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**Daily News
Analysis**

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1. Vande Mataram

- **Prelims** - Vande Mataram
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Modern India

Why in the news?

- National Song Vande Mataram completes 150 years of its origin.

Vande Mataram

- **Author:** Written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1875.
- **Publication:** First appeared in his 1882 novel **Anandamath**- a nationalist work depicting Hindu monks' revolt against foreign rule.
- **Language:** Written in **Sanskritised Bengali**.
- **Musical Composition:** Music composed by **Rabindranath Tagore**.
- **Role in Freedom Struggle:**
 - First sung in the Calcutta Session of the Indian National Congress in 1896.
 - Became a rallying cry during the Swadeshi Movement (1905-11) after the Partition of Bengal.
 - Symbolised unity, sacrifice, and resistance against British colonialism.
 - Widely used in slogans, protests, and revolutionary writings and evoked emotional and spiritual nationalism.
- **Constitutional Status:**
 - The Constituent Assembly adopted **the first two stanzas** as the **National Song** in 1948, recognising their inclusive and non-communal nature.
 - **Article 51A(a)** (Fundamental Duties) urges citizens to respect the National Anthem and National Song.
 - No specific law mandates singing it, but public respect is expected as per **Supreme Court and MHA guidelines**.

2. Volcanic Lightning

- **Prelims** - Volcanic Lightning
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Geography

Why in the news?

- Volcanoes generate electrical discharges while eruption, known as the Volcanic lightning.

Volcanic Lightning

- **What is it?:**
 - Volcanic lightning, also known as dirty thunderstorm is a natural electrical discharge that occurs within or near a volcanic ash plume during an eruption.
 - It combines two natural phenomena- volcanic eruptions and lightning, resulting in a spectacular yet dangerous display of atmospheric electricity.
- **Mechanism of Formation:**
 - Volcanic lightning originates from ash, rock fragments, and ice within an eruption column.
 - The main charging mechanisms include:
 - ★ **Triboelectric charging:** Friction between ash particles, rock fragments, and ice crystals causes charge separation.
 - ★ **Fragmentation charging:** Breaking apart magma and rocks during eruption releases charged particles.
 - ★ **Induction charging:** Rising plume interacts with the Earth's electric field.
 - Once charge separation reaches a critical point, electrical discharge (lightning) occurs- similar to thunderstorms.
- **Scientific Importance:**
 - Provides insight into **ash plume dynamics** and **eruption intensity**.
 - Helps volcanologists **map eruption columns** when visibility is low.
 - Lightning detection networks can be used as an **early-warning system** for eruptions.

3. Degradation of Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) in India

- **Prelims** - Degradation of Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) in India
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

Why in the news?

- A detailed study conducted by ICAR scientists found that Climate change and unsustainable fertilizer use has effected loss of natural soil Carbon.

Degradation of Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) in India

- **Soil Organic Carbon (SOC):**
 - It refers to the carbon component of organic compounds present in soil, derived from decayed plants, animals, and microorganisms.
 - It is a key indicator of soil health, fertility, and ecosystem productivity.
- **Significance of SOC:**
 - Enhances soil structure, aeration, and water retention.
 - Acts as a nutrient reservoir (N, P, S).
 - Supports microbial diversity and soil biota.
 - Major carbon sink, contributing to climate change mitigation.
 - Influences agricultural productivity and food security.
- **Key Findings of the ICAR Study 2025:**
 - Declining SOC in arable lands, particularly Indo-Gangetic plains and central India.
 - Unscientific fertilizer use, reduced organic inputs, and climate stress are primary causes.
 - Soils of forest and hilly regions maintain comparatively higher SOC.
 - Average SOC stock in Indian soils: less than 0.5%, far below the desired 1–1.5% for healthy soils.
- **Causes of SOC Degradation:**
 - **Intensive Agriculture:** Overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides as well as poor incorporation of organic matter.
 - **Deforestation and Land-Use Change:** Conversion of forests to croplands/pasture reduces biomass input to soil.

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- **Erosion and Degradation:** Topsoil loss through wind and water erosion removes carbon-rich layers.
- **Monocropping & Reduced Crop Residue Return:** Limits organic input and microbial activity.
- **Climate Change:** Rising temperatures and erratic rainfall accelerate decomposition and oxidation of SOC.
- **Restoration Strategies:**
 - **Adoption of Conservation Agriculture:** Minimum tillage, crop rotation, residue retention.
 - **Organic and Integrated Nutrient Management:** Compost, farmyard manure, biochar, green manuring
 - **Agroforestry and Afforestation:** Enhances biomass and carbon input.
 - **Soil Health Management Scheme:** Promotes balanced fertilizer use and organic carbon restoration.
 - **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA):** Focus on soil health, carbon sequestration, and water-use efficiency.
 - **Carbon Farming and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES):** Incentivises farmers to enhance SOC stocks.
- **Global and National Initiatives:**
 - **UN's "4 per 1000" Initiative (COP 21):** Aims to increase global SOC by 0.4% annually to offset CO₂ emissions.
 - **ICAR's Long-Term Fertilizer Experiments (LTFe).**
 - **National Soil Health Card Scheme (2015).**
 - **Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati Yojana (BPKP)** under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana promotes natural carbon-enriching practices.

4. Vietnam

- **Prelims** - Location of Vietnam
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Vietnam

Why in news?

