



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

### COFFEE BOARD OF INDIA



- It is a statutory organization constituted **under Section (4) of the Coffee Act, 1942.**

- **Members:** The Board comprises **33 members** representing all sectors of the coffee industry who are **nominated by the Central Government** and hold office for a period of **three years.**

- **Functions:** The Board is mainly focusing its activities in the areas of research, extension, development, market intelligence, external & internal promotion and welfare measures.
- **Nodal Ministry:** It functions under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.**
- **Head office:** The head office of the Coffee Board is situated in

### Key Facts about Coffee cultivation

- It is a **tropical plant** generally grown under **shady trees.**
- It is grown **on hill slopes** at elevations from 600 to 1,600 metres above sea level.
- The vast majority of the world's coffee comprises two species — **Coffea Arabica** (Arabica) and **Coffea Canephora** (Robusta).
- **Distribution:** In India coffee is largely cultivated in **Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha**, among which, **Karnataka produces the most with over 70%** of the total output.
- **Required climatic conditions for Coffee cultivation**
  - **Climate:** Hot and humid climate for its growth.
  - **Temperatures:** Between 15°C and 28 °C
  - **Rainfall:** 150 to 250 cm.
  - **Soil:** **Well-drained, loamy soil** containing a good deal of humus and minerals like iron and calcium are ideal for coffee cultivation.
  - Dry weather is necessary at the time of ripening of the berries.



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

### FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT-INDIA



- It was set by the **Government of India in 2004**.
- It is the **central national agency** responsible for receiving, processing, analyzing and disseminating information relating to **suspect financial transactions**.

It is an **independent** body reporting directly to the **Economic Intelligence Council (EIC)** headed by the **finance minister**.

#### Function of Financial Intelligence Unit-India

- **Collection of Information:** It acts as the central reception point for receiving **Cash Transaction reports (CTRs)**, **Non-Profit Organisation Transaction Report (NTRs)**, **Cross Border Wire Transfer Reports (CBWTRs)**, **Reports on Purchase or Sale of Immovable Property (IPRs)** and **Suspicious Transaction Reports (STRs)** from various reporting entities.
- **Analysis of Information:** Analyze received information in order to uncover patterns of transactions suggesting **suspicion of money laundering** and related crimes.
- **Sharing of Information:** It shares **information with national intelligence/law enforcement agencies**, national regulatory authorities and foreign Financial Intelligence Units.
- **Central Repository:** It establishes and maintains a national database on the basis of reports received from reporting entities.
- **Research and Analysis:** Monitor and identify strategic key areas on money laundering trends, typologies and developments.



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

### GAIA TELESCOPE 3D MAP



- This is the most detailed chart of **glowing hydrogen gas clouds**, helping scientists understand **how stars form** and the dynamics of **turbulent interstellar gas**.
- The study integrates **Gaia dust maps** with the radiation impact of **87 massive O-type stars**, which emit intense ultraviolet light capable of ionising hydrogen gas.
- The resulting simulation shows glowing hydrogen clouds, aligning closely with older hydrogen emission maps, but with **much higher precision**.

### About the Gaia Mission

- **Full name:** Originally **Global Astrometric Interferometer for Astrophysics (GAIA)**, simplified to **Gaia**.
- **Launch Year:** **2013**, by the **European Space Agency (ESA)**.
- **Objective:** To create the **most precise 3D map of the Milky Way Galaxy** through **astrometry** (measurement of star positions, distances, and movements).
- **Position:** Located at **Lagrange Point 2 (L2)**, about **5 million km from Earth**, providing a stable and unobstructed cosmic view.

### Structure and Instruments

- **Twin Telescopes:** Capture light from two directions simultaneously.
- **Digital camera:** Contains nearly **1 billion pixels**, making it the **largest camera ever flown in space**.
- **Three Main Instruments:**
  - **Astrometer** – Measures precise positions of celestial objects.
  - **Photometer** – Determines the brightness and temperature of stars.
  - **Spectrometer** – Identifies chemical composition and radial motion of stars.



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

### HANLE DARK SKY RESERVE (HDSR)



- The Hanle Dark Sky Reserve (HDSR) was notified in December 2022 by the Government of Ladakh.
- It is India's first International Dark Sky Reserve, centred around the Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO) at Hanle, managed by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) under the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- The Reserve is a science-driven socio-economic development project, built on two pillars:
  - Curtailing light pollution in the region.
  - Promoting astro-tourism for local livelihood generation.
- It is part of the Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The UT Ladakh administration supports the project by funding astro-tourism initiatives and light management plans.
- The event was jointly organised by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), the Department of Wildlife Protection of UT Ladakh, and the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).

