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## 1. G-7 Grouping

- **Prelims - G-7 Grouping**
- **Mains - GS 2 - International Relations**

### Why in the news?

- Canada hosted the G-7 Foreign Ministers' Summit.

### G-7 Grouping

- **What is it?:** The Group of Seven (G-7) is an informal bloc of advanced industrialised democracies.
- **Formation:** Formed in 1975 as G-6 and became G-7 in 1976 with Canada's entry.
- **Member Countries:** USA, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan
- **Key Features:**
  - No formal charter or headquarters.
  - Annual Summit hosted by member nations in rotation.
  - Decisions are non-binding but carry weight due to members' economic power.
  - Members represent nearly 40% of global GDP.
  - G-7 Outreach is a mechanism that aims to engage emerging economies and Global South countries.
  - The European Union (EU) participates as a non-enumerated member.
- **India and G-7:**
  - India is not a member Country, but engages with G-7 as a partnering country.
  - Engages in: Clean energy transition, Digital Public Infrastructure, Global Health and Rule based global order.
- **Russia and G-8:**
  - Russia joined the grouping in 1998 making it G-8.
  - Following Crimea annexation in 2014, Russia's membership got suspended, making the grouping G-7 again.

## 2. National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP)

- **Prelims** - National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

### Why in the news?

- The Supreme Court opined about reconsidering the National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP) 2020 in the wake of deteriorating air quality in the national capital.

### National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP)

- **What is it?:** It is a national mission to promote adoption and manufacturing of electric and hybrid vehicles in India, aiming to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and cut vehicular emissions.
- **Launch:** Launched by the Ministry of Heavy Industries in 2013.
- **Objectives:**
  - Achieve 6–7 million electric and hybrid vehicles on Indian roads by 2020.
  - Promote domestic manufacturing under Make in India.
  - Reduce oil import dependence.
  - Support R&D and innovation in clean mobility.
  - Create an ecosystem for e-mobility: charging, supply chains, batteries, and talent.
- **Key Components:**
  - **Demand Incentives:** Financial incentives for hybrid/electric vehicle buyers to reduce upfront cost.
  - **R&D Support:** Funding for advanced battery research, electric drivetrain technology, and low-cost EV components.
  - **Charging Infrastructure:** Support for setting up public charging stations, grid readiness, and pilot projects.
  - **Manufacturing Support:** Focus on building India's EV manufacturing ecosystem- batteries, motors, power electronics.
- **Funding:** Initially allocated ₹14,000 crore.
- **FAME Scheme:** To operationalise NEMMP, the government launched FAME as its implementation arm

→ **FAME India Scheme Phase I (2015-19):**

- ★ Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles.
- ★ Focus: Demand incentives, technology development, pilot projects.

→ **FAME India Phase II (2019-24):**

- ★ Expanded to e-Buses, e-Three wheelers, e-Two wheelers, Fleet Taxis and Charging Infrastructure.
- ★ Budget: ₹10,000 crore.

• **Significance:**

- Prepared India for large-scale EV adoption.
- Improved energy security (reduced oil imports).
- Boosted clean mobility & climate commitments (NDCs).
- Enabled growth of EV startups, battery manufacturing & charging networks.
- Gave India a platform to integrate into global EV supply chains.

• **Challenges:**

- High cost of EVs despite subsidies.
- Limited domestic battery manufacturing until recently.
- Slow charging infrastructure growth.
- Range anxiety & consumer awareness issues.
- Rare earth and critical minerals dependence (Li, Co, Ni).

• **Way Forward:**

- Strengthening domestic EV supply chains.
- Large-scale lithium-ion cell production under PLI.
- Fast rollout of charging infrastructure in all urban centres.
- Integrating renewable energy with EV charging networks.
- Adopting green hydrogen & battery recycling technologies.



### 3. DRISHTI System

- **Prelims** - DRISHTI System
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology

#### Why in the news?

- Indian Railways is set to deploy AI-driven technology to strengthen security measures on freight trains.

