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Daily News Analysis

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1. Morocco

- Prelims - Location of Morocco
- Mains - GS 1 - Geography

Morocco

Why in the news?

- The Morocco witnessed Genz form of protest.

Morocco

- **Location:** Morocco is a country in the Maghreb region of North Africa.
- **Capital:** Rabat
- **Border Countries:** Algeria
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea
- **Associated Geographical Feature:** Border western Sahara to south .
- **Climate:** Mediterranean climate
- **Membership in International Organisation:** African Union (AU), Arab League, Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Non-Aligned Movement.

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2. Madagascar

- Prelims - Location of Madagascar
- Mains - GS 1 - Geography

Madagascar



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Why in the news?

- Madagascar witnessed military coup.

Madagascar

- **Location:** Madagascar is a island country in India Ocean lying off the southeastern coast of Africa.
- **Capital:** Antananarivo
- **Maritime Border Country:** French territory of Réunion, Mauritius, Comoros, French territory of Mayotte and Mozambique.
- **Climate:** Subtropical to tropical maritime climate.
- **International Groupings:** Member of African Union.
- **Fact:** Madagascar is the world's 46th-largest country, the second-largest island country and the fourth-largest island.



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3. Israel–Hamal Ceasefire Impact on Global Trade

- **Prelims** - Israel–Hamal Ceasefire Impact on Global Trade
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Why in the news?

- Israel and Hamas reached a ceasefire under the mediation of the USA and Egypt.

Israel–Hamal Ceasefire and Its Impact on Global Trade

- **Channels of Impact on Global Trade:**
 - **Maritime Route Restoration:**
 - ★ Ceasefire reduces security threats along the Red Sea and Bab-el-Mandeb Strait.
 - ★ Resumption of normal passage through the Suez Canal shortens delivery time and reduces fuel consumption.
 - ★ Enhances reliability and connectivity of Asia–Europe maritime trade.
 - **Lower Freight and Insurance Costs:**
 - ★ Conflict-driven “war-risk” insurance premiums and shipping charges decline.
 - ★ Reduced logistical costs benefit exporters, particularly in low-margin sectors like textiles, marine products, and electronics.
 - **Stabilisation of Energy Prices:**
 - ★ The ceasefire reduces the “geopolitical risk premium” on crude oil prices.
 - ★ Stable oil prices lower global inflationary pressures and ease current account deficits for energy-importing nations.
 - **Revival of Trade Confidence:**
 - ★ Improved predictability in shipping schedules encourages new contracts.
 - ★ Boosts investment confidence in port logistics and supply chain management.
 - **Relief to Developing Economies:**
 - ★ Developing nations dependent on Suez routes witness reduced freight volatility.



★ Improved trade competitiveness enhances export recovery for Asian and African economies.

- **Specific Implications for India:**

- **Reduced Export Costs:** Around 60% of India's Europe-bound trade passes through the Suez Canal. Ceasefire lowers freight and insurance costs, improving export competitiveness.
- **Energy Security:** Lower global oil prices help India reduce its import bill and maintain fiscal stability.
- **Supply Chain Relief:** Indian exporters in sectors such as garments, machinery, and chemicals gain from reduced shipping delays.
- **Strategic Advantage:** Supports India's efforts under the India–Middle East–Europe Corridor (IMEC) initiative for trade diversification and maritime resilience.

- **Limitation:**

- **Fragility of Ceasefire:** Renewed violence or instability in Gaza could again disrupt trade.
- **Regional Actors:** Houthi attacks in Yemen or Iran–Israel tensions may still threaten shipping lanes.
- **Insurance Market Caution:** Full normalisation of premiums may take time.
- **Infrastructure Limitations:** Ports and logistics networks need upgrades to handle sudden trade surges.



4. Pakistan–Afghanistan Conflict and its Implications on India

- **Prelims** - Pakistan–Afghanistan Conflict and its Implications on India
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Why in the news?

- Pakistan - Afghanistan (Taliban) witnesses a war-like situation along the Durand Line.

Pakistan–Afghanistan Conflict and its Implications on India

- **Major Causes of the Conflict:**

- Militant Sanctuaries:**

- ★ Pakistan accuses the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and allied groups of using Afghan territory to launch attacks.
- ★ The Taliban regime denies these claims, calling them internal Pakistani problems.
- ★ Failure of cooperation between intelligence agencies has worsened mistrust.

- Durand Line Dispute:**

- ★ The Durand Line (2,640 km) is recognized by Pakistan as the official border, but Afghanistan rejects its legitimacy.
- ★ Frequent border skirmishes occur due to fencing, new outposts, and encroachments.
- ★ The issue has become a symbol of sovereignty for both nations.

- Cross-Border Strikes and Retaliations:**

- ★ Pakistan has conducted air and drone strikes inside Afghan territory, targeting alleged TTP hideouts.
- ★ Afghanistan has responded with artillery fire and ambushes, claiming to defend its sovereignty.
- ★ Dozens of casualties reported on both sides; key border crossings closed.

- Domestic Political Pressures:**

- ★ Pakistan faces economic crisis, terrorism, and political instability, prompting aggressive posturing.



- ★ Taliban faces legitimacy issues and internal factions, needing to assert independence from Pakistan.

- ★ Both sides use nationalism to consolidate internal support.

- **Implications for India:**

- **Security and Terrorism Risks:**

- ★ Shift in militant movements could divert extremist activity toward India.

- ★ Instability in Pakistan's northwest may increase arms and ideology flow into Jammu & Kashmir.

