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Daily News Analysis

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1. Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

- **Prelims** - Financial Action Task Force (FATF)
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Financial Action Task Force (FATF)



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Why is it in the news?

- FATF has flagged state sponsorship of terrorism for the first time in its report, reinforcing India's long-standing position regarding Pakistan's role.

Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

- **What is it?:** FATF is a global money laundering and terror financing watchdog setup in 1989.
- **Launch:** It is launched by G7 countries at Paris.
- **Head Quarter:** The FATF Secretariat is located at the OECD headquarters in Paris.
- **Functions:**
 - FATF's main role is to review money laundering and terrorist financing techniques and improve its standards to address new risks, such as regulating virtual assets like cryptocurrencies.
 - FATF also monitors countries to ensure they fully implement the FATF Standards and takes action against those that do not comply.
- **FATF Sessions:**
 - The decision-making body of FATF is called the FATF Plenary, which meets three times a year.
- **Membership:**
 - It is a 39-member body representing most major financial centres in all parts of the globe.
 - India joined with 'observer' status in 2006 and became a full member of FATF in 2010.



• Listing:

- The **Grey List** includes countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering.
- The **Black List** includes Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs) that support terror funding and money laundering activities. As of now, **Iran, North Korea and Myanmar** are the three black listed countries.

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2. Tuvalu

- **Prelims** - Location of Tuvalu
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Geography

Why in the news?

- Tuvalu has officially joined the IUCN as the 90th state member of IUCN.

Tuvalu

- **Location:**
 - Tuvalu is an island country in the west-central Pacific Ocean, situated roughly halfway between Hawaii and Australia.
 - It lies within Polynesia, bordered by Kiribati to the north and Fiji to the south.
- **Area:** Fourth smallest country in the world.
- **Capital:** Funafuti
- **Geological Origin:** Comprises nine small islands and atolls made up of coral reefs and volcanic rock.
- **Topography:** Extremely low-lying and the highest natural point is only 4.5 metres above sea level.
- **Hydrology:** Due to the absence of rivers or streams, they rely on rainwater harvesting and groundwater lenses.
- **Climate:** Hot and humid tropical climate, influenced by El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO).
- **Biodiversity:** Limited terrestrial life, surrounded by rich coral ecosystems vulnerable to bleaching.



3. Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2025 Report

- **Prelims** - Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2025 Report
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Social Justice

Why in the news?

- The latest Global Multidimensional Poverty Index Report of 2025 highlights that almost 80% of the world's poor reside in areas vulnerable to climate-related hazards.

Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2025 Report

- **What is it?:**
 - The Global MPI is an international measure of acute multidimensional poverty that captures multiple deprivations faced by individuals across health, education, and living standards.
 - It was developed in 2010 by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- **Structure of Global MPI:**
 - Has got 10 indicators across three Dimensions-
 - ★ **Health:** Nutrition, and Child Mortality indicators with $\frac{1}{3}$ weightage
 - ★ **Education:** Years of Schooling and School Attendance indicators, each with $\frac{1}{3}$ weightage
 - ★ **Living Standards:** Cooking Fuel, Sanitation, Drinking Water, Electricity, Housing and Assets as indicators, each with $\frac{1}{18}$ weightage.
 - A person is identified as “multidimensionally poor” if they are deprived in at least one-third (33%) of the weighted indicators.
 - MPI ranges from 0 to 1
- **What is new in MPI 2025:**
 - The Global MPI 2025 report introduces a critical new dimension: overlapping hardships of poverty and climate hazards.
 - This marks the first time the MPI has overlaid climate hazard data with multidimensional poverty measurements.
 - The report assessed the exposure to High Heat, Drought, Flood and Air Pollution.



- **Major Findings:**

- **Climate Exposure:** Nearly 80% of poor people face at least one climate hazard.
- **Geographic Distribution:** Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia account for 83.2% of all multidimensionally poor people.
- Lower-middle-income countries are most exposed to climate-poverty overlap.

- **India's Performance:**

- India successfully halved their MPI values within 15 years.
- Nutrition deprivation declined from 44.3% to 11.8% (2005-06 to 2019-21).



