **largest freshwater lake in Andhra Pradesh**.
 - Characteristically, it is a **shallow lake**.
 - It receives water from **Budameru, Ramileru, Tammileru, and Errakalva rivers**.
 - It **drains into the Bay of Bengal** through an outlet called '**upputera**'.
 - It is also known as the "**Peerless Fisherman's Paradise and Bird Heaven**".
 - It was **declared as a wildlife sanctuary** in 1999.
 - It was designated as a **wetland of international importance** in 2002 under the **International Ramsar Convention**.
 - It **supports migratory birds** annually, including **grey pelicans, painted storks, and open-billed storks**.
 - It is deeply intertwined with local livelihoods, sustaining thousands who depend on **fishing, duck farming, and paddy cultivation**.
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