#### DRISHTI System

- **What is it?:**
  - DRISHTI is an AI-Based Freight Wagon Locking Monitoring System developed for Indian Railways.
  - It aims to ensure real-time monitoring of wagon door locking mechanisms to enhance freight security and operational efficiency.
- **Developed by:** Jointly developed by Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) and IIT Guwahati Technology Innovation and Development Foundation (IITG TIDF).
- **Purpose:** Designed to monitor freight wagons while in motion, overcoming limitations of manual checks.
- **Key Features:**
  - **AI-Based Real-Time Monitoring:** Continuously tracks door positions and locking integrity.
  - **Automatic Alert System:** Generates instant alerts when anomalies are detected and ensures timely intervention without halting train movement.
  - **Non-Intrusive Technology:** Works without disrupting train operations.
- **Significance:**
  - Enhances freight security by preventing theft and pilferage.
  - Ensures integrity of wagon sealing mechanisms.
  - Reduces dependence on manual inspection which is time-consuming and error-prone.
  - Improves operational efficiency and safety of freight logistics.

## 4. Oman

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

## Oman



### Why in the news?

- Oman has secured a seat on the International Coordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme.

### Oman

- **Location:** Oman is a West Asian country located in the south eastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula.
- **Capital:** Muscat
- **Bordering Countries:** Yemen, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia.
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman.
- **Associated Groupings:** Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and the Arab League



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## 5. Climate Risk Index 2026 (CRI 2026)

- **Prelims** - Climate Risk Index 2026 (CRI 2026)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

### Why in the news?

- The Climate Risk Index 2026 ranked India among the top 10 worst hit countries from 1995-2024.

### Climate Risk Index 2026 (CRI 2026)

- **What is it?:**
  - The CRI is an annual index published by Germanwatch since 2006 that ranks countries by the human and economic impacts of extreme weather events.
  - It is “backward-looking”, meaning it analyses realised climate risks (not future projections).
  - It examines data over two time-frames- The previous calendar year, and The long-term period- typically 30 years to show trends.
- **Key Facts and Figures of CRI 2026:**
  - CRI 2026 reveals that between 1995-2024 more than 832,000 people lost their lives due to extreme weather events globally.
  - Economic losses exceeded USD 4.5 trillion (inflation-adjusted) over the same period.
  - Over 9,700 extreme weather events were documented globally in that period.
  - For the long-term period 1995-2024, the top ten most-affected countries are all in the Global South.
- **CRI 2026 About India:**
  - India is ranked 9th among countries most affected by extreme weather in the long-term period (1995-2024).
  - Nearly 430 extreme weather events in the 30-year period were reported.
  - Economic losses of about USD 170 billion (~₹ 14-15 lakh crore depending on exchange and inflation) in that period.
  - Over 1.3 billion people were affected and 80,000+ fatalities in India in those three decades.

→ The report labels India as facing “continuous climate threats” where frequent extreme events allow little time for recovery.

- **Significance of the Report:**

→ **Highlights Climate Impacts**

- ★ By quantifying fatalities, people affected, and economic losses, CRI provides concrete measurements of climate impacts.
- ★ Demonstrates that vulnerable countries bear disproportionate burdens of realised climate risk.

→ **Policy Relevance:**

- ★ Provides evidence for the need of adaptation finance, loss & damage mechanisms, and resilience building especially in vulnerable nations.
- ★ Strengthens the case for frameworks like the Paris Agreement and the global stocktake process (under Article 14) to include impact-based metrics, not just emission metrics.

## 6. Birsa Munda

- **Prelims** - Birsa Munda
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Modern India

### Why in the news?

- November 15 marks Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, which marks Birsa Munda's 150th birth anniversary.

### Birsa Munda

- **Who was he?:**

- He was an Indian tribal freedom fighter, reformer, and religious leader in the Deccan region.
- Other Name - 'Dharti Abba' or Father of the Earth

- **His Contributions:**

- **Religious:**

- ★ He renounced Christianity and protested against the conversion of Tribals by Christian missionaries.
- ★ He created a new religion called "Birsait", which worshiped only one god and was used to spread strong anti-British feelings.

