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## **EN-BUZZER**

# **Daily News Analysis**

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**WEDNESDAY, 19th NOVEMBER 2025**

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## 1. Ashtamudi Lake

- **Prelims** - Ashtamudi Lake
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

### Why in the news?

- Researchers plan to study the mechanism behind a rare and unique cooperation between fishermen and wild dolphins seen in the Ashtamudi Lake of Kerala.

### Ashtamudi Lake

- **Location:** Kollam district of Kerala.
- **Fact:** It is the second largest lake in Kerala after Vembanad Lake
- **Geographical Features:**
  - A brackish water lake and estuary.
  - Acts as a gateway to Kerala's backwaters.
- **Conservation:** Ramsar Site
- **Habitat**
  - Mangroves & estuarine vegetation.
  - Finfish and shellfish, including the famous Ashtamudi short-neck clam.
- **Economic Importance:**
  - Connected to the Neendakara Port and the Kallada River (major inflow).
  - Important inland navigation and tourism route.
  - Tourism: Houseboats and **Backwater Cruises**.
- **Environmental Threats:**
  - **Pollution** from sewage, industries, tourism, houseboats and **Mangrove loss** due to encroachment and unregulated development.
  - **Sand mining** and **clay mining**.
  - **Overfishing** and **Invasive species** affecting native biodiversity.

## 2. Forum for Climate and Trade Cooperation

- **Prelims** - Forum for Climate and Trade Cooperation
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

### Why in the news?

- A 'Forum for Climate and Trade Cooperation' was launched by the COP30 President Andrei Lago.

### Forum for Climate and Trade Cooperation

- **Other Name:** Integrated Forum on Climate Change and Trade (IFCCT)
- **Aim:** It provides a sustained, inclusive space for countries to debate, coordinate, and address frictions arising from climate-linked trade measures without formal negotiation pressures.
- **Associated Initiative:** The forum responds directly to the Paris Agreement's Global Stocktake, which calls for open international economic systems that help all countries tackle climate change.
- **Objectives**
  - To bridge the gap between climate policies and international trade regimes by fostering dialogue and cooperation.
  - To address challenges like carbon border adjustment mechanisms (CBAM), supply-chain disruptions, subsidies, and industrial policies affecting climate commitments.
  - To promote mutually empowering, progressive solutions for sustainable development and inclusive economic growth.
  - To reduce trade frictions at the climate-trade interface and enable experimentation with new approaches.
- **Features and Principles**
  - Non-binding, non-negotiated, and informal dialogue platform that fosters candid discussions.
  - Open-ended consultation process extending through 2026, shaping the forum's agenda and themes.
  - Equal weight to climate and trade perspectives ensuring interdisciplinarity.
  - Supportive of existing WTO and UNFCCC mandates, avoiding duplication



of negotiations.

- Science-based and pragmatic approach aiming for practical solutions adaptable across different national circumstances.

- **Membership and Governance**

- Open to all Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- Co-chaired by Brazil and a developed-country partner, ensuring balanced global representation.
- Involves government officials, WTO leadership, climate experts, industry bodies, and civil society.
- Supported by an expert panel balanced between developed and developing countries to enhance technical depth.

- **Significance**

- Fills a critical policy gap by integrating trade and climate change discussions to prevent fragmentation.
- Supports developing countries by creating predictability and interoperability amid proliferating unilateral climate trade measures.
- Helps shape future trade rules around climate to be fair, inclusive, and climate-aligned.
- Facilitates structured dialogue as a foundation for trust, understanding, and cooperation between trade and climate governance systems.

### 3. Batukeshwar Dutt

- **Prelims** - Batukeshwar Dutt
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Modern Indian History

#### Why in the news?

- November 18 marked the Birth Anniversary of Batukeshwar Dutt.

#### Batukeshwar Dutt

- **Birth:** Born on 18 November 1910 in Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal.
- **Role in Indian Freedom Struggle:**

##### → Association with HSRA:

- ★ Joined HSRA led by **Bhagat Singh, Chandrashekhar Azad, Sukhdev**, and others.
- ★ Advocated revolutionary methods against British colonial rule.

