



WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Coverage of

01 May - 07 May, 2026

★★ Useful for ★★

**UPSC ESE, PSUs,
RRB, SSC, Banking &
State Services Exams**

PULITZER PRIZE 2026



Natalie
Obiko



Anand
Radhakrishnan



Suparna
Sharma

1st MAY, 2026

International Workers' Day

- **Context:** May 1 is observed as the International Workers' Day, commonly known as Labour Day.

About International Labour Day

- Also referred to as May Day, in some regions it is observed on the first Monday of May.
- The day serves to acknowledge the social and economic contributions of workers and to draw attention to the continuing fight for workers' rights and fair labour conditions globally.
- The origins of International Labour Day date back to the late 19th-century labour movement in the United States. On May 1, 1886, workers across America launched a strike demanding an eight-hour workday, May 1 was chosen to commemorate the strike.
- In India, the first Labour Day celebration was held in Chennai (then Madras) in 1923 by the Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan.
- Canada's first Labour Day celebration took place in 1872, nearly a decade before the United States officially recognised it.

About International Labour Organisation (ILO)

- It is a United Nations Agency established in 1919 as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I, and it became the first specialized agency of the UN in 1946.
- India became a founding member of the ILO in 1919, even before gaining independence.
- It has 187 Member states.
- It sets labour standards, develops policies and devises programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.
- It is the only tripartite U.N. agency that brings together governments, employers and workers.
- It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Women and Men in India 2025' Report

- **Context:** The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released the 27th edition of its publication titled "Women and Men in India 2025: Selected Indicators and Data".

Key Highlights

- It provides a comprehensive statistical overview of gender-related conditions in India using official data from multiple ministries and agencies.
- It brings together gender-disaggregated data across major areas such as population, education, health, economic participation, decision-making, and violence against women.
- It Includes 50 key indicators with detailed metadata, explaining definitions, sources, and methods to improve transparency and understanding.
- It presents data across rural-urban areas, States/UTs, and over time, allowing comparison and tracking of trends in gender gaps.
- **Sex ratio:** The sex ratio at birth has increased at the all-India level, indicating improved survival of females reaching from 904 in 2017-19 to 917 in 2021-23.
- **Infant mortality rate:** Infant mortality rate for both female and male infants has recorded a pronounced and sustained decline between 2008 and 2023.
- Gender parity has been achieved across all levels of school education from Primary to Higher Secondary level.
- Gross Enrolment Ratio at Higher Education has improved from 28.5 to 30.2 for females and 28.3 to 28.9 for males between 2021-22 and 2022-23.
- **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR):** There has been an increase in LFPR for ages 15 and above for both men and women. Rural females have seen the highest increase in LFPR, going from 37.5 percent to 45.9 percent during the period 2022 to 2025.
- **Leadership roles:** There has been a 73.80 percent increase in Men engaged in managerial positions between 2017 and 2025. There has been a 102.54 percent increase in Women engaged in managerial positions during the same time period.

Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) 2.0 Report

- **Context:** The Ministry of Panchayati Raj released the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) 2.0 Report (FY 2023–24) on National Panchayati Raj Day (24 April 2026).

Key Highlights

- **97.3% participation:** Over 2.59 lakh Gram Panchayats across 33 States/UTs participated by submitting validated data.
- 3,635 Panchayats classified as Front Runners
- 1.18 lakh Panchayats (≈45.7%) fall under Performer category
- **Top performing themes:**
 - Poverty-free & enhanced livelihoods
 - Healthy Panchayats

About PAI 2.0

- PAI 2.0 is India's first nationwide data-driven framework to assess Gram Panchayat performance, using 150 indicators and 230 data points.
- It is aligned with the Localization of Sustainable Development Goals and evaluates Panchayats across nine key areas including poverty, health, child welfare, water, environment, infrastructure, social justice, good governance, and women's empowerment.
- Based on their composite PAI scores, Gram Panchayats are classified into five performance categories - Achiever (A+: 90 and above), Front Runner (A: 75 to below 90), Performer (B: 60 to below 75), Aspirant (C: 40 to below 60), and Beginner (D: below 40) - enabling meaningful benchmarking, healthy competition, and targeted interventions at the grassroots level.

