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EN-BUZZER

Daily News Analysis

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1. Medical Tourism in India

- **Prelims** - Medical Tourism in India
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Economy

Why in the news?

- Medical tourism is increasingly driven by rising healthcare costs abroad and the promise of timely, high-quality treatment back home for millions of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs).

Medical Tourism in India

- **What is it?**: Medical tourism (also called medical travel, health tourism or global healthcare) is a term used to describe the rapidly-growing practice of travelling across international borders to seek healthcare services.
- **Current Status**
 - India ranks among the top 10 medical tourism destinations globally.
 - Market size: Estimated at USD 5–6 billion (2023) with ~2 million foreign patients annually.
 - Major source countries: Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Maldives, African nations, Middle East.
- **Drivers**
 - **Cost Advantage**: Treatments 60–80% cheaper than developed countries.
 - **Quality Healthcare**: Accredited hospitals (JCI, NABH).
 - **Advanced Treatments**: Cardiac surgery, organ transplant, orthopaedics, IVF, oncology.
 - **AYUSH & Wellness**: Yoga, Ayurveda, naturopathy appeal to global patients.
 - **Connectivity**: Air links + e-Medical Visa facility (extended to 165 countries).
 - English-speaking professionals → better communication.
- **Government Initiatives**
 - National Strategy & Roadmap for Medical and Wellness Tourism (2022).
 - e-Medical Visa & M-Visa facilitation.
 - 'Heal in India' campaign: Digital portal for international patients and hospitals.
 - 'Heal by India': To send skilled healthcare professionals abroad.



- AYUSH Visa (2022): For promoting traditional systems.
- Integration with Incredible India 2.0 campaign.

- **Challenges**

- **Infrastructure Gaps:** Metro cities dominate; Tier-II/III underdeveloped.
- **Quality variation:** Not all hospitals meet global standards.
- **Ethical issues:** Malpractices in organ transplants, overcharging risks.
- **Aftercare & Insurance:** Lack of global portability of insurance coverage.
- **Perception hurdles:** Concerns over hygiene, safety, language barriers.
- **Competition:** Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia are also strong players.

- **Way Forward**

- **Expand Quality Infrastructure:** Spread beyond metros; public-private partnerships.
- **Insurance & Financing:** Tie-ups with international insurers; reduce out-of-pocket costs.
- **Global Branding:** Aggressive promotion under Heal in India brand.
- **Integrated Packages:** Blend allopathy + AYUSH + wellness + tourism.
- **Digital Integration:** Single-window online facilitation (treatment, visa, tourism).
- **Regulation & Ethics:** Strong monitoring of pricing, organ transplants, accreditation.
- **Skill Development:** Training interpreters, facilitators, para-medical staff.



2. Sea Level Rise in the Indian Ocean Region

- **Prelims** - Sea Level Rise in Indian Ocean Region
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

Why in the News?

- A study on coral microatolls in Maldives shows sea levels in the central Indian Ocean have been rising since the late 1950s.

Sea Level Rise in Indian Ocean Region

- **What is Sea Level Rise?**: Rise in mean sea level due to thermal expansion of oceans + glacial/ice melt.
- **Causes of Sea Level Rise in Indian Ocean Region**
 - **Thermal Expansion**: IOR is warming at a rate faster than global average since the 1950s.
 - **Glacial Melt**: Contribution from Himalayas, Antarctica, Greenland.
 - **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)**: Variability affects regional sea levels.
 - Land subsidence in deltas (e.g., Ganga–Brahmaputra–Meghna).
 - **Anthropogenic factors**: Coastal reclamation, mangrove destruction.
- **Current Observation**
 - **Rate**: Indian Ocean average rise ≈ 3.7 mm/yr (1993–2020), slightly above global mean.
 - **Hotspots**:
 - ★ Bay of Bengal & Arabian Sea rising faster due to warming & monsoon circulation.
 - ★ Sundarbans: ~ 3 –8 mm/yr rise; severe erosion & submergence.
 - ★ Maldives & Lakshadweep: extreme vulnerability (low-lying atolls).
- **Impacts**
 - **Environmental**
 - ★ Coastal erosion & flooding.
 - ★ Salinisation of soil and groundwater.
 - ★ Loss of mangroves, wetlands, coral reefs.
 - **Socio - Economic**
 - ★ Displacement of coastal populations (“climate refugees”).



- ★ Threat to major cities: Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Kochi.
- ★ Loss of agricultural productivity in deltas (rice, aquaculture).
- ★ Impacts on Blue Economy: ports, fisheries, tourism.

→ **Security Concern**

- ★ Security concerns in Maldives, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka.
- ★ Maritime boundary disputes due to shifting coastlines.