- ★ Pakistan might use proxy or hybrid warfare to distract from its western troubles.

- ★ India must maintain heightened intelligence and border vigilance.

- **Diplomatic and Regional Leverage:**

- ★ India's re-engagement with Afghanistan through humanitarian aid and development projects strengthens goodwill.

- ★ The crisis weakens Pakistan's standing, giving India diplomatic space in Kabul and Central Asia.

- ★ India can project itself as a stabilizing and humanitarian power in South Asia.

- ★ Potential to expand cooperation with Iran, Russia, and Central Asian nations on regional security and connectivity.

- **Economic and Connectivity Impact:**

- ★ Border tensions disrupt trade and transit corridors linking South and Central Asia.

- ★ India's Chabahar-Central Asia connectivity vision faces obstacles due to instability.

- ★ Pakistan's growing dependence on China and CPEC increases China's strategic footprint near India's borders.

- **Strategic and Military Calculations:**

- ★ Pakistan's western focus could temporarily ease pressure on India's western border.

- ★ However, Pakistan might provoke localized tensions in Kashmir to



divert attention.

- ★ India must pursue strong deterrence with diplomatic restraint to avoid escalation.
- ★ Increased cyber and information warfare expected during crises.

→ **Domestic and Regional Challenges:**

- ★ India's limited leverage in Afghanistan due to absence of a military presence.
- ★ Risk of overextension if India tries to balance multiple strategic fronts simultaneously.
- ★ Need to coordinate with global powers (U.S., China, Russia, Iran) without direct entanglement



5. Green Sea Turtle

- Prelims - Green Sea Turtle
- Mains - GS 3 - Environment

Why in the news?

- According to the IUCN, the global population of green sea turtles has risen by 28% since the 1970s.

Green Sea Turtle

- **Distribution:**
 - Found in tropical and subtropical waters across the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans.
 - Commonly nests on sandy beaches and feeds in shallow coastal waters, lagoons, and seagrass meadows.
- **Features:**
 - The Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) is the largest hard-shelled sea turtle species in the world.
 - The name “green” refers not to its carapace (which is olive to black) but to the green-colored fat beneath its shell.
 - It plays a vital ecological role as a keystone species in tropical marine ecosystems, maintaining healthy seagrass beds and coral reefs.
 - Small head compared to other sea turtles.
 - Modified Beak: Lacks teeth, instead it has strong, serrated jaws adapted to its herbivorous diet.
 - No external ears- eardrums covered by skin and sensitive to low-frequency sounds and has an excellent sense of smell.
 - Spends nearly its entire life underwater, surfacing only to breathe or nest on beaches.
 - Lifespan: Estimated 60–70 years.
 - Natal Homing: Females return to the same beach where they hatched to lay eggs.
 - Nesting occurs mainly at night, with 50–200 eggs per clutch.



- **Ecological Importance:**
 - Acts as a **keystone species** by maintaining **seagrass bed productivity**, ensuring the stability of marine ecosystems.
 - Supports **nutrient cycling** between marine and coastal ecosystems.
- **Threats Faced:**
 - **Coastal development, pollution, fishing net entanglement, climate change, and illegal egg collection.**
 - **Rising sea surface temperatures affect nesting success and sex ratios.**
- **Conservation Status:**
 - **IUCN Red List:** Least Concern
 - **CITES:** Appendix I – International trade prohibited.
 - **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** Schedule I



6. Sugamya Bharat App

- Prelims - Sugamya Bharat App
- Mains - GS 2 - Governance

Why in the news?

- The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, unveiled the revamped 'Sugamya Bharat App' during the Purple Fest held in Goa.

Sugamya Bharat App

- **What is it?:**
 - Sugamya Bharat App is a flagship initiative launched under the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan).
 - It is dedicated to enhancing accessibility for Divyangjan (persons with disabilities) and elderly citizens across India.
- **Launched by:** Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- **Objective:**
 - To create a citizen-led platform for promoting accessibility in public spaces, transportation, and digital services.
 - Aims to make India's physical and digital environments inclusive, barrier-free, and universally accessible.
- **Key Features:**
 - **Accessibility Mapping Function:**
 - ★ Enables users to locate and rate public places (such as offices, parks, transport hubs) based on accessibility parameters.
 - ★ Promotes community-driven data collection and participatory monitoring of accessibility standards.
 - **Consolidated Directory:**
 - ★ Acts as a single-window digital platform integrating information about Government schemes, Scholarships and benefits as well as Employment and skilling opportunities for Divyangjan.
 - ★ Reduces the need to visit multiple government portals.



→ **Curated Job and Education Listings:**

- ★ Provides job and education opportunities curated from both public and private sectors.
- ★ Supports inclusion of persons with disabilities in the workforce and education system.

→ **Grievance Redressal Module:**

- ★ Allows users to register complaints on inaccessible infrastructure or services directly through the app.
- ★ Complaints are routed to concerned authorities, fostering accountability and responsive governance.

→ **Inclusive Design:**

- ★ Compatible with assistive technologies (like screen readers and voice navigation).
- ★ Available in 10 Indian languages to ensure wide accessibility.
- ★ Optimized for both Android and iOS platforms.

→ **AI-Powered Chatbot (Revamped Feature):** A recent update added an AI chatbot for real-time user assistance, guidance on schemes, and quick information retrieval.

● **Significance:**

- Strengthens the goals of Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan, aligning with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- Encourages participatory governance by empowering citizens to identify and resolve accessibility barriers.
- Enhances digital inclusion and data-driven policymaking for accessible infrastructure.