- **Reformer:**

- ★ He stressed the need for the tribals to study their religion and not forget their cultural roots.
- ★ He convinced people to give up superstition, alcohol, theft, lying, murder, and begging under his new religion.

- **Freedom Fighter:**

- ★ As a freedom fighter, he led the Munda Rebellion against the British.

- **Death:** Birsa died of cholera in the jail in 1900 and the movement faded out.

### Munda Rebellion (1899 - 1900)

- **Other Name:** Ulgulan
- **What is it?:** a powerful anti-colonial uprising by the Munda tribe against the British Raj, local landlords, and exploitative moneylenders.
- **Leader:** Birsa Munda
- **Location:** Jharkhand

- **Causes:**

- **Economic Exploitation:** The British introduced exploitative land practices, dispossessing the Mundas of their ancestral communal lands under the Khuntkatti system.
- **Land Alienation:** Tribal lands were transferred to landlords and moneylenders, causing immense distress among the Mundas.
- **Religious and Social Oppression:** Christian missionaries attempted mass conversions and suppressed tribal customs and beliefs, fueling resentment and resistance.
- **Forced Labour:** Practices like Beth Begri (forced labour) further deepened economic hardship.

- **Outcome and Impact:**

- **Military Suppression:** The uprising was brutally suppressed by the British; Birsa Munda was arrested and died in custody in 1900. Hundreds of rebels were put on trial, with executions and life sentences pronounced.
- **Legislative Reforms:** The Chotanagpur Tenancy Act (CNT Act) of 1908 was passed to prevent further tribal land alienation and recognize tribal land rights—one of the most significant legacies of the movement.
- **Tribal Consciousness:** The rebellion led to increased tribal identity, future socio-political mobilization, and remembrance of Birsa Munda as a national folk hero.

## 7. Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023

- **Prelims** - Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Polity

### Why in the news?

- The Union government notified large parts of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023, addressing the need for a law to protect the data privacy of Indian citizens.

### Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023

- **Aim:** To safeguard the digital personal data of individuals while promoting the responsible use of data for innovation and economic growth.
- **Key Features:**
  - **Applicability:** Covers digital personal data processed within India and outside if it involves Indian citizens.
  - **Rights of Individuals (Data Principals)**
    - ★ **Right to Information:** Know how their data is used.
    - ★ **Right to Correction/Erasure:** Request corrections or deletion of personal data.
    - ★ **Right to Grievance Redressal:** Access mechanisms to address data misuse.
  - **Obligations of Organizations (Data Fiduciaries)**
    - ★ Ensure transparency, purpose limitation, and data security.
    - ★ Set up grievance redressal mechanisms for complaints.
  - **Data Protection Board (DPB):** Statutory body to oversee compliance and address grievances.
  - **Penalties:** Fines up to ₹250 crore for data breaches and non-compliance.
  - **Cross-Border Data Transfers:** Allows data transfers to notified countries with adequate protections.
  - **Children's Data:**
    - ★ Requires parental consent for processing data of individuals under 18.
    - ★ Prohibits tracking or behavioral profiling of children.



- **Exemptions for Government Agencies:** Government entities can be exempt for national security, public order, and strategic interests.
- **Significant Data Fiduciaries:** Large-scale data processors are subject to additional audits and compliance measures.

- **Concerns:**

- **Government Exemptions:** Raises surveillance and misuse concerns.
- **Independence of DPB:** Board under Ministry of IT may affect impartiality.
- **Vague Terms:** Terms like "reasonable safeguards" lack precise definitions.

- **Importance:**

- ★ Aligns India's data protection with global standards like GDPR.
- ★ The DPDP Rules, 2025 are also a significant step forward in compliance with the Supreme Court's 2017 K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India judgment affirming the right to privacy.
- ★ Empowers individuals with control over their data.
- ★ Balances privacy protection with economic growth.