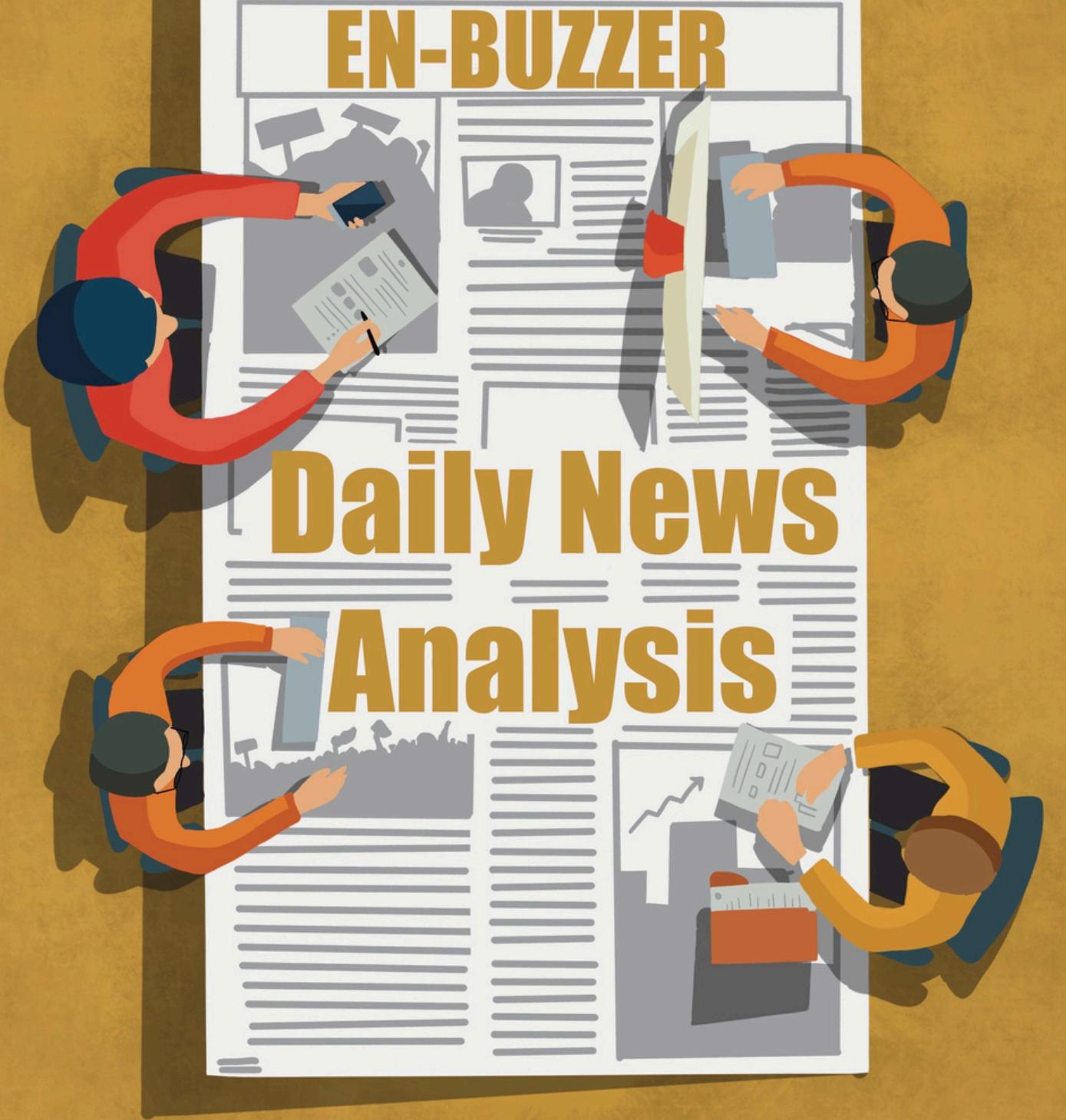




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1. BlueBird Block 2 and LVM-3

- **Prelims** - BlueBird Block 2 and LVM-3
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Science and Technology (Space Science and Technology)

Why in the news?

- ISRO's LVM-3 launch vehicle successfully launched BlueBird Block 2 satellite.