● **Indian Response**

- National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) + State Action Plans.
- National Coastal Mission under NAPCC for coastal ecosystem protection.
- National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR): Monitors shoreline changes.
- National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change (NAFCC).
- Mangrove restoration (Green India Mission).
- Disaster Management Act, 2005 & coastal zone regulations (CRZ).
- International Cooperation:
 - ★ Paris Agreement (2015) → Net-Zero 2070 target.
 - ★ ISA, CDRI, IOC-UNESCO programs.

● **Challenges**

- Limited adaptive infrastructure in small islands.
- Funding gaps for climate-resilient coastal protection.
- Population density in coastal India (~250 million).
- Data & monitoring gaps at micro level.

● **Way Forward**

- Coastal Zone Management Plans with stricter CRZ enforcement.
- Nature-based solutions: mangroves, coral reef restoration, dune stabilisation.
- Climate-resilient infrastructure in ports & coastal cities.
- Regional cooperation under IORA, BIMSTEC for climate adaptation.
- Early warning systems for storm surges & inundation.
- Blue Finance: Use of Green Climate Fund, sovereign green bonds.
- Relocation & livelihood diversification in high-risk zones.



3. Belgium

- Prelims - Location of Belgium
- Mains - GS 2 - International Relations

Belgium



Why in news?

- Belgium become latest nation planning to recognise a Palestinian state.

Belgium

- **Location** - Belgium is a country in North-western Europe
- **Capital** - Brussels
- **Bordering Countries** - Netherlands, Germany, Luxembourg and France
- **Bordering Water Body** - North Sea
- **Climate** - Maritime temperate





4. Burkina Faso

- **Prelims** - Location of Burkina Faso
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Burkina Faso



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Why in news?

- Burkina Faso's junta regime adopts new law banning homosexuality.

Burkina Faso

- **Location:** Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa.
- **Capital:** Ouagadougou
- **Border Countries:** Mali, Niger, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Ivory Coast.
- **Geography:** It is located in Sahel Region (It is transition zone between Sahara and Savana regions).
- **Climate:** Tropical savanna
- **Fact:** The largest ethnic group in Burkina Faso is the **Mossi people**.



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5. Exercise Yudh Abhyas

- **Prelims** - Exercise Yudh Abhyas
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Exercise Yudh Abhyas



Why in the news?

- The 21th edition of "EXERCISE YUDH ABHYAS" commenced at Alaska, USA.

Exercise Yudh Abhyas

- **What is it?:** It is a joint military exercise conducted annually between the armies of India and USA.
- **Origin:** It has been ongoing since 2004.
- **Aim:** It is designed to promote cooperation between the two militaries while sharing training, cultural exchanges, and building joint operating skills.



India - US Exercises

Exercise	Name
Army	• Yudh Abhyas • Vajra Prahar
Navy	• Malabar
Air Force	• Red Flag • COPE India

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6. Assent to Bill

- Prelims - Assent to Bill
- Mains - GS 2 - Polity

Why in the news?

- Three of the five judges on the Presidential Reference Bench orally observed along with the States of Tamil Nadu and West Bengal that Governors cannot sit endlessly over Bills placed before them for assent.

Assent to Bill: Constitutional Provisions

- Governor – Article 200

→ Options

- ★ Assent to Bill
- ★ Withhold Assent
- ★ Return for reconsideration
- ★ Reserve for President's consideration

→ Limitations

- ★ Bound by Council of Ministers' advice (except in limited exceptions).
- ★ No "pocket veto"; actions are judicially reviewable.
- ★ Cannot withhold assent if Bill is re-enacted by Legislature.

- President – Article 201

→ Options

- ★ Assent
- ★ Withhold assent
- ★ Return for reconsideration (not bound even after reconsideration).

→ Limitations

- ★ Not obligated to assent post reconsideration.
- ★ Must seek Supreme Court's opinion under Article 143 for constitutional doubts.

Judicial Intervention: Supreme Court's Judgment

- Heilights

→ **Inaction = Unconstitutional:** Governors/President cannot sit endlessly; "pocket veto" is impermissible.



- **Mandamus Remedy:** States can seek SC direction to compel action.
- **Re-enacted Bills:** Governor cannot re-reserve unchanged bills indefinitely.
- **Timelines Suggested:**
 - ★ Within 1 month if CoM advises assent.
 - ★ Within 3 months if advice is against assent / recommends reservation.
- **No Absolute Discretion:** Subject to judicial review and constitutional morality.

- **Key Issues Clarified**

- Governor is bound by CoM's advice except in narrow exceptions (e.g., HC powers, Concurrent List overlaps).
- President must consult SC before rejecting constitutionally sensitive bills.
- Reinforces cooperative federalism and curbs misuse of discretionary powers.

- **Impacts**

- Strengthens legislative autonomy of States.
- Prevents executive overreach by Governors/President.
- Ensures timely policy implementation and democratic accountability.
- Upholds constitutional federalism and morality in Centre–State relations.