- The 15th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue held in Hanoi.

Vietnam

- **Location:** Vietnam is a country in Southeast Asia located in Indochinese Peninsula.
- **Capital:** Hanoi
- **Border Countries:** China, Laos and Cambodia.
- **Maritime Borders**
 - Thailand through the Gulf of Thailand
 - Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia through the South China Sea.
- **River Delta:** Red river delta, Mekong river delta
- **Climate:** Tropical Climate
- **Associated Groupings:** ASEAN, Non Alignment Movement
- **Island Dispute:** Sporadic island dispute with China



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5. Myanmar

- **Prelims** - Location of Myanmar
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Myanmar



Why in the news?

- India airlifts 197 citizens rescued from cybercrime centers in south Myanmar.

Myanmar

- **Capital:** Naypyidaw
- **Border Countries:** Bangladesh, India , China, Thailand, and Laos.
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** Bay of Bengal.
- **Indian States Bordering Myanmar :** Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.
- **International Groupings:** Myanmar is a member of the East Asia Summit, Non-Aligned Movement, ASEAN, and BIMSTEC.
- **Major River:** Irrawaddy river flow from north to south known for **Irrawaddy dolphins**.





6. Unemployment in India

- **Prelims** - Unemployment in India
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Economy

Why in the news?

- India's unemployment rate fell to 5.2% during July–September, down from 5.4% in the preceding quarter.

Unemployment in India

- **Definition:** The International Labour Organisation (ILO) defines an unemployed person as someone who is at least 15 years old and meets the three given criteria - Being without a job is being unemployed, being open to taking a job, actively involved in the job search.
- **Types of Unemployment:**
 - **Disguised Unemployment:** It is a phenomenon wherein more people are employed than actually needed.
 - **Seasonal Unemployment:** Unemployment that occurs in certain seasons of the year.
 - **Structural Unemployment:** Arising from the mismatch between jobs available in the market and the skills of the available workers in the market.
 - **Cyclical Unemployment:** Arising during recessions and declining during economic growth.
 - **Technological Unemployment:** Loss of jobs due to changes in Technology.
 - **Frictional Unemployment:** It is the period wherein a person remains unemployed after resigning from one job and searching for another one.
 - **Vulnerable Unemployment:** People working informally, without proper job contracts.
- **Causes of Unemployment in India**
 - **Demographic Factors:**
 - ★ **Large and Growing Population:** India's population creates immense pressure on the job market.
 - **Skill Mismatch:**
 - ★ **Education System Focus:** The education system emphasizes rote learning and theoretical knowledge over practical skills and industry-specific training.

★ **Skill Gaps:** This mismatch can leave graduates unprepared for the jobs available, leading to unemployment despite having educational qualifications.

→ **Economic Factors:**

★ **Slow Economic Growth:** This can be due to various factors like global economic slowdowns or insufficient domestic investment.

★ **Informal Sector Dominance:** Almost 93% of India's workforce is in the informal sector, which often lacks job security and social benefits.

→ **Structural Issues:**

★ **Labour Market Rigidities:** Strict labor laws and regulations can sometimes discourage hiring new employees, hindering job creation.

★ **Limited Job Mobility:** Social factors or lack of awareness about opportunities in different regions can restrict worker mobility.

→ **Other Factors:**

★ **Automation and Technological Advancements:** Technology can automate some existing tasks, potentially displacing workers in certain sectors.

★ **Discrimination:** Discrimination based on caste, gender, religion, or other factors can limit employment opportunities for certain groups.

● **Government initiatives to tackle unemployment**

→ **National Employment Policy:** Reforms to attract enterprises and help MSME.

→ **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)** Providing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

→ **Startup India, Make in India and Stand up India**

→ **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana**: To encourage entrepreneurs to set up micro units.

→ **Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gramin Kaushal Yojana** was launched to cater to rural youth employment opportunities through skill development.

→ **SETU (Self Employment and Talent Utilisation)** is a techno-financial, incubation and facilitation programme to support start-up businesses.

→ **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)**: Innovation promotion platform to foster a culture of innovation, R&D and scientific research.

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- **National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM):** Aajeevika is designed as a special programme for rural development.
- **Ease of Doing Business:** Rank improved through introduction of Labour codes, Industry codes and Infrastructure development.

- **What can be done?**

- **Increased industrialization:** Through Make in India, Startup India, Stand Up India, Production linked incentive scheme and attracting FDIs.
- **Improved infrastructure in agriculture:** Better irrigation facilities, farming equipment, dissemination of knowledge.
- **Emphasis on skill development:** NEP 2020, Vocational schools, PMKVY.
- **Encouraging self-employment:** Introduction of liability free loans and government assistance for funding. Examples: AIM, PLI scheme and MUDRA loans
- **Inviting larger capital investments:** Through FDIs and FIIs.

7. Angola

- **Prelims** - Location of Angola
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

Angola



Why in the news?

- Angola has come forward to partner with India in some "very critical" areas of cooperation like renewable energy, wildlife conservation and management, and biofuels during Indian President visit.

Angola

- Location:** Angola is located in southwestern Africa.
- Capital:** Luanda
- Bordering Countries:** Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia, Namibia
- Ocean:** Share border with Atlantic Ocean.
- Rivers:** Zambezi and Okavango systems.
- Desert Region:** Southwest Angola is part of the Namib Desert.