2nd MAY, 2026

Goods and Services Tax (GST) Revenue

- **Context:** The government's Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue in April 2026 surged to an all-time high of Rs 2.43 lakh crore, up 8.7% over April last year.

Key Facts

- The growth was once again driven by collections on imports, with revenue from domestic sales growing slower.
- Collections in April typically come in higher as both industry and the tax administration make a final push to achieve the financial year-end targets.

About Goods and Services Tax

- The GST was introduced in 2017 by the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016 as a comprehensive indirect tax for the entire country.
- It is a destination-based tax on consumption of goods and services.
- It is levied at all stages right from manufacture up to final consumption. Only value addition will be taxed and the burden of tax is to be borne by the final consumer.
- It accrues to the State or the Union Territory where the consumption takes place. It is of 3 types:
 - **Central GST (CGST):** Levied by the Center.
 - **State/Union Territory GST (SGST/UTGST):** Levied by States or UTs.
 - **Integrated GST (IGST):** Tax levied and collected by the Center on all inter-state supplies of goods and/or services. The Center settles accounts with the States/UTs by transferring the SGST/UTGST portion of IGST to the destination state where goods/services were consumed.
- Three slabs for taxes for both goods and services: 5%, 18% and 40%.
- Different tax slabs were introduced because daily necessities could not be subject to the same rate as luxury items.
- The GST Council is a constitutional body under Article 279A.
 - It is a federal body comprising the Union Finance Minister as its Chairman and Finance Ministers of all States as members.
 - The GST Council members take almost all decisions on GST with consensus.

- **Exempted Items:** The GST applies to all goods other than alcoholic liquor for human consumption and five petroleum products (common for the Center and the States): petroleum crude, motor spirit (petrol), high speed diesel, natural gas, aviation turbine fuel.

GST 2.0 Reforms

- **Simpler Tax Structure:** The move to a three-slab GST regime (5%, 18% and 40%) reduces complexity, classification disputes, and compliance costs.
- **MSME and Startup Enablement:** Faster refunds, simplified registration and returns, and lower input costs aim to boost the present businesses and startups and incentivise the youth to enter into businesses and initiate startups.
- **Wider Tax Base and Revenue Stability:** Simpler rates and improved compliance have expanded the GST taxpayer base to over 1.5 crore, while gross collections also increased, reinforcing fiscal sustainability.

Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2026

- **Context:** The government has notified the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2026, introducing revised provisions related to Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders and citizenship applications.

Key Facts

- The Ministry of Home Affairs has made changes to the Citizenship Rules, 2009.
- It has introduced a digital shift across various processes for Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders and citizenship applications.

Key Provisions

- A minor child cannot, at any time, hold the passport of any other country while also holding an Indian passport.
- All applications for OCI card registration and renunciation will now be submitted electronically through the official portal.

- On the declaration of renunciation of OCI status, individuals must surrender the original physical card to the nearest Indian Mission, Post, or Foreigners Regional Registration Officer.
- The government has also removed the previous requirement for applicants to submit documents in duplicate and introduced electronic OCI (e-OCI), under which registered individuals may now be issued either a physical OCI card or an electronic OCI registration.
- OCI applicants will now have to sign a new consent form to opt into the Fast Track Immigration Programme by agreeing to the collection of their biometric information during registration.

About OCI Scheme

- The OCI scheme was introduced through an amendment to the Citizenship Act, 1955, in 2005.
- The scheme provides for the registration of Persons of Indian Origin as Overseas Citizens of India, provided they were citizens of India on or after 26th January 1950, or were eligible to become citizens on that date.
- However, individuals who are or have been or whose parent, grandparent or great-grandparent was a citizen of Pakistan or Bangladesh are not eligible.

Sikkim: India's First Paperless Judiciary State

- **Context:** The Chief Justice of India, Surya Kant, declared Sikkim as the first paperless judiciary state in India. It marks a shift towards a faster, transparent, and technology-driven justice system, where e-filing and digital case management enhance efficiency and access to justice, especially in remote areas, aligning with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

High Courts in India

- The institution of the High Court originated in India in 1862 when the high courts were set up at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

- At present, there are 25 High Courts in India, with some having jurisdiction over more than one State/UT. Union Territories like Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh have their own High Courts.
- Articles 214 to 231 (Part VI) of the Constitution deal with their organisation, powers, and jurisdiction.

