

## Current Affairs - 30 May 2025

### KNOW YOUR DIGIPIN' AND 'KNOW YOUR PIN CODE WEB PORTALS



- The **DIGIPIN (Digital Postal Index Number)** is an **open-source, interoperable, geo-coded, grid-based digital address system** developed by the Department of Posts in collaboration with IIT Hyderabad and NRSC, ISRO.
- **Vision:** To offer **Address-as-a-Service (AaaS)** — an array of services associated with address data management to **support secure and efficient interactions** between users, government entities, and private sector organisations.
- The 'Know Your DIGIPIN' portal enables users to:
  - **Retrieve their DIGIPIN** based on precise geolocation.
  - Input latitude and longitude coordinates to fetch corresponding DIGIPINs and vice versa.
- **Advantages:**
  - This initiative simplifies **location mapping, enhances logistics and emergency response**, and ensures last-mile delivery, especially in rural and underserved areas.
  - Incorporating DIGIPIN as an additional address attribute enables the leveraging of GIS capabilities, laying the foundation for future **GIS-based digitalisation of service delivery** across various organisations in a cost-effective manner.
  - DIGIPIN will **enhance location accuracy across multiple sectors** by providing precise geographic coordinates, ensuring accurate service delivery and reducing emergency response times.
  - A complete repository of the DIGIPIN technical documentation and source code has been made available on GitHub, promoting open collaboration and nationwide adoption.
- It is now available to all Ministries, State Governments, institutions for integration into their workflows, and users for their own use.

### About Know Your PIN Code Web Application

- It is the six-digit PIN Code system, introduced in 1972.
- The Department undertook a **national geofencing exercise** across all postal jurisdictions to geo-reference all the pin code boundaries of the country.
- **Features**
  - Identify the correct PIN Code based on the location.
  - Submit feedback on PIN Code accuracy for continuous refinement of pin code dataset.
  - The geo-fenced PIN Code boundaries dataset has also been uploaded on Open Government Data Platform under the title “All India PIN Code Boundary geo-json”.

### KALANAMAK RICE



Kalanamak Rice

It is said that Lord Buddha visited the region of Kalanamak in the 5th Century BC. It is believed that the rice was introduced to India during the 5th Century BC. It is a variety of rice that is known for its strong fragrance and is considered a gift from Lord Buddha to the people of Sravasti when he visited the region after enlightenment.

- Kalanamak is a traditional variety of paddy with **black husk and strong fragrance**.

- It is **considered a gift from Lord Buddha** to the people of Sravasti when he visited the region after enlightenment.
- It is traditional, **non-basmati aromatic rice** grown in eastern Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Siddharthnagar, where it has been **designated as an ODOP** (one district one product) item.
- It is also grown in 11 districts of the **Terai region of north-eastern Uttar Pradesh** and in Nepal, the traditional variety has been prone to ‘lodging’, a reason for its low yield.
  - Lodging: Lodging is a condition in which the top of the plant becomes heavy because of grain formation, the stem becomes weak, and the plant falls on the ground.

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- It is a nutritional powerhouse. It is rich in **iron and antioxidants**, has a **low glycemic index**, and is naturally gluten-free, making it a healthy dietary choice, especially for diabetics.
- It is protected under the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag system**.

### EXERCISE NOMADIC ELEPHANT



- It is an annual **joint military exercise** conducted alternatively in **India and Mongolia**.
- Last edition of the same exercise was conducted at Umroi, Meghalaya in July 2024.
- The Indian contingent comprising 45 personnel will be represented mainly by troops from a battalion of the **Arunachal S**
- Aim of the exercise is to **enhance interoperability between the two forces** while employing a joint task force in semi conventional operations in semi urban/ mountainous terrain **under United Nations mandate**.
- The scope of this exercise involves **Platoon level Field Training Exercise**. During the exercise, Indian and Mongolian troops will engage in various training activities.
- In addition, to enhance complexity of exercise, aspects **pertaining to Cyber Warfare** are also being incorporated in this edition of the exercise.
- The exercise underscores the shared commitment of India and Mongolia towards **regional security, peace and stability**.
- The exercise reinforces the India-Mongolia relationship as a cornerstone of regional cooperation, fostering strong military ties and promotion of cultural understanding.
- A testament to the enduring bond of **friendship, trust and cultural linkages between India and Mongolia**, the exercise sets the stage for meaningful professional engagement, highlighting the unwavering commitment of both nations to broader defence cooperation.