4. Atomic Stenciling

- Prelims - Atomic Stenciling
- Mains - GS 3 - Science and Technology

Why in the news?

- In a study published in *Nature*, the Atomic stenciling method allows scientists to craft highly detailed, atomically precise patterns on the surface of nanoparticles.

Atomic Stenciling

- What is it?:
 - Atomic stenciling (also called *atomic-level stenciling*) is a breakthrough nanotechnology technique developed in 2025.
 - Inspired by pottery and art stenciling, the method allows researchers to pattern nanoparticles with atomic precision, creating “patchy nanoparticles” that have multiple functional regions on a single particle surface.
 - This innovation marks a major leap in materials science, nanofabrication, and quantum material engineering.
- Key Features:
 - **Precision:** Achieves atomic-scale patterning on curved nanoparticle surfaces.
 - **Scalability:** Billions of nanoparticles can be patterned in solution at once.
 - **Versatility:** Applicable to different materials (gold, silver, semiconductors).
 - **Speed:** Patterning can be done within hours.
- Applications:
 - **Electronics and Photonics:** Atomic-precision transistors, nano-switches, optical logic circuits.
 - **Quantum Computing:** Patterned quantum dots and tunable nanostructures.
 - **Metamaterials:** Materials with engineered light and sound responses.
 - **Catalysis:** Patterned surfaces enhance reaction selectivity and speed.
 - **Biomedical Science:** Bio-sensing and targeted drug delivery based on surface functionalization.
- Significance:
 - Represents a next-generation approach to nanofabrication- controlling material properties molecule by molecule.



- Bridges chemical self-assembly and physical patterning at the atomic level.
- Offers a bottom-up route to the design of smart, multifunctional materials.
- Opens avenues for *sustainable, customizable* materials in energy, medicine, and electronics.



5. PM SHRI Scheme

- Prelims - PM SHRI Scheme
- Mains - GS 2 - Social Justice

Why in the news?

- The government of Kerala has decided to join the PM SHRI scheme amidst oppositions against the decision.

PM SHRI Scheme

- **What is it?:** PM SHRI stands for Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India, is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to develop the capabilities of the schools in India.
- **Objectives:** To develop more than 14,500 schools across India as exemplary “NEP 2020 model schools”, demonstrating all components of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in an integrated and holistic manner.
- **Key Features:**
 - **Model Schools:** Each PM SHRI School will serve as a “showcase” institution for implementing NEP 2020 reforms- covering pedagogy, assessment, and governance.
 - **Holistic Learning:** Focus on experiential, inquiry-based, and competency-based learning, integrating art, sports, and technology.
 - **Digital Transformation:** Use of smart classrooms, digital labs, and ICT-based teaching tools.
 - **Skill Integration:** Emphasis on 21st-century skills, vocational education, and local crafts.
 - **Assessment Reforms:** Continuous and comprehensive evaluation aligning with the new National Curriculum Framework (NCF).
 - **Community and Parental Participation:** Strengthened school-community linkages for inclusive governance.
 - **Green and Inclusive Infrastructure:**
 - ★ Environment-friendly buildings (solar panels, LED lighting, rainwater harvesting).
 - ★ Disabled-friendly facilities (Divyang-accessible).



- **Scheme Implementation:**

- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy).
- **Coverage:** Around **14,500 schools** (both existing Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, State Government and Local Body schools).
- **Selection Criteria:**
 - ★ Based on transparent parameters via **U-DISE+ data**.
 - ★ Maximum **two schools per block/urban body** (one elementary, one secondary/senior secondary).
- **Funding Pattern:**
 - ★ **60:40** between Centre and States/UTs (except NE & Himalayan states – **90:10**, UTs – **100% Centre**)
- **Duration:** Implemented over **5 years (2022-23 to 2026-27)**.

- **Expected Outcomes:**

- Serve as lighthouse institutions for other schools.
- Enhance student learning outcomes, digital literacy, and sustainability awareness.
- Promote foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN), vocational exposure, and inclusive education.
- Strengthen India's progress toward SDG-4 (Quality Education) and the Viksit Bharat @2047 vision.