##### → Central Legislative Assembly Bombing, 1929:

- ★ Along with Bhagat Singh, threw non-lethal, smoke bombs in the Assembly in Delhi.
- ★ The objective was to protest against repressive bills like the Public Safety Bill and Trade Disputes Bill.
- ★ The act was symbolic- intended “**To make the deaf hear**”.
- ★ Both courted arrest, shouting: “Inquilab Zindabad” and “Down with Imperialism.”

##### → Imprisonment:

- ★ Charged under the **Lahore Conspiracy Case**.
- ★ Sentenced to life imprisonment (transportation for life).
- ★ Sent to Cellular Jail (Kala Pani), Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- ★ Undertook hunger strikes to improve prison conditions for political prisoners.

##### ● Later Life:

- Released in 1938 due to ill health.
- Participated in the **Quit India Movement (1942)** and got arrested again.

- **Death:** Died on 20 July 1965 in AIIMS, New Delhi.



## 4. National Food Security Act,2013

- **Prelims** - National Food Security Act
- **Mains** - GS 2 - Social Justice

### Why in the news?

- The government has removed nearly 2.25 crore ineligible beneficiaries under free ration scheme under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

### National Food Security Act (NFSA),2013

- **Objective:** To provide for food and nutritional security in the human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantities of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity.
- **Coverage:** It covers 75% of the rural population and up to 50% of the urban population receive subsidized food grains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Overall, NFSA caters to 67% of the total population.
- **Eligibility:**
  - Priority Households are to be covered under TPDS, according to guidelines by the State government.
  - Households covered under the existing Antyodaya Anna Yojana.
- **Provisions:**
  - 5 Kg of foodgrains per person per month at Rs. 3/2/1 per Kg for rice/wheat/coarse grains.
  - The existing AAY household will continue to receive 35 Kg of foodgrains per household per month.
  - Meal and maternity benefits of not less than Rs. 6,000 to pregnant women and lactating mothers during pregnancy and six months after childbirth.
  - Meals for children up to 14 years of age.
  - Food security allowance to beneficiaries in case of non-supply of entitled foodgrains or meals.
  - Setting up grievance redressal mechanisms at the district and state levels.

## 5. Dugong

- **Prelims** - Dugong
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment

### Why in the news?

- A new report of IUCN has highlighted the growing threats faced by the dugong population in India.

### Dugong

- **What is it?**: Dugong (Dugong dugon) also called 'Sea Cow' is one of the four surviving species in the Order Sirenia and it is the only existing species of herbivorous mammal that lives exclusively in the sea including in India.
- **Distribution and Habitat**: They are found in over 30 countries and in India are seen in the Gulf of Mannar, Gulf of Kutch, Palk Bay, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- **Conservation Status:**
  - IUCN Red List status: Vulnerable
  - Wild (Life) Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I
  - CITES: Appendix I
- **Threats:**
  - Habitat degradation (especially of seagrass beds)
  - Boat strikes
  - Entanglement in fishing nets
  - Pollution (oil spills, plastics)
  - Climate change and rising sea levels
  - Illegal hunting (though now rare in India)
- **Conservation Efforts:**
  - **India's Effort:**
    - ★ Dugong Conservation Reserve: India's first in Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu (2022)
    - ★ Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
    - ★ Recovery Programme for Dugongs under National Biodiversity Action Plan
    - ★ Community participation through awareness and eco-development programs
  - **International Efforts:** Part of UNEP's Dugong Conservation Programme

## 6. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

- **Prelims** - Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Economy

### Why in the news?

- The Union Agriculture Ministry recognised the modalities for covering crop loss due to wild animal attacks and paddy inundation under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

### Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

- **Launch:** 2016
- **Aim:** It aims to provide financial support to farmers in case of crop failure or damage due to natural calamities, pests, and diseases.
- **Objective**
  - To protect farmers against losses due to drought, flood, hailstorm, cyclone, frost, pests, and diseases.
  - To promote inclusive farmer welfare by offering affordable crop insurance coverage.
  - To enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability by reducing financial risks.
- **Funding:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- **Features**
  - Uniform premium rates capped at 2% of the sum insured for Kharif crops, 1.5% for Rabi crops, and 5% for commercial/horticultural crops.
  - Registration for the Rabi season 2025-26 began recently with wide outreach to farmers across states.
  - Digital techniques like e-Crop inspection (digital verification of fields) are used for efficient claims processing.
  - Service fee of ₹40 per farmer paid by the insurance company at Common Service Centers for facility provisioning; farmers bear no extra cost beyond premium.
  - Strict measures against fraud, including blacklisting for five years for false claims.

