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# Daily News Analysis

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**TUESDAY, 18th NOVEMBER 2025**

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## 1. Green Climate Fund (GCF)

- **Prelims** - Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

### Why in the news?

- Thirteen countries announced a plan at the COP30 to set up a national platform for “Climate and Nature Finance” in coordination with the Green Climate Fund.

### Green Climate Fund (GCF)

- **What is it?:**
  - The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the largest dedicated multilateral climate fund in the world.
  - Serves as the financial mechanism of both the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.
- **Establishment:** Established in 2010 at UNFCCC COP-16 (Cancún)
- **Mandate:**
  - Support **developing countries** in:
    - ★ **Mitigation** – reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
    - ★ **Adaptation** – building resilience to climate impacts.
  - Promote low-emission, climate-resilient development pathways.
  - Operates on the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR)
- **Governance Structure:**
  - **GCF Board:** 24 members
    - ★ 12 from among the **developed** countries
    - ★ 12 from among the **developing** countries
  - Supported by the **GCF Secretariat** (based in Songdo, South Korea).
  - Guided by the **Conference of Parties (COP)**.
- **Funding Sources:**
  - Contributions from developed nations
  - Voluntary contributions from developing nations
  - Private sector participation
  - Alternative instruments (green bonds, results-based payments)





- **India and the GCF:**

- India is one among the current board members of GCF.
- India has multiple **National Implementing Entities (NIEs)** accredited to access GCF funds, such as NABARD and SIDBI.
- India accesses GCF financing for:
  - ★ Climate-resilient agriculture
  - ★ Water management
  - ★ Renewable energy
  - ★ Coastal resilience
  - ★ Capacity building and early warning systems
- India emphasises equity, CBDR, and predictable financing under GCF.
- India has urged developed nations to meet the USD 100 billion per year commitment and to scale up finance post-2025.

## 2. Exercise Garuda 2025

- **Prelims** - Exercise Garuda 2025
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

### Exercise Garuda 2025



#### Why in news?

- Eighth edition of the Exercise Garuda begins and scheduled from November 16 to 27.

#### Exercise Garuda 2025

- **What is it?:** It is a bilateral air exercise between Indian and France.
- **Focus:** It focuses on air-to-air combat drills, air defence missions, joint strike operations, and the refinement of tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs).
- **Features:** Held alternately in India and France.
- **Significance**
  - Participation of the IAF and FASf in this exercise will promote professional interaction, exchange of experiences and enhancement of operational knowledge, besides strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.
  - It reflects deepening defence and strategic ties under the India–France Strategic Partnership (established in 1998).

Joint Exercise	Nature of Exercise
Exercise Garuda	Air Exercise
Exercise Varuna	Naval Exercise
Exercise Shakti	Army Exercise



7994058393

www.enliteias.com enliteias@gmail.com



### 3. Territorial Army

- Prelims - Territorial Army
- Mains - GS 3 - Internal Security

#### Why in the news?

- The Indian army is planning to induct women soldiers into the Territorial Army Battalions.

#### Territorial Army

- **What is it?:**
  - The **Territorial Army** is India's **second line of defence** after the Regular Army.
  - It is a **voluntary, part-time citizen force** that supports the Indian Army during National emergencies, Natural disasters and in Internal security duties.
- **Motto:** "Savdhani Va Shoorta" (Vigilance and Valour).
- **Established:** 1949
- **Nature of Territorial Army:**
  - Designed for employed civilians who wish to contribute to national defence without joining the regular forces full-time.
  - Members undergo training every year but continue their primary civilian occupations.
  - Helps reduce the burden on the Regular Army during non-critical situations.
- **Functions:**
  - Relieve the Regular Army from static duties.
  - Assist civil administration during:
    - ★ Natural calamities (floods, earthquakes)
    - ★ Industrial accidents
    - ★ Maintenance of essential services.
  - Support the Army during wartime for logistics, communication, infrastructure protection, transport, medical support etc.
- **Eligibility:**
  - **Nationality:** Indian
  - **Age:** 18–42 years



- **Employment:** Must be gainfully employed (self-employed or salaried)
- **Education:** Graduate
- **Training:**
  - ★ 30 days initial training
  - ★ Annual training camp of 2 months
  - ★ Post-commission training at IMA Dehradun (for officers)
- **Notable Contributions:**
  - **1962, 1965, 1971 wars:** TA units were mobilised for logistics and communication support.
  - **Operation Pawan (Sri Lanka):** Limited support.
  - **Operation Vijay (Kargil, 1999):** Supported mobilisation and logistic functions.
  - **Internal security duties** in Jammu & Kashmir and Northeast (as required).
  - **Ecological Task Forces (ETFs):** Undertaken major afforestation drives in Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh.
- **Advantages:**
  - Enhances **civil–military cooperation**.
  - Provides a trained pool of manpower for national emergencies.
  - Cost-effective augmentation of the regular forces.
  - Helps protect vital public infrastructure through departmental units.
- **Challenges:**
  - Balancing civilian and military duties for personnel.
  - Limited availability during major emergencies due to occupational commitments.
  - Need for more awareness and training infrastructure.



