

1 Carbon Credits (Source: *The Hindu*)

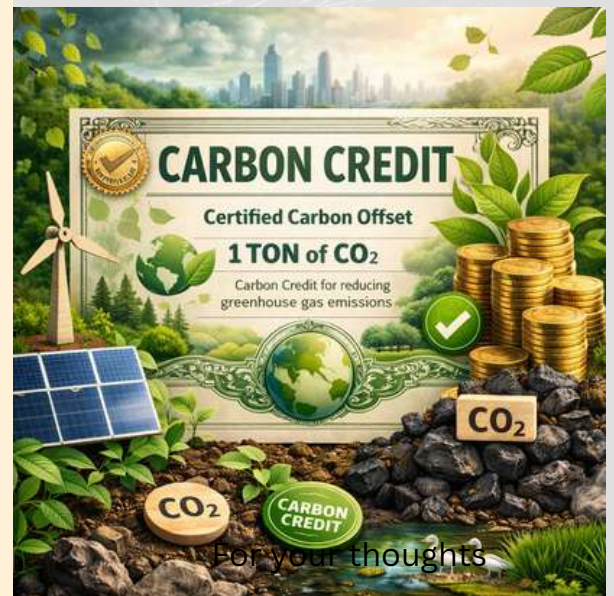
Carbon credits represent a reduction or removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

What is a carbon market?

- Carbon markets are systems where carbon credits are traded.
- There are two main types of carbon markets: compliance and voluntary.
- Carbon markets can help bridge the emission gap by mobilizing new resources for emission reductions and sustainable development.

What do you need to know about carbon credits?

- Governments, companies, and even individuals can buy carbon credits to offset their emissions.
- A single credit equals one ton of carbon dioxide emitted or the mass equivalent of carbon dioxide for other gases.



Climate conventions/mechanisms that focus on carbon credits

- Kyoto Protocol
- Clean Development Mechanism- Certified Emission Reduction (CER) carbon credits.
- The Paris Climate Agreement- Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM).
- Glasgow COP26

Why is carbon credit important?

- Helps to reduce Greenhouse gas emissions.
- Encourage corporate responsibility.
- Will create cooperation between countries.
- Will create mechanism for funding green technology.

For Your Thought

- Is carbon credit and carbon offset the same?



DATE: 26 FEBRUARY 2026

2 Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) (Source: *The Hindu*)

An electronic voting machine is a device used to electronically record and count votes cast in elections. In India it is used for state assembly elections, Lok Sabha elections and Panchayat elections.

Facts to know about EVM

- EVM consists of Ballot Unit , Control Unit and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail
- **Used for the first time in the by-elections to Parur Constituency of Kerala in 1982.**
- Bharat Electronics Limited and Electronics Corporation of India Limited are the entities manufacturing EVM.
- EVM do not require any external power supply.
- EVM can record a maximum of 2,000 votes.
- Each Ballot Unit can cater to 16 candidates including NOTA.



Elections still using Ballot Box

- President of India
- Vice President of India
- Rajya Sabha
- State legislative Council

Advantages of EVM over Ballot Box

- EVM will help reduce the chances of ballot paper tampering.
- Invalid votes generated in ballot paper voting can be minimised and even people with low literacy can easily use it.
- Is very much ecofriendly saving a lot of papers.
- Result declaration will be easier and speedy.
- Analysis of voting pattern can be easily undertaken.

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3 Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)

(Source: **PIB**)

It is a flagship food security scheme of the Government of India. Over 80 crore individuals receive free food grains under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana.

What you need to know?

- Under this scheme, additional food grains, free of cost, @ 5 kg per person per month to approx. 79.39 crore beneficiaries covered under NFSA .
- This allocation is in addition to regular NFSA allocation.
- All families under BPL category are eligible.



4 Schemes for Minimising Vehicular Pollution

(Source: **The Hindu**)

The increased air pollution in major cities like Delhi makes it mandatory of effective implementation of vehicular norms.

What you need to know?

- Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (CAFE) norms- regulate the average carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions of a carmaker's entire fleet in a financial year.
- Bharat Stage (BS) emission norms- Focus on limit of tailpipe pollutants for each vehicle.
- PM E-DRIVE scheme- Aimed at accelerating electric vehicle (EV) adoption and establishing robust charging infrastructure.
- FAME India scheme- Faster adoption of electric vehicles in India.
- Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) - Encourages Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) production and usage to replace conventional fuels.
- Ethanol blending – Upto 20% blending of ethanol.

5 Green Methanol (Source: *The Hindu*)