3rd MAY, 2026

Mission Drishti

- **Context:** Indian space start-up GalaxEye has launched Mission Drishti, the world's first OptoSAR satellite, aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from California in the United States.

Key Facts

- Mission Drishti is an Earth observation satellite Weighing 190 kilograms.
- It is the first satellite globally to integrate Electro-Optical (EO) and Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) sensors into a single operational platform, enabling all-weather, day-and-night imaging capabilities. The satellite carries both a multispectral camera and a SAR imager for enhanced data analysis.
- Mission Drishti provides high-resolution imaging, with future satellites aiming for sub-metre resolution.
- **Significance:** It is a dual-use satellite, supporting both civilian and defence applications.
- **Key applications** include agriculture monitoring, disaster management, maritime surveillance, and infrastructure mapping.

SACHET Emergency Alert System

- **Context:** India has launched the SACHET emergency alert system using indigenous cell broadcast technology to send instant disaster warnings.

About Cell Broadcast

- It is a one-to-many mobile messaging system that sends short alerts to all phones in a specific geographic area at the same time. Unlike SMS, it

does not target individual numbers, so it can deliver messages instantly even during network congestion.

- It was developed in the early 1990s by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) and first demonstrated in 1997 in Paris, it is now widely used in over 30 countries.
- Cell Broadcast is used to send fast, reliable emergency alerts to people in specific areas during disasters like earthquakes, floods, cyclones, storms, heatwaves, and industrial accidents such as gas leaks or chemical incidents. The primary objective is to shift India's disaster management from a reactive to a proactive.

Advantages of cell broadcast system

- Cell Broadcast does not use personal data and does not require phone numbers, apps, or subscriptions.
- It delivers loud, attention-grabbing alerts that override normal phone activity, including silent or Do Not Disturb modes, and the message stays on screen until acknowledged.
- It is used very sparingly for life-threatening emergencies such as earthquakes, flash floods, landslides, dam breaks, and other major disasters, and is only sent to people in the affected area.

UPI: 10 Glorious Years

- **Context:** The Unified Payments Interface has completed 10 years since its launch in April 2016.

About UPI

- UPI is a real-time payment system that enables users to link multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application, allowing seamless fund transfers and merchant payments.
- It was launched by the National Payments Corporation of India under the regulatory oversight of the Reserve Bank of India.
- The system integrates multiple banking features into a single interoperable platform, enabling instant transactions across banks and applications.

Achievements of UPI

- **Transaction Growth:** Annual transactions increased from 2 crore in FY 2016–17 to 24,162 crore in FY 2025–26. In 2025, UPI processed around 22,000 crore transactions, with a daily average of about 60 crore transactions.
- **Bank Participation:** The number of banks onboarded rose from 44 to 703, covering public, private, small finance, payments, and cooperative banks.
- **Global Leadership:** UPI accounts for around 49% of global real-time payment transactions (2024), as recognised by the International Monetary Fund.
- **UPI** has been operationalised internationally, enabling cross-border payments and merchant acceptance in countries such as:
 - **United Arab Emirates:** Widely accepted at merchant locations and used by the Indian diaspora.
 - **Singapore:** Linked with PayNow for seamless cross-border transfers.
 - **France:** Accepted at merchant points, especially for Indian tourists.
 - **Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, and Qatar:** Integrated with local payment systems for real-time transactions.

About NPCI

- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is an umbrella organisation for retail payments and settlement systems in India.
- It was established as an initiative of the Reserve Bank of India and the Indian Banks' Association under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- It operates as a not-for-profit company under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013.
- Key products include Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), National Automated Clearing House (NACH), UPI, RuPay, and Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS).

4th MAY, 2026

Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 Guidelines

- **Context:** The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare released the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 Guidelines at the recently concluded National Summit on Good Practices and Innovations in Public Healthcare Service Delivery.

About Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK)

- It is a program to improve the overall quality of life of children and provide comprehensive care to all the children in the community.
- It involves screening of children from birth to 18 years of age for four Ds- Defects at birth, Diseases, Deficiencies and Development delays, spanning 32 common health conditions for early detection and free treatment and management, including surgeries at tertiary level.
- Children diagnosed with identified health conditions are provided early intervention services and follow-up care at the district level.

Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 Guidelines

- **4Ds approach strengthened:** It broadens the established 4Ds approach – Defects at Birth, Diseases, Deficiencies and Developmental Delays, while incorporating new-age health challenges including non-communicable diseases, mental health conditions, and behavioural concerns.
- **Comprehensive care approach:** It adopts a comprehensive care approach—covering prevention, promotion, and treatment—for children from birth to 18 years, with a stronger focus on digitalization, aiming to support holistic growth beyond mere survival.
- **Screening and Detection:** It expands screening to include developmental disorders, mental health

issues, and risk factors for non-communicable diseases, with services delivered through Mobile Health Teams at Anganwadi Centres and schools to ensure early detection and universal coverage.

- **Digital health:** It strengthens digital health by introducing digital health cards, real-time data systems, and integrated platforms, improving efficiency, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making.
- **Coordination:** It promotes coordination between health, education, and women and child development sectors, using schools, Anganwadi Centres, and community platforms for integrated screening, awareness, and follow-up care.

India–Tanzania Joint Trade Committee

- **Context:** Recently, the 5th session of the India–Tanzania Joint Trade Committee (JTC), held in Dar es Salaam in Tanzania.

About Tanzania

- It is an East African country located just south of the Equator.
- The capital is Dodoma, and Dar es Salaam is the largest city and main port.
- It is bordered by Uganda, Kenya, and Lake Victoria to the north; the Indian Ocean to the east; Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, and Lake Nyasa to the south; and Rwanda, Burundi, and Lake Tanganyika to the west.
- **Geographical features:**
 - Mount Kilimanjaro is located in Tanzania.
 - Mount Kilimanjaro is the African continent's highest peak
 - Tanzania also includes a portion of Lake Victoria, the largest lake in Africa and a source of the Nile River
- Several rivers course through Tanzania, including the Great Ruaha, Rufiji, and Kagera rivers
- Lake Tanganyika, forms the boundary between Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Cooperation with India

- India and Tanzania have strengthened their economic partnership, with bilateral trade reaching \$9.02 billion in 2025–26, up from \$8.64 billion the previous year.
- Both countries agreed to deepen cooperation by improving trade mechanisms, exploring local currency settlements, easing visa processes for businesspersons, and addressing tariff and regulatory barriers
- Key sectors of collaboration include pharmaceuticals, healthcare, mining, agriculture, education, and digital technology.

5th MAY, 2026

Increase in Number of Judges of the Supreme Court

- **Context:** The Union Cabinet approved an increase in the number of judges of the Supreme Court from 34, which includes the Chief Justice of India, to a total 38. The proposal will be implemented through an amendment to the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 in the upcoming session of Parliament.

Constitutional Provisions

- Article 124(1) of the Constitution empowers Parliament to determine and increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court.
- The Constitution originally provided for a Chief Justice of India and not more than seven judges, thereby allowing flexibility for future expansion.
- This constitutional design reflects the need to adapt judicial capacity to changing socio-economic and legal demands.

Evolution of Supreme Court Strength

- The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 initially fixed the strength at 10 judges, excluding the Chief Justice of India.

- The strength was increased to 13 judges through the 1960 amendment and 17 through the 1977 amendment.
- The strength was increased through subsequent amendments and was last increased to 33 (excluding the Chief Justice of India) by 2019 amendment.

Rationale for Increasing Strength

- **Rising Pendency of Cases:** The Supreme Court is currently dealing with more than 92,000 pending cases, indicating a significant backlog. The introduction of e-filing and digital mechanisms after the pandemic has increased the inflow of cases.
- **Judicial Vacancies and Retirements:** Existing vacancies in the Supreme Court have reduced the effective working strength of judges.
- **Expanding Jurisdiction and Workload:** The Supreme Court deals with constitutional matters, appellate jurisdiction, and public interest litigations. The increasing complexity of governance and legal disputes has significantly expanded the Court's workload.
- **Reform Drive:** The need to increase judicial strength has been emphasised by the Law Commission (120th and 245th Reports) and reinforced by the Supreme Court in the All-India Judges Association vs Union of India which recommended higher judge-to-population ratios.