## 4. Marburg Virus Disease

- **Prelims** - Marburg Virus Disease
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology

### Why in the news?

- The World Health Organization (WHO) said that Ethiopia has reported its first-ever outbreak of Marburg virus disease.

### Marburg Virus Disease

- **What is it?:** A severe viral hemorrhagic fever caused by Marburg virus
- **Natural Reserve:** Egyptian fruit bats
- **Initial Finding:** First detected in 1967 during outbreaks in Marburg & Frankfurt (Germany) and Belgrade (Serbia).
- **Symptoms**
  - Incubation: 2–21 days.
  - Sudden onset: high fever, chills, severe headache, myalgia.
  - Progression: vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain.
  - Advanced stage: hemorrhages, multi-organ dysfunction, shock.
- **Transmission**
  - **Animal to Human**
    - ★ Exposure to infected fruit bats in caves/mines.
    - ★ Handling of infected non-human primates.
  - **Human to Human**
    - ★ Direct contact with blood, secretions, organs of infected persons.
    - ★ Contaminated surfaces or materials (bedding, clothing).
    - ★ Traditional burial rituals.
- **Diagnosis:** RT-PCR, ELISA antigen tests.
- **Treatment**
  - No approved antiviral or vaccine yet (as of 2025).
  - Management is supportive: rehydration, electrolyte balance, oxygen therapy.





## 5. Tungsten

- Prelims - Tungsten
- Mains - GS 3 - Economy

### Why in the news?

- Hindustan Zinc Limited received a license to explore Tungsten blocks in Andhra Pradesh and mine it.

### Tungsten

- **What is it?:** Also called Wolfram, it is a rare, hard, high-density metal
- **Global Distribution:**
  - China has the largest reserves of Tungsten and they are the largest producer of Tungsten.
  - Russia, Vietnam and Bolivia are other top producers.
  - Tungsten is considered a **critical mineral** globally due to concentration of supply in China.
- **Tungsten in India:**
  - India has **modest tungsten reserves**.
  - Major deposits-
    - ★ Rajasthan – Degana, Sirohi
    - ★ Karnataka – Kolar belt
    - ★ Maharashtra
    - ★ Andhra Pradesh
    - ★ Himachal Pradesh
    - ★ Tamil Nadu
  - Domestic production is very limited, making India **heavily import-dependent**.
- **Strategic Importance of Tungsten:**
  - Essential for defence production (armour-piercing shells, missile components).
  - Critical for aerospace, nuclear, and renewable energy industries.
  - Listed as a Critical Mineral by USA, EU and India
  - Supply disruption is a major concern due to China's dominance.



- **Major Uses of Tungsten:**

- Industrial & Engineering uses:

- ★ **Tungsten carbide:** One of the hardest known materials used as Cutting tools and Drilling bits
- ★ High-temperature alloys
- ★ Furnace components
- ★ Aerospace & turbine parts

- Electronics:

- ★ Filaments in electric bulbs, X-ray tubes
- ★ Heating elements
- ★ Semiconductor applications

- Defence and Strategic Sectors:

- ★ Kinetic energy penetrators (armour-piercing ammunition)
- ★ Rocket nozzles
- ★ High-temperature shields
- ★ Military-grade alloys

- Other Uses:

- ★ Sports equipment (darts, golf weights)
- ★ Radiation shielding
- ★ Catalysts & chemical applications



## 6. Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS)

- **Prelims** - Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Economy

### Why in the news?

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) said it approved 17 new projects under the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), where firms will receive incentive payouts pegged to turnover.

### Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS)

- **What is it?:**
  - These projects aim to strengthen India's electronics components materials manufacturing capacity (e.g., PCBs, camera modules, copper-clad laminates, polypropylene films).
  - The move aligns with India's objective of transitioning from assembling end-products to manufacturing modules, components, materials and machinery in the electronics value chain.
- **Objectives:**
  - To develop a robust electronics component manufacturing ecosystem in India.
  - Attract large global and domestic investments across the electronics value chain.
  - Enhance domestic value addition in electronic components manufacturing.
  - Integrate India's electronics industry with global value chains.
- **Key Features:**
  - **Implementation:** Launched in April 2025 by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTY).
  - **Financial Outlay:** ₹22,919 crore
  - **Scheme Duration:** 6 years with one year optional gestation period (FY 2025-26 to FY 2031-32).
  - Implemented through a nodal Project Management Agency (PMA) under MeiTY.
- **Target Segments:**
  - Subassemblies (e.g., display modules, camera modules)



- Bare components (e.g., multilayer printed circuit boards - PCBs)
- Selected bare components (e.g., flexible printed circuit boards)
- Supply chain ecosystem and capital equipment for electronics manufacturing
- **Incentive Structure:**
  - Turnover-linked incentives (on incremental turnover/sales) for sub-assemblies and bare components
  - Capex-linked incentives (on eligible capital expenditure) for supply chain ecosystem and capital equipment
  - Hybrid incentives (both turnover and capex linked) for selected bare components
  - Incentives contingent on employment generation
  - Distributed on a first-come, first-served basis