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8 DECEMBER 2025

EN-BUZZER

Daily News Analysis

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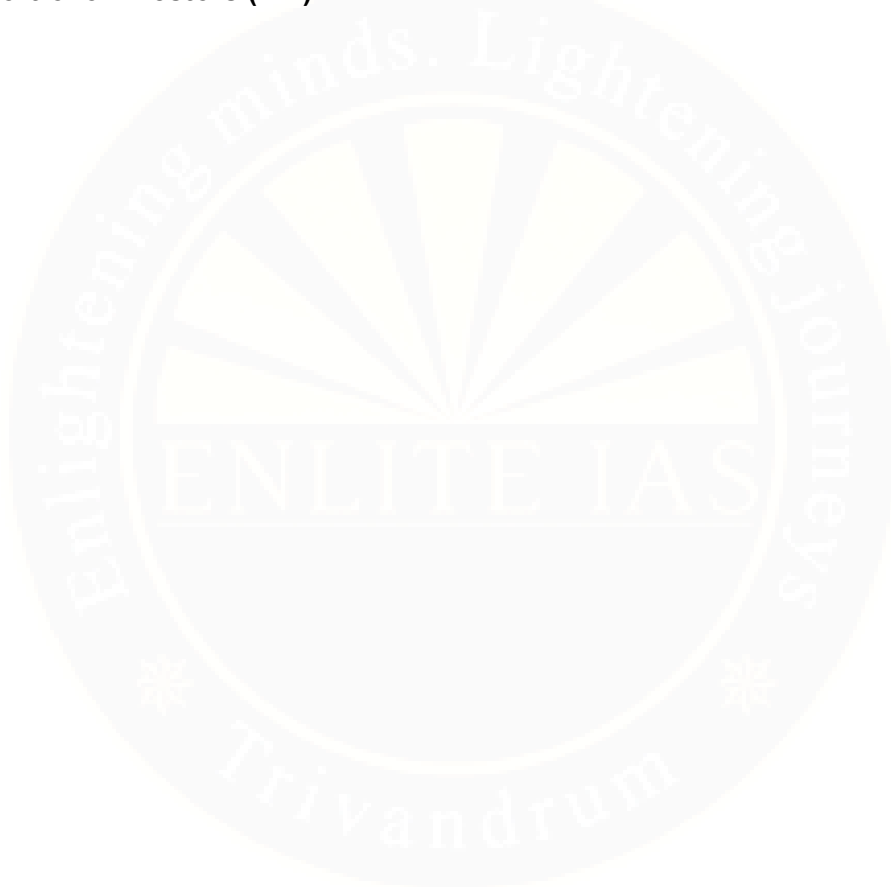
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1. Border Roads Organisation (BRO)

- Prelims - Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
- Mains - GS 3 - Internal Security (Challenges Through Border Areas)

Border Roads Organisation (BRO)



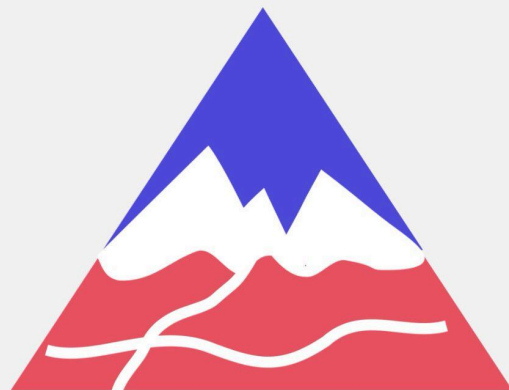
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Why in the news?

- Defence Minister inaugurated 125 BRO projects.

Border Roads Organisation (BRO)

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Defence
- **Aim:** BRO is engaged in **Infrastructure development** in remote northern and north-eastern regions to ensure **security along the Indian borders**.
- **Operative in:** BRO operate in 19 states, and 3 UTs.
- **Overseas projects:** Takes up projects in **Afghanistan, Bhutan, Myanmar, Tajikistan, Sri Lanka**.
- **Composition:**
 - It is **staffed by officers and troops** drawn from the Indian Army's Corps of Engineers, Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Army Service Corps, Military Police and army personnel on extra regimental employment.
 - Engineering Service and personnel from the General Reserve Engineer Force (GREF) form the parent cadre of the Border Roads Organisation.



7994058393
www.enliteias.com @enliteias@gmail.com



2. Benin

- Prelims - Location of Benin
- Mains - GS 1 - Geography (Locations) & IR (Places and events)

Benin

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Why in the news?