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### INDIA'S MULTI-LAYERED AIR DEFENCE SYSTEM DURING OPERATION SINDOOR

- Integrated Air Command and Control System (IACCS) is India's core air defence nerve centre. It fuses inputs from ground-based radars, AWACS, satellites, and other sensors.
- It also enables real-time tracking and interception of low-altitude threats like drones via integration with SAMs and fighter jets.
- It is designed with redundancy — damage to nodes doesn't disrupt overall operations due to alternate data links and mobile radars.
- **Pakistan's Attempted Disruption**
  - Pakistan tried to overload IACCS by varying drone altitude, timing, and routes to: Disrupt communication nodes; Confuse command loops; Find vulnerabilities for follow-up drone/missile strikes.
  - All attacks were unsuccessful; any disruptions were swiftly mitigated.
- **Tactical Support: Akashteer System**
  - Akashteer developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for Army Air Defence units. Digitised command layer ensures:
    - Real-time coordination between sensors and weapons.
    - Effective handling of low-level threats like UAVs, even under EW/communication stress.
- **Layered Architecture of the Air Defence Shield**
  - India used a multi-layer defence combining:
    - Retrofitted Cold War-era systems.
    - Modern missile platforms.
  - **Low-Level Air Defence (LLAD) Network**
    - Composed of legacy systems upgraded with radar-directed fire and electro-optical sights. Even Army and BSF snipers contributed by shooting down drones in frontline areas.

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

## Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition

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- **Modern Additions**

- Israeli SPYDER missile system with Python-5 and Derby missiles: Used for point defence against UAVs, cruise missiles, and aircraft.

#### A New Kind of War – The Technological Evolution of Operation Sindoor

- **Advanced Missile Systems for Layered Defence**

- **Akash & Akash-NG**: Provided medium-range air defence against aerial threats.
- **Barak-8**: India-Israel joint development offering long-range protection of high-value strategic assets from aircraft, drones, and missiles.
- **S-400 'Triumph' (Sudarshan Chakra)**: Russia-made cutting-edge long-range air defence system; India has received 3 out of 5 units ordered.

- **Centralised Integration through IACCS**

- All missile systems were seamlessly integrated via the Integrated Air Command and Control System (IACCS).
- Enabled coordinated, real-time responses to a full spectrum of aerial threats.

- **Dawn of Algorithmic, Autonomous Warfare**

- Operation Sindoor marked a paradigm shift:
  - From conventional to autonomous, algorithm-driven warfare.
  - Deterrence mechanisms are now shaped by data, drones, and digital precision rather than brute force.
  - Future conflicts may begin not with human mobilization but with the silent launch of autonomous drones — a shift in both strategy and psychology of warfare.

#### WHAT IS THE QUALITY COUNCIL OF INDIA (QCI)?



- It is a **non-profit autonomous organisation** registered under **Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860**.

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- It was set up in 1997 jointly by the Government of India and the Indian Industry represented by the three premier industry associations, i.e., Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), with Ratan Tata as its first Chairman.
- It is under the administrative control of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- QCI works as the national accreditation body.
- QCI has been established to create a mechanism for independent third-party assessment of products, services, and processes.
- Besides the role of putting in place the accreditation structure, it also promotes the adoption of quality standards relating to Quality Management Systems (ISO 14001 Series), Food Safety Management Systems (ISO 22000 Series), and Product Certification and Inspection Bodies through the accreditation services provided by the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB).
- It plays a pivotal role at the national level in propagating, adoption, and adherence to quality standards in all important spheres of activities that have significant bearing on improving the quality of life and well-being of the citizens of India.
- It leads a nationwide quality movement in the country through the National Quality Campaign.
- QCI functions through the governing body and other executive bodies (boards/committees) for implementing the strategy, policy, and operational guidelines as set out by its governing council.
- The council comprises 38 members, with equal representation from the Government, Industries and other stakeholders.
- Indian industry is represented in QCI by three premier industry associations, namely ASSOCHAM, CII, and FICCI.