## 7. Exercise AJEYA WARRIOR - 2025

- **Prelims** - Exercise AJEYA WARRIOR - 2025
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations

### Why in the news?

- The eighth edition of Exercise AJEYA WARRIOR begins.

### Exercise AJEYA WARRIOR - 2025

- **What is it?**: It is a biennial joint military training exercise between India and the United Kingdom.
- **Host**: Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan.
- **Focus**: The exercise is conducted under a United Nations mandate and primarily focuses on counter-terrorism operations in a semi-urban environment.
- **Objectives**: To share best practices, enhance tactical proficiency, and develop coordinated responses for managing complex operations in challenging environments.
- **Activities**: The 14-day exercise includes joint mission planning at the Brigade level, integrated tactical drills, simulation-based training scenarios, and company-level field exercises to replicate real-life counter-terror contingencies.
- **Participants**: 240 military personnel with equal representation from the Indian Army and the British Army. The Indian contingent is represented by troops from the Sikh Regiment.

## 8. PM - JANMAN and PM-DAJGUA

- Prelims -PM - JANMAN and PM-DAJGUA
- Mains - GS 2 - Social Justice

### Why in the news?

- Union Tribal Affairs Minister said the government will ensure the implementation of PM - JANMAN and PM-DAJGUA in the context of the Supreme Court ruling on the conflict between forest law and PM - Awas Yojana.

### Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)

- Launch: 2023
- Aim: The core goal is to saturate all PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities, addressing centuries-old developmental gaps faced by these communities
- Target Beneficiaries: 75 PVTG communities, residing in 18 States and 1 Union Territory (Andaman & Nicobar Islands), are the core beneficiaries.
- Focus Areas
  - ➔ Provision of pucca (permanent) housing.
  - ➔ Safe drinking water supply and improved sanitation.
  - ➔ Improved access to primary healthcare and mobile medical units.
  - ➔ Better education: construction of hostels, Anganwadi centers, and vocational/skill development institutes.
  - ➔ Road and telecom/mobile connectivity.
  - ➔ Electrification (including solar power solutions) of unelectrified households and public spaces.
  - ➔ Livelihood and income generation activities (including the setting up of multipurpose centers like Van Dhan Vikas Kendras)

### Implementation

- ➔ Multiple ministries (Ministry of Tribal Affairs as nodal agency) and various central schemes such as PMAY-G, NRDWP, RDSS, Samagra Shiksha, Anganwadi Services, PM-JANMAN, and Jal Jeevan Mission are converged for implementation.

### Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (PM-DAJGUA)

- Launch: 2024

- **Objectives:**

- Empowering tribal communities by enhancing their economic, social, and environmental status.
- It addresses challenges faced by tribal populations, promoting sustainable development and improved quality of life.

- **Name:** The Abhiyan is named after Dharti Aaba, a revered tribal leader.

- **Key Features**

- **Sustainable Livelihoods:** The Abhiyan promotes sustainable livelihood opportunities in agriculture, forestry, and other traditional sectors. Skill development programs are introduced to improve employability and entrepreneurship among tribal youth.
- **Infrastructure Development:** It focuses on improving basic infrastructure such as roads, electricity, clean drinking water, and sanitation in tribal villages.
- **Healthcare and Education:** The scheme aims to enhance access to quality healthcare services and educational facilities in tribal regions. Health camps, mobile clinics, and awareness programs are organized to address health concerns specific to these communities.

- **Implementation**

- The program is executed in collaboration with state governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and local communities.
- It integrates existing schemes like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) to ensure the overall upliftment of tribal areas.