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Daily News Analysis

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1. Blood Moon and Rayleigh Scattering

- Prelims - Blood Moon and Rayleigh scattering
- Mains - GS 3 - Science and Technology

Why in the news?

- People of Asia and Europe witnessed the Blood Moon incident on September 7th, 2025.

Blood Moon

- **What is it?:**
 - A Blood Moon occurs during a total lunar eclipse, when the Earth comes directly between the Sun and the Moon.
 - Instead of turning completely dark, the Moon appears **reddish** in color.
- **Scientific Reason:** The red tint is due to **Rayleigh Scattering**- Earth's atmosphere filters shorter blue wavelengths and bends the longer red wavelengths towards the Moon.
- **How it happens?:**
 - A **Blood Moon** takes place when the Earth positions itself directly between the Sun and the Moon.
 - Due to a phenomenon known as **Rayleigh scattering**, the Moon appears red rather than turning completely dark.
 - This effect occurs because Earth's atmosphere scatters shorter blue wavelengths while allowing longer red wavelengths to pass through, casting a reddish glow on the Moon.
 - During the **total phase of the eclipse**, the Moon is fully engulfed in the Earth's darkest shadow, called the **umbra**.
 - When inside the umbra, the Moon glows **red-orange**, giving rise to the term "**Blood Moon**."
 - The exact hue- ranging from red to orange or copper- varies depending on **atmospheric conditions** and the level of **light pollution**.



Rayleigh scattering

- What is it?:

→ **Rayleigh Scattering** is the scattering of light (or other electromagnetic radiation) by particles much smaller than the wavelength of light.

- Scientific Basis:

→ Proposed by **Lord Rayleigh (1871)**.

→ Intensity of scattering is **inversely proportional to the fourth power of wavelength**

→ Shorter wavelengths (blue, violet) scatter much more strongly than longer wavelengths (red, orange).

- Key Examples:

→ **Blue Sky:**

★ Sunlight interacts with nitrogen and oxygen molecules in the atmosphere.

★ Blue light scatters more strongly than red light, making the sky appear blue.

→ **Red Sunsets/Sunrises:**

★ When the Sun is low on the horizon, light travels through a greater thickness of the atmosphere.

★ Most shorter wavelengths are scattered away, leaving red/orange hues.

→ **Ocean Color:**

★ Partly due to Rayleigh scattering of light by water molecules (though absorption also contributes).

→ **Blood Moon**



2. Vocal for Local Initiative

- Prelims - Vocal for Local Initiative
- Mains - GS 2 - Governance

Why in the news?

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi pitches Vocal for Local as a path to Viksit Bharat.

Vocal for Local Initiative

- **What is it?:** It is an initiative to **promote local products, artisans, and MSMEs** by encouraging citizens to buy and support indigenous goods and services.
- **Launch:** Launched by **Prime Minister in 2020** during the call for **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan**.
- **Objectives:**
 - **Self-Reliance:** Reduce dependence on imports, strengthen domestic industries.
 - **Employment Generation:** Boost local manufacturing, crafts, and entrepreneurship.
 - **Cultural Promotion:** Encourage use of traditional, GI-tagged, and indigenous products.
 - **Export Potential:** Build globally competitive local brands.
- **Key Features:**
 - Encouragement to buy **Swadeshi products** and adopt “Made in India” brands.
 - Integration with **Atmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India, and Startup India** initiatives.
 - Support for **MSMEs, handicrafts, Khadi, and rural industries**.
 - Campaigns through **Digital India platforms**, e-commerce, and branding.
- **Significance:**
 - Strengthens **domestic value chains** and **resilient supply chains**.
 - Enhances **inclusive growth** by empowering small producers and artisans.
 - Reduces **import dependency**, supporting balance of trade.
 - Builds **national pride** and global recognition of Indian products.



- **Challenges:**

- Quality standardisation and global competitiveness.
- Need for robust marketing and logistics support.
- Risk of protectionism if not aligned with global trade norms.

“Local is not merely a necessity; it is our responsibility towards nation-building.” - PM Narendra Modi



3. Red Sea

- Prelims - Location of Red Sea
- Mains - GS 1 - Geography

Red Sea

Why in the news?

- Undersea cables in Red Sea got damaged, slowing internet access in Asia and Middle east.

Red Sea

- **Location:** The Red Sea is a seawater inlet of the Indian Ocean, **lying between Africa and Asia.**
- **Connects:** Red Sea is connected to Indian ocean through **the Bab el Mandeb strait and the Gulf of Aden in the south.**
- **Features:**
 - To the north lie the Sinai Peninsula, the Gulf of Aqaba, and the Gulf of Suez (leading to the Suez Canal).
 - The sea is underlain by the Red Sea Rift which is part of the Great Rift Valley.
 - **Red Sea is bordered by Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen, Somalia, Israel, and Jordan**

Bab al-Mandab strait
It is strait between Arabia (northeast) and Africa (southwest) that connects the Red Sea(northwest) with the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean (southeast).