### WHAT IS SHANGRI-LA DIALOGUE?



- It is Asia's premier defence and security summit that brings together **Defence Ministers, Military Chiefs, policymakers and strategic experts** across the globe.
- Since its birth in **2002**, it has developed into the most influential **multilateral security exchange platform in the Asia-Pacific region**.
- It is held in **June every year in Singapore**.
- It is **organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in London, UK**, and **co-organized by Singapore's Ministry of Defence**.
- The **agenda** of the Shangri-La Dialogue is closely related to the security situation and development trend in the Asia-Pacific region, **covering traditional and non-traditional security** and other fields.
  - These **include** traditional security issues such as **territorial disputes and military cooperation**, as well as **non-traditional security issues** such as **terrorism, cybersecurity, and climate change**.
  - Such agenda setting enables the dialogue to fully reflect the security challenges and cooperation needs of the Asia-Pacific region.

Around the above issues, Shangri-La Dialogue is **divided into two forms: open general assembly exchanges and closed-door group meetings**.

- Open exchanges at the conference allow delegates to make speeches and discuss issues of common interest, enhancing mutual understanding and trust.
- Closed-door breakout sessions are more in-depth and specific, allowing participants to discuss and negotiate on a topic in depth and seek cooperation and solutions.

### YASHODA AI



- It is the initiative of the **National Commission for Women (NCW)** in collaboration with Future Shift Labs (FSL).
- It will empower women to contribute meaningfully to a Viksit Bharat driven by technology and inclusion.
- The Yashoda AI Abhiyan wants to stand as India's effort to **empower women, especially from rural and semi-urban communities**, with essential skills in Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, and Digital Safety.
- The program aims to go beyond traditional learning by hosting in-depth discussions on critical issues such as **AI-driven crimes, digital privacy, and practical safety strategies**.
- It will actively engaging students, educators, and women from the police force, Yashoda AI Abhiyan wants to experiment in community-driven digital education, ensuring that women are not only participants but leaders in shaping India's tech-savvy future.

### Key Facts about National Commission for Women

- It is an **autonomous and statutory body** established in 1992 under the **National Commission for Women Act, 1990**, to protect and promote women's rights in India.
- **Composition:** The Commission shall consist of a **Chairperson, 5 Members**, and a Member-Secretary who are nominated by the **Central Government**.
- **Term:** The Chairperson and every Member shall hold office for a period of **three years**.
- **Powers:** The Commission, while investigating, shall have all the powers of a civil court in respect of the following matters:
  - Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him/her on oath.
  - Requiring the discovery and production of any document.
  - Receiving evidence on affidavits.

### TRAL WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



- It is located in the Pulwama District of **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- It forms an important corridor for the movement of
- It is among the few areas outside **Dachigam National Park** where a population of this critically endangered Hangul deer still survives.

**Vegetation:** The vegetation of the Sanctuary is typically Himalayan **moist temperate forest, sub-alpine forest, and alpine forest types**.

**Flora:** Aesculus indica, Fraxinus hookeri, Parrotiopsis jacquemontiana, and Juglans regia. The dominant shrubs include Indigofera heterantha, Lonicera species, Viburnum, Skimmia laurel, Jasminum species etc.

#### **Fauna:**

- The area harbours Hangul population. Besides, 15 species of mammals, including some rare ones, are also found in the limits of the sanctuary. It is also home to more than **200 species of birds**.
- It functions as a protected wildlife corridor for the **endangered Kashmir Stag**, also called Hangul.
- It is home to various endemic species like **Kashmir Red Deer** (Cervus hanglu hanglu), Kashmir Musk Deer (Moschus cupreus) and **Kashmir Gray Langur**.