### What is a Dark Sky Reserve?

- Defined by the International Dark Sky Association (IDSA) as a large land area (at least 700 km<sup>2</sup>) with exceptionally dark skies, protected for scientific, cultural, natural, and public enjoyment.
- Requires:
  - A core area free from light pollution.
  - A surrounding buffer area to protect core values.
  - A Lighting Management Plan (LMP) covering at least 80% population and area.
  - Regular annual reporting to IDSA.



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

---

### IAF RESTRUCTURES FIGHTER FLEET AFTER MIG-21 RETIREMENT

On September 26, the Indian Air Force formally retired its iconic MiG-21 fighter jets, with the last two squadrons — No. 23 (Panthers) and No. 3 (Cobras), operating 36 jets — decommissioned in Chandigarh.

#### **MiG-21: India's Trusted but Controversial Fighter**

- Inducted in 1963 as cutting-edge interceptors, MiG-21s became the backbone of the Indian Air Force, fighting in the 1965, 1971, and Kargil wars.
- Over 700 jets of various variants were procured, with the latest Bison upgrades adding advanced avionics, radar, and missiles.
- However, engine flaws plagued the single-engine aircraft, contributing to over 500 crashes and 170 pilot deaths in six decades, including more than 20 since 2010.
- Despite this record, many IAF veterans argue the MiG-21's performance and longevity make its safety record better than often perceived.

#### **IAF's Fighter Shortfall and Growing Reliance on Air Defence**

- The retirement of the MiG-21s has reduced the **Indian Air Force's strength to 29 fighter squadrons**, well below the sanctioned 42 — a target that has never been met.
- This decline poses serious concerns, especially in the event of a simultaneous conflict with Pakistan and China.
- While Pakistan maintains an estimated 20–25 squadrons, China's strength exceeds 60, giving both adversaries a numerical edge.
  - Each squadron comprises 16–18 jets, making the shortfall significant.
- The challenge will deepen in the coming decade, as several older aircraft — including the MiG-29s, Jaguars, and Mirage 2000s — are slated for phase-out by 2035.
- Unless new fighters are inducted soon, India risks falling further behind its regional rivals in air power.



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

---

### Rebuilding IAF's Fighter Fleet: Indigenous and Global Plans

- To address its shrinking fighter fleet, the IAF is banking heavily on **indigenous aircraft**.
  - Currently operating two squadrons of **Tejas Mk1**, the IAF is set to induct 180 upgraded Tejas Mk1A jets from HAL.
    - The Mk1A brings advanced features such as AESA radar, an electronic warfare suite with jammers, and enhanced beyond-visual-range (BVR) capabilities through Derby and ASTRA missile integration.
  - In addition, HAL is working on Tejas Mk2 and the **fifth-generation stealth Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)**, expected to join the IAF in the next decade.
- 

### INDIA-EU STRATEGIC AGENDA

As the U.S. under President Trump disrupts long-standing global alignments, Europe is presenting itself as a stable and reliable partner for India. This shift is underscored by the upcoming **India–EU leaders' summit** scheduled for February 2026, which will build upon European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's earlier visit to India.

The EU has also released a strategic agenda outlining its vision for ties with India, anchored on five key pillars and a commitment to mutual benefit.

This framework signals Europe's intent to position itself as India's "all-weather" friend and a counterbalance to the uncertainties in U.S. foreign policy.

### Five Pillars of the New India–EU Strategic Agenda

- The India–EU Strategic Agenda is built on five core pillars:
  - **Prosperity and Sustainability** – covering trade, investment, resilient supply chains, and sustainable development.
  - **Technology and Innovation** – focusing on critical technologies, digital infrastructure, and joint research.
  - **Security and Defence** – emphasising new agreements, regional stability, and countering traditional and hybrid threats.