Mission for Cotton Productivity

- **Context:** The Union Cabinet has approved Rs.5659.22 crore for the Mission for Cotton Productivity (2026–27 to 2030–31).

Key Facts

The mission targets stagnant yields, pest vulnerability, quality deficits, and import dependence while positioning India's textile sector as globally competitive through its integrated 5F Vision (Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign).

Key Features of the Mission

- **Implementing agencies:** Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare + Ministry of Textiles, supported by 10 ICAR institutes and CSIR.
- **Coverage:** 140 districts across 14 major cotton-growing states (initial phase)
- **Core focus areas:** Climate-smart seed development, pest-resistant varieties, extra Long Staple (ELS) cotton promotion, mechanization, and ginning quality upgrades. Extra Long Staple cotton (*Gossypium barbadense*), with staple length ≥ 30 mm, is the gold standard in premium textiles. India currently imports it heavily from Egypt and the USA.
- **Targeted outcomes by 2031:** To accomplish the production of 498 lakh bales (170 kg lint each) of cotton by enhancing lint productivity from 440 kg/ha to 755 kg/ha by 2031.
- **Promotion of Kasturi Cotton Bharat** for traceability and certification, targeting trash reduction $< 2\%$ and promotion of natural fibres like flax, ramie, sisal, milkweed, bamboo and banana.

Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP)

- **Context:** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister, has approved the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane for 2026–27 at 365 per quintal for a 10.25% recovery rate.

About Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP)

- FRP is the minimum price mandated by the Government that sugar mills are obligated to pay farmers for their produce.
- The FRP for sugarcane is decided every year by the Centre's Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) headed by the Prime Minister, on the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) after consultation with State Governments and other stake-holders

- The payment of FRP across the country is governed by the Sugarcane Control order, 1966 which mandates payment within 14 days of the date of delivery of the cane, failing which the cane commissioner may act against the miller.
- Failure to clear farmers' due can even lead to the attachment of mill properties.

Mechanism

- The FRP for sugarcane is decided using the same mechanism as the one that is used to calculate the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of 23 other crops.
- However, while the MSP is not legally guaranteed, sugar mills are legally obligated to pay the FRP.
- The FRP is based on the recovery of sugar from the cane.
- Sugar recovery is the ratio between sugar produced versus cane crushed, expressed as a percentage.
- The higher the recovery, the higher is the FRP, and higher is the sugar produced.

6th MAY, 2026

South Coast Railway (SCoR) Zone

- **Context:** The Ministry of Railways has issued the gazette notification constituting the South Coast Railway (SCoR) zone, India's 18th railway zone, headquartered at Visakhapatnam.

Key Facts

- **Formalization:** The Zone was formed under Section 3(4) of the Railways Act, 1989, following a gazette notification.
- **Structure:** The new SCoR zone will consist of the existing Vijayawada, Guntakal, and Guntur divisions, plus a new division formed from the reorganization of the current Waltair division. It will have a total route length of around 3,300 km across Andhra Pradesh and parts of Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

Existing Railway Zones in India

S.No.	Railway Zones	Headquarter
1	Central Railway	Mumbai
2	Eastern Railway	Kolkata
3	East Central Railway	Hajipur
4	East Coast Railway	Bhubaneswar
5	Northern Railway	New Delhi
6	North Central Railway	Allahabad
7	North Eastern Railway	Gorakhpur
8	Northeast Frontier Railway	Guwahati
9	North Western Railway	Jaipur
10	Southern Railway	Chennai
11	South Central Railway	Secunderabad
12	South Eastern Railway	Kolkata
13	South East Central Railway	Bilaspur
14	South Western Railway	Hubli
15	Western Railway	Mumbai
16	West Central Railway	Jabalpur
17	Metro Railway	Kolkata

Pulitzer Prize 2026

- **Context:** Two Indian journalists named Anand RK and Suparna Sharma along with Natalie Obiko Pearson won the Pulitzer Prize 2026 in the Illustrated Reporting and Commentary category for their Bloomberg project 'trAPPed', exposing "digital arrest" fraud in India.

