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Daily News Analysis

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1. Botswana

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

Botswana

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Why in the news?

- India and Botswana formally announced the translocation of eight cheetahs from the African nation during the state visit of President Droupadi Murmu.

Botswana

- **Location:** Botswana is a landlocked country in Southern Africa.
- **Capital:** Gaborone
- **Border Countries:** South Africa, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- **Geography Feature:** Kalahari Desert.
- **River:** Zambezi River
- **International Grouping:** African Union

ANGOLA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Maun Masunga Francistown Serowe Mahalapye Molepolole Mochudi Gaborone Kanyo Tsoabong

Kalahari Desert

200 km

7994058393
www.enliteias.com enliteias@gmail.com

2. Iraq

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

Iraq

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Why in the news?

- Incumbent Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani has scored a big win in general elections

Iraq

- **Location:** West Asia
- **Capital:** Baghdad
- **Border Countries:** Turkey, Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria.
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** Persian Gulf
- **Major River:** Tigris, Euphrates
- **Geographical Features:** Zagros mountain range and eastern part of the Syrian Desert.
- **Climate:** Iraq has a hot arid climate with subtropical influence.
- **International Groupings:** Arab League, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

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3. Export Promotion Mission

- Prelims - Export Promotion Mission
- Mains - GS 3 - Economy

Why in the news?

- The Centre approved an Export Promotion Mission with an outlay of 25,060 crore for six financial years.

Export Promotion Mission

- **What is it?:** Announced in the **Union Budget 2025-26**, Export Promotion Mission is a flagship initiative designed to foster **broad-based, inclusive, and sustainable export growth** from **FY 2025 to FY 2031**, moving beyond traditional strategies to address exporter challenges- particularly for MSMEs.
- **Implementing Agency:** Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry in collaboration with Ministries of MSME and Finance, ensuring coordinated effort across financial, industrial, and export policies
- **Objectives:**
 - Address **liquidity constraints and export finance** by enhancing access to export credit, introducing cross-border factoring, and devising flexible trade finance tools.
 - Aid **MSMEs in overcoming non-tariff barriers (NTBs)** and enhancing global competitiveness.
 - Reinforce the global image of Indian exports through “**Brand India**” and support exporters via interest subsidy schemes, credit facilities, and trade assistance.
 - Promote **districts as export hubs**.
- **Funding and Duration:** Backed by a substantial **support package of approximately ₹25,000 crore**, earmarked to bolster exports over six financial years (2025–31).
- **Key Features:**
 - **Integration of Schemes:** Brings together various existing schemes like RoDTEP (Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products), RoSCTL, Interest Equalization Scheme, etc.
 - **Districts as Export Hubs (DEH):** Each district to identify niche products and create export action plans.



- **Digital Export Promotion:** Leveraging e-commerce and digital platforms for global outreach.
- **Market Diversification:** Expanding trade to Africa, Latin America, and ASEAN, reducing dependency on traditional markets.
- **Capacity Building:** Training exporters, simplifying procedures, and ensuring ease of doing business.
- **Flagship Schemes:**
 - **Niryat Protsahan:** Includes ~₹5,000 crore in interest equalisation support over six years, trade finance facilities like exporter credit cards, and other liquidity-enhancing mechanisms
 - **Niryat Disha:** A newly introduced initiative.
- **Significance:**
 - Accelerates **rollout in the wake of global trade challenges**, such as heightened U.S. tariffs, providing timely support to trade corridors.
 - Acts as a safeguard and stimulus for exporters by encouraging **export diversification**, promoting new **FTAs**, and leveraging **domestic demand**—thus cushioning against geopolitical shocks.
 - Helps India **achieve \$1 trillion in merchandise exports by 2030** and reduce trade deficits with major economies.



4. Riverbank Erosion

- **Prelims** - Riverbank Erosion
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Geography

Why in the news?

- The Brahmaputra, Teesta, and Dharla rivers have become unpredictable, eroding land faster than ever before.

Riverbank Erosion

- **Definition:** Riverbank erosion refers to the removal of soil and sediment from riverbanks due to the flowing water's hydraulic action, leading to bank failure, channel migration, and loss of land. It is a fluvial geomorphic process.

- **Causes of Riverbank Erosion**

→ Natural Factors

- ★ **Hydraulic Action & River Velocity:** High discharge, meandering rivers, and steep gradients.
- ★ **Sediment Load Fluctuations:** Excess or deficit of sediment alters erosive capacity.
- ★ **Bank Material:** Loose alluvium, sand, silt, peat, or unconsolidated deposits.
- ★ **Floods & Flash Floods:** Sudden rise in water volume accelerates bank collapse.
- ★ **Meandering & Channel Migration:** Erosion on concave banks; deposition on convex banks.
- ★ **Seasonality:** Monsoon-driven rivers (e.g., Brahmaputra, Ganga) show peak erosion during rainy seasons.

→ Anthropogenic Factors

- ★ Deforestation & removal of riparian vegetation.
- ★ Sand mining, often illegal.
- ★ Unplanned embankments altering river flow.
- ★ Construction near riverbanks (roads, settlements, infrastructure).
- ★ Dams & barrages modifying downstream sediment flow.



- ★ Climate Change: Increased frequency of extreme rainfall, glacial melt, altered discharge patterns.