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4. The Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025

- Prelims - The Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025
- Mains - GS 3 - Internal Security

Why in the news?

- The Ministry of Home Affairs notified the Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order 2025 in the Gazette of India.

The Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025

- **What is it?:** The act consolidates India's Immigration Laws and impose stricter penalties for forged documents while strengthening monitoring and reporting of foreigners.
- **Replaced Laws:**
 - Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920
 - Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939
 - Foreigners Act, 1946
 - Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Act, 2000
- **Core Provisions:**
 - **Strict penalties for forged documents:** Employing or supplying forged passports, visas, or travel documents may attract **2–7 years imprisonment** and fines up to ₹10 lakh; minimum penalty is **2 years + ₹1 lakh**.
 - **Unauthorized entry** into restricted areas may lead to **up to 5 years jail** or ₹5 lakh fine.
 - **Mandatory reporting:** Hotels, educational institutions, hospitals, and nursing homes must report foreign nationals' details; carriers (airlines, shipping) must share advance passenger/crew data.
 - **Power to regulate premises:** The Central government may shut down premises frequented by foreigners linked to illegal activities.
 - **Statutory status to Bureau of Immigration:** Grants formal authority to identify, detain, and deport illegal foreigners—functions earlier carried informally.



Exemptions Under The Exemption Order, 2025

- Notified under Section 33, the following categories are exempted from passport, visa, or travel document requirements-
 - **Armed Forces & Families:** Members of Indian naval, military, or air forces- and accompanying family members on government transport- are exempt from documentation requirements.
 - **Citizens of India** entering via **Nepal or Bhutan** borders by land or air are exempt.
 - **Citizens of Nepal and Bhutan** entering via their respective borders are exempt- even when traveling to or from other countries, provided entry/exit isn't from China, Hong Kong, Macau, or Pakistan.
 - **Tibetans** with valid **Certificates of Registration** and special entry permits (issued between 1959–2003 via Embassy of India in Kathmandu or thereafter via designated posts) are exempt.
 - **Minority communities** from **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan**- Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians- who entered on or before **December 31, 2024**, due to religious persecution, are exempt, even if their travel documents have expired or are invalid.
 - **Sri Lankan Tamil refugees** who arrived before **January 9, 2015** and are registered are also exempt from documentation requirements.
 - **Other exemptions:** Holders of diplomatic/official passports under intergovernmental agreements, nationals eligible for visa-on-arrival, and foreign naval personnel on goodwill visits, exercises, or relief missions may also be exempted.



5. Sri Narayana Guru

- Prelims - Sri Narayana Guru
- Mains - GS 1 - Modern Indian History

Why in the news?

- Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi pays tribute to Sri Narayana Guru on the occasion of their Birth Anniversary

Sri Narayana Guru

- **Early Life:**
 - Born in 1856 at Chempazhanthy near Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, into the Ezhava community (considered a backward caste).
 - Educated in **Sanskrit, Vedas, Upanishads, and philosophy** under guru Chattampi Swamikal and others.
- **Social Reform Contributions:**
 - **Against Caste Discrimination:** Advocated “One Caste, One Religion, One God for Man.”
 - **Temple Entry & Consecration:** In **1888**, established a Shiva temple at Aruvippuram, challenging Brahmin monopoly over priesthood.
 - Established over **40 temples** across Kerala and Tamil Nadu for oppressed castes.
 - Promoted **universal brotherhood** and inter-caste dining (*Samudaya Bhojanam*).
- **Educational & Institutional Work:**
 - Founded **SNDP Yogam (Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam)** in 1903 with Dr. Palpu and Kumaran Asan to organize the Ezhava community.
 - Emphasized **modern education** for social upliftment, especially among backward castes.
 - Established schools, colleges, and industrial training centers.
- **Philosophy & Teachings:**
 - Advocated **social equality, spiritual enlightenment, and economic progress.**



- Stressed that true religion is rooted in **morality and compassion**, not rituals or caste divisions.
- Inspired Kerala Renaissance and later reformers like Ayyankali and Periyar.
- **Legacy:**
 - His reforms weakened the **caste hierarchy** and laid the foundation for Kerala's progressive social structure.
 - Commemorated by the **Sivagiri Mutt** (established in 1904).
 - His birthday is observed as **Sree Narayana Jayanthi** in Kerala.
 - His ideals influenced the **temple entry movements** and broader social reform across South India.