- Benin forces foiled coup attempt.

Benin

- **Location:** West Africa
- **Capital:** Porto-Novo
- **Border Countries:** Togo, Nigeria, Burkina Faso and Niger
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** Atlantic Ocean
- **Climate:** Tropical Climate
- **Associated International Grouping:** African Union, ECOWAS.





7994058393
www.enliteias.com enliteias@gmail.com



3. National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)

- **Prelims** - National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Internal Security (Institutions to tackle security challenges)

Why in the news?

- The NATGRID is gaining momentum as central agencies and police actively search for information.

National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)

- **What is it?**: An integrated intelligence-sharing platform under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- **Establishment**
 - **Conceptualised in 2009 after the 26/11 Mumbai attacks**, highlighting gaps in inter-agency information flow.
 - Operational since 31 December 2020; inaugurated formally in 2022.
- **Aim**: Acts as a master database for counter-terrorism by linking multiple government and private-sector databases.
- **Objectives**
 - **Counter-terrorism**: Tracks movement of suspects across states/databases.
 - **Economic & organised crime detection**: Helps in analysing hawala, narcotics, money laundering networks.
 - **Early-warning system**: Generates alerts through algorithms to prevent attacks or crimes.
 - **Internal security strengthening**: Bridges information gaps between central and state agencies.
 - **Human rights protection**: By reducing arbitrary profiling and depending on data-backed pattern recognition.
- **Features**
 - Collates diverse datasets like immigration records, bank transactions, credit card usage, telecom data, tax filings, air/rail travel, etc.
 - Real-time access to patterns and linkages from 21 data sources.
 - Data is end - end encrypted.
 - Includes RAW, IB, ED, DRI, CDBT, CBIC, and state police, ensuring seamless information sharing.



4. Technology Development Fund (TDF)

- **Prelims** - Technology Development Fund (TDF)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - S&T (Indigenization of Technologies)

Why in the news?

- Seven TDF-developed technologies handed over by DRDO to the Armed Forces.

Technology Development Fund (TDF)

- **What is it?** It is a fund established to promote **self-reliance in defence technology** under the '**Make in India**' initiative.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Defence
- **Aim:** To create an ecosystem for **cutting-edge technology development** by encouraging participation from public/private industries, **especially MSMEs and startups**.
- **Funding Support:** Up to **90% of the total project cost** for projects **upto 50 Crores**.
- **Eligible Entities:** Public limited companies, Private limited companies, Partnership firms, Limited liability partnerships (LLPs), One-person companies and Sole proprietorships- All registered in India and fall under the Indian Laws.
 - The industry must be **owned and controlled by a resident Indian citizen**.
 - Entities with **foreign investment exceeding 49% are not eligible**.



5. PMFME Scheme

- **Prelims** - PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Economy (Food Processing Sector)

Why in the news?

- The PMFME Scheme has reported significant progress across multiple components.

Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme

- **What is it?:** The Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme is a **centrally sponsored initiative** under the *Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan*, launched in 2020.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)
- **Aim:** To formalize and enhance the competitiveness of micro food processing units in the unorganized sector by setting up or upgrading enterprises, focusing on Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPOs), Self-Help Groups (SHGs), cooperatives, and individual entrepreneurs.
- **Duration:** The scheme operates for **five years** (2020-21 to 2024-25)
- **Features:**
 - **Financial aid:** Credit-linked capital subsidy, **grants up to 35%** for individuals (max Rs. 10 lakh) and **50% for groups/FPOs/SHGs** (max Rs. 3 crore per project) for machinery, packaging, and branding.
 - **Technical and business support:** Skill training, handholding, and marketing assistance, with new units prioritized under **One District One Product (ODOP)**.
 - **Capacity building:** Access to professional services, labs, and reduced wastage through value addition.



6. Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI)

- **Prelims** - Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI)
- **Mains** - GS 3 - Economy (Capital Market Instrument)

Why in the news?

- Foreign investors have pulled out 11,820 crore from Indian equities in the first week of December, primarily driven by the sharp depreciation of the rupee.

Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI)

- **Definition:** FPI refers to securities and financial assets passively held by foreign investors, without acquiring management control or long-term interest.
- **FPI Instruments:** *Stocks & Bonds, Mutual Funds, Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs), American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) and Global Depositary Receipts (GDRs).*
- **Recording:** It is part of **Capital Account under Balance of Payment (BoP).**
- **Nature of Money:** It is referred as '**hot money**' because it is high liquidity and tendency to exit at early signs of economic instability
- **Regulation:** Regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).