BlueBird Block - 2 (LVM3-M6)

- **What is it?:** It is a next-generation commercial communication satellite developed by AST SpaceMobile.
- **Orbit:** Low Earth Orbit (LEO)
- **Features:**
 - It enables **direct-to-mobile (D2M) connectivity**, allowing **ordinary smartphones** to connect **directly to satellites** without dependence on terrestrial telecom infrastructure.
 - Provides **4G and 5G connectivity** directly to standard smartphones.
 - Enables **global, continuous (24x7) coverage**.
 - Heaviest Commercial Satellite in LEO.

LVM-3 Launch Vehicle

- **What is it?:** LVM3 (earlier GSLV Mk-III) is India's most powerful launch vehicle, built entirely with indigenous technology by ISRO.
- **Key Features:**
 - A medium to heavy-lift launcher capable of placing 4-ton class satellites into GTO and 8-ton class payloads into LEO.
 - Uses **Solid, Liquid and Cryogenic stages** of fuels.
 - It is the **designated launcher** for **Gaganyaan Programme**.
 - **Major Missions:** Chandrayaan 2, Chandrayaan 3, LVM3-CARE, GSAT 19 and 29.



2. National Maritime Heritage Complex Project and Lothal

- **Prelims** - National Maritime Heritage Complex Project and Lothal
- **Mains** - GS 1 - Ancient and Medieval (Cultural Heritages)

Why in the news?

- India and the Netherlands have signed an MoU to cooperate on the development of the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat.

National Maritime Heritage Complex Project

- **What is it?:** The National Maritime Heritage Complex Project is an initiative undertaken by the Government of India to develop a world-class maritime museum and heritage center in Lothal, Gujarat.
- **Aim:** The project aims to showcase India's rich maritime history and heritage, and to promote maritime tourism.
- **Associated Project:** It is a part of Sagarmala project.
- **Features:**
 - ➔ **Maritime Museum:** The complex will house a state-of-the-art maritime museum with exhibits showcasing India's maritime history, shipbuilding traditions, and naval achievements.
 - ➔ **Research and Education Center:** A research and education center will be established to conduct research on maritime history and provide educational programs for students and the general public.
 - ➔ **Heritage Village:** A replica of a traditional Indian maritime village will be created to showcase the lifestyle and culture of ancient maritime communities.
 - ➔ **Maritime Theme Park:** A maritime theme park will offer visitors a unique and interactive experience, with attractions such as boat rides, water shows, and historical reenactments.

Lothal

- **What is it?:** It is an Indus Valley Civilization site.
- **Location:** Gujarat on Bhogva river near Gulf of Cambay
- **Findings:** Dockyard, Rice husk, Fire altars and Chess playing

3. Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Prelims** - Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Environment (Wildlife Protection)

Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary

Why in the news?

- The 40th Asian Waterbird Census and 60th International Waterbird Census will enumerate the bird species of Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary and its adjoining wetlands.

Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Location:** Andhra Pradesh
- **Geography**
 - Lies in **Godavari delta region**
 - **Hope Island** is part of the sanctuary.
- **Flora:**
 - It has **extensive mangrove and dry deciduous tropical forest**.
 - It is the second largest stretch of mangrove forests in India.
- **Fauna:**
 - It is home to the **critically endangered white-backed vulture and the long-billed vulture**.
 - The sanctuary has an 18-km long sand pit where **olive ridley sea turtles' nest** from January to March every year.



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4. OPEC and OPEC+

- **Prelims** - OPEC and OPEC+
- **Mains** - GS 2 - International Relations (International Grouping)

Why in the news?

- China, not OPEC+, emerged as the key stabiliser of global crude oil prices in 2025.

Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)

- **What is it?**: It is a permanent **intergovernmental organization of oil-exporting countries**.
- **Headquarters**: Vienna, Austria.
- **Mission**:
 - To coordinate and unify the petroleum policies of its Member Countries.
 - Ensure the stabilization of oil prices in the international oil markets, with a view to eliminating harmful and unnecessary fluctuations.
- **Formation**: It was established in 1960 by the five founding members Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela.
- **Members**: It has 12 members, including Algeria, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Libya, Nigeria, and the United Arab Emirates

OPEC +

- **Formation**: The OPEC+ was formed in 2016 after the adoption of the 'Algiers Accord' by OPEC countries in 2016 and signing of the 'Vienna Agreement' in 2016 between OPEC and other major oil exporting countries.
- **What is it?**: It is a group of oil exporters consisting of 22 member countries which meet regularly to decide how much crude oil to sell on the world market.
- **Members**: It comprises 12 OPEC countries plus Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Russia, Mexico, Malaysia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Oman.