- **Regions of Severe Riverbank Erosion in India**

- **Brahmaputra River Basin (Assam):** Majuli island shrinking; severe bank line retreat.
- **Ganga River Basin:** Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh.
- Padma–Ganga confluence in West Bengal.
- Kosi River ("Sorrow of Bihar") — notorious for frequent avulsions.
- Mahanadi Delta (Odisha) and Godavari–Krishna deltas (Andhra Pradesh).
- Yamuna riverfront near Delhi–Agra region.

- **Impacts of Riverbank Erosion**

- **Social Impacts**

- ★ Displacement of populations: e.g., erosion-induced migrants in Assam and Bihar.
- ★ Loss of homes, livelihoods, agricultural land.
- ★ Migration, poverty, and social vulnerability.

- **Economic Impacts**

- ★ Loss of fertile alluvial land and crops.
- ★ Damage to infrastructure: roads, bridges, embankments, schools.
- ★ Increased disaster-management costs.

- **Environmental Impacts**

- ★ Alteration of river morphology, delta shrinkage.
- ★ Loss of riparian ecosystems and biodiversity.
- ★ Increased sedimentation downstream, affecting wetlands and deltas.

- **Strategic Dimensions**

- ★ Triggering border instability (e.g., India-Bangladesh enclaves invited issues earlier).

- **Measures to Control and Mitigate Riverbank Erosion**

- **Engineering Measures**

- ★ Embankments, spurs, revetments, gabions.
- ★ Geotextile tubes and geo-bags for bank protection.
- ★ Channel training works to control meandering.



★ Dredging (selective and micro-managed).

→ **Ecological / Bio-engineering Measures**

★ Riparian vegetation restoration (willow, vetiver grass).

★ Riverfront buffer zones.

★ Afforestation in catchments to reduce silt load.

→ **Policy & Management Measures**

★ Regulated sand mining (based on scientific assessments).

★ River Basin Management approach – holistic, multi-state coordination.

★ Early warning systems, satellite-based erosion monitoring (NRSC, Bhuvan).

★ Relocation and compensation policies for erosion-affected communities.

★ Ban on construction within floodplains (as per NGT guidelines).



5. Tuberculosis and Findings of the WHO Global TB Report 2025 About India

- **Prelims** - Tuberculosis
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology

Why in the news?

- As per recent Global TB Report 2025 published shows tuberculosis incidence falling in India by 21% a year

Tuberculosis

- **Cause**: Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.
- **Affecting Body Part**: Primarily affects the lungs (pulmonary TB) but can infect brain, kidneys, bones (extrapulmonary TB).
- **Symptoms**
 - Persistent cough >2–3 weeks.
 - Fever, night sweats.
 - Weight loss, fatigue.
 - Chest pain, coughing blood (hemoptysis).
- **Transmission**: Spread through airborne droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- **Test to Detect**
 - Sputum smear microscopy (Ziehl-Neelsen staining).
 - Culture (gold standard).
 - CBNAAT/NAAT (e.g., GeneXpert, TrueNat) – detects MTB + Rifampicin resistance.
 - Line Probe Assay (LPA).
 - Mantoux test / Tuberculin Skin Test (TST).
- **Treatment**: TB is a treatable and curable disease. It is treated with a standard 6-month course of 4 antimicrobial drugs that are provided with information, supervision and support to the patient by a health worker or trained volunteer.

Findings of the WHO Global TB Report 2025 About India

- TB incidence in India declined by 21%



- ★ From 237 per lakh (2015) → 187 per lakh (2024).
- ★ This is nearly double the global decline (12%).
- One of the highest declines globally, outperforming other high-burden countries.
 - TB mortality rate reduced: From 28 per lakh (2015) → 21 per lakh (2024).
- **Causes for Decline**
 - **Innovations & Technology**
 - ★ Rapid uptake of new diagnostic tools (CBNAAT, TrueNat, digital X-rays, AI-based detection).
 - ★ Decentralisation: Expanded diagnostic & treatment centres to district and sub-district levels.
 - **Community Mobilisation**
 - ★ Large-scale campaigns under TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan.
 - ★ Strengthened community-led screening, awareness, and treatment adherence support.
 - **Enhanced Case Detection**
 - ★ 26.18 lakh TB patients diagnosed in 2024, out of estimated 27 lakh cases.
 - ★ Treatment coverage rose to 92% in 2024 (up from 53% in 2015).
- **Reduction in “Missing Cases”**
 - Missing cases = Individuals who have TB but are not notified to national programme.
 - Missing cases fell from: 15 lakh (2015) → <1 lakh (2024).
 - Indicates better surveillance, reporting & program reach.
- **Multidrug-Resistant TB (MDR-TB)**
 - No significant increase in MDR-TB cases.
 - India maintaining stable drug resistance levels despite higher detection.
- **Reason For Decline: TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan**
 - **Achievements**
 - ★ 19 crore vulnerable individuals screened nationwide.
 - ★ 24.5 lakh TB patients detected, including: 8.61 lakh asymptomatic TB cases.
 - ★ Treatment success rate: 90%, higher than global average (88%).



→ Core Strategies

- ★ Active case finding drives.
- ★ Door-to-door screening in high-burden districts.
- ★ Social support, nutritional assistance (Nikshay Poshan Yojana).
- ★ Private sector notification through Nikshay Portal.