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

---

- **Connectivity and Global Issues** – strengthening cooperation in third countries and global governance.
  - **Enablers Across Pillars** – promoting skills mobility, mutual understanding, business linkages, research collaboration, and stronger institutional frameworks for EU–India relations.
  - **Prosperity and Sustainability: Strengthening India–EU Economic and Trade Ties**
    - The **EU is India’s largest trading partner**, while India is the EU’s biggest partner in the Global South.
    - Nearly 6,000 European companies operate in India, directly employing 3 million people and indirectly supporting millions more.
  - **India–EU Collaboration on Emerging Technologies**
    - India and the EU are leveraging complementary strengths to drive innovation.
    - The EU offers world-class research, regulation, and green-digital expertise, while India contributes a skilled workforce, vast datasets, a thriving startup ecosystem, and frugal innovation.
  - **India–EU Connectivity and Strategic Corridors**
    - A flagship project is the **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)**, which integrates maritime, rail, digital, energy, and clean hydrogen networks to revive historic Eurasian trade routes.
  - **Deepening India–EU Security and Defence Cooperation**
    - A formal **EU-India Security and Defence Partnership** is under consideration.
    - Both sides are negotiating a **Security of Information Agreement** to enable classified information sharing.
  - **Strengthening India–EU People-to-People Ties**
    - India and the EU are deepening social and cultural links.
    - Educational exchanges are expanding through initiatives like the **Union of Skills and Erasmus**, making Europe more attractive for Indian students amid U.S. restrictions under Trump.
-



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

---

### THE TURMOIL IN KATHMANDU, THE ROAD AHEAD FOR NEPAL

- The **political turmoil in Nepal following the Gen Z protests of September 2025 marks a significant turning point** in South Asia's democratic landscape.
- Unlike previous uprisings in Nepal that were largely steered by political parties, **this movement was spearheaded by the younger generation**, frustrated with systemic corruption, elite domination, and lack of economic opportunities.
- The **resignation of Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli, the swearing-in of former Chief Justice Sushila Karki as interim Prime Minister**, and the dissolution of parliament **reflect both the fragility and resilience of Nepal's democratic framework**.
- Placed against the backdrop of wider regional unrest across South Asia in the 2020s, **Nepal's transition underscores broader themes of generational change, institutional weakness, and the struggle for political legitimacy.**

### Regional Context of Turbulence

- The **upheavals in Nepal cannot be examined in isolation** and the wider South Asian region has experienced a wave of political instability throughout the decade.
- **Myanmar reverted to military rule in 2021**; Afghanistan fell to the Taliban the same year; Sri Lanka's Aragalaya protests of 2022 toppled President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.
- Also, **Pakistan witnessed widespread protests in 2023** following the arrest of Imran Khan; and Bangladesh's Sheikh Hasina resigned under pressure in 2024.
- Although **these events share common threads**, particularly the role of disillusioned youth and high youth unemployment, each country's crisis stems from its unique political trajectory.
- **Myanmar and Pakistan remain dominated by their militaries**, Afghanistan continues its cycle of failed foreign interventions, while Sri Lanka and Bangladesh suffered from entrenched dynastic rule.
- **In all cases, however, young populations have emerged as catalysts of change**, challenging authoritarianism, corruption, and political inertia.



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK

Institute of Research Based Learning & Competition



CROSS & CLIMB  
MAKING THE ELIGIBLE ENTITLED

## Current Affairs - 27 September 2025

---

### Nepal's Distinctive Path

- Nepal's political journey diverges from its neighbours in significant ways.
- **Since the 1990 Jan Aandolan**, which curtailed monarchical powers and introduced multi-party democracy, **Nepal has seen frequent government changes**, seven since the adoption of the 2015 constitution alone.
- This **apparent instability masked deeper continuity**: the same handful of leaders, from Oli to Prachanda to Sher Bahadur Deuba, repeatedly rotated in office, entrenching corruption and stalling economic growth.
- **The Maoist insurgency (1996–2006)** and subsequent peace process transformed Nepal into a republic in 2008, but the promise of stable, inclusive governance has not been realised.
- Instead, the **2025 protests reflect a rejection not just of a government, but of an entire political class** perceived as self-serving and unaccountable.

### India's Role and Regional Implications

- **India**, often accused of meddling in Nepal's affairs, has **so far responded with restraint**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's congratulatory call to Sushila Karki signalled goodwill** without overt interference.
- Given the turbulence across South Asia, **stability in Nepal is in India's interest**.
- A **fair and peaceful electoral process would serve as a counter-example to the democratic backsliding** seen in neighbouring states.

### Conclusion

- Nepal's **current phase of political transition encapsulates both the promise and peril of generational change** in South Asia.
  - The **March 2026 elections will be decisive: if conducted fairly, they could herald a new era of accountable governance**; if undermined by opportunism or constitutional adventurism, they risk plunging Nepal back into cycles of instability.
-