About Pulitzer Prize

- The Pulitzer Prize was established in 1917, named in honour of newspaper publisher Joseph Pulitzer, and is administered by America's Columbia University.
- There are 23 categories. In 22 of them, winners get a certificate and 15,000 US dollars. But only one category, Public Service, gets a gold medal.
- It recognises excellence across journalism, literature and music composition.

7th MAY, 2026

National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) 2024 Reort

- **Context:** According to data released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 13,396 cases were registered under crimes against women and 7,662 under crimes against children in 2024.

Major Findings

- The overall crime rate in India declined by 6% in 2024 compared with 2023 but there was an increase of over 17% in cybercrime cases.
- **Crimes Against Women:** Declined 1.5%, with a rate of 64.6 per lakh population, down from 66.2.
- Deaths due to drug overdose saw a 50% increase in 2024 compared with the previous year, with Tamil Nadu recording most fatalities.
- **Crimes Against Children:** Increased by 5.9%, dominated by kidnapping (40%) and sexual offences (36.9%).
- Economic Offences also showed an increase of 4.6%, with over 2.14 lakh cases registered in 2024.
- **Metropolitan Crime Data:** Delhi recorded the highest number of crimes against women and senior citizens among India's 19 Metro cities in 2024.
 - The Capital additionally topped the country in theft cases, accounting for nearly 30% of all such offences nationally.

About National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)

- It is a government agency responsible for collecting, analyzing, and publishing crime and criminal data in the country.
- It was established in 1986 on the recommendation of the Task Force of the National Police Commission (1977–1981) and the MHA Group of Experts on Crime Records (1985).
- It functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Important NCRB Reports:**

- Crime in India.
- Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India (ADSI).
- Prison Statistics India.
- **Specialized Tools:** CyTrain (training portal for cybercrime investigation); Cri-MAC (Crime Multi-Agency Centre-facilitates inter-agency coordination).

World Migration Report 2026

- **Context:** The International Organization for Migration released the World Migration Report 2026 highlighting that the India–UAE and India–U.S. migration corridors were among the top 10 international migration corridors in 2024.

Key Findings of the Report

- International migrants accounted for 3.7% of the global population in 2024, compared to 2.9% in 1990.
- Around 304 million people were living outside their country of birth by mid-2024.
- The largest migration corridor globally remains Mexico–United States Corridor with nearly 11 million migrants. Other major corridors include: Afghanistan-Iran Corridor, Syria-Türkiye Corridor and Russia–Ukraine Corridor.

India-UAE Migration Corridor

- The India–United Arab Emirates Corridor is the fifth-largest migration corridor globally.
- More than 8 million international migrants live in the United Arab Emirates, constituting nearly 74% of its total population. Indians form the largest migrant community in the UAE, numbering over 3 million.
- The corridor is dominated by labour migration, especially in construction, services, transport, and domestic work sectors.

India-United States Migration Corridor

- The India–United States Corridor is the sixth-largest migration corridor globally. Around 3.2 million Indian migrants were residing in the United States in 2024.

- Indian migrants constitute the second-largest foreign-born group in the U.S. after Mexicans.
- **Indian migration to the U.S. is largely driven by:**
 - Highly skilled professionals.
 - Information technology workers.
 - International students.
 - Healthcare professionals and researchers.

1st International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) Summit 2026

- **Context:** The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched the website and logo for the 1st International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) Summit 2026, in New Delhi.

About International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

- It is an inter-governmental international organisation headquartered in India,
- It was launched in 2023, during the event 'Commemorating 50 years of Project Tiger'. There are 24 member countries, three observer countries, and several other 'range' countries in the alliance.
- It was launched with the aim of conservation of seven big cats – Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar and Puma – with membership of all UN countries/the range countries harbouring the said species and non-range countries where historically these species are not found but interested to support big cat conservation.
- The primary objective of IBCA is to facilitate collaboration and synergy among stakeholders, consolidating successful conservation practices and expertise to achieve a common goal of conservation of big cats at global level. It aims to bolster the conservation agenda, halt the decline in big cat populations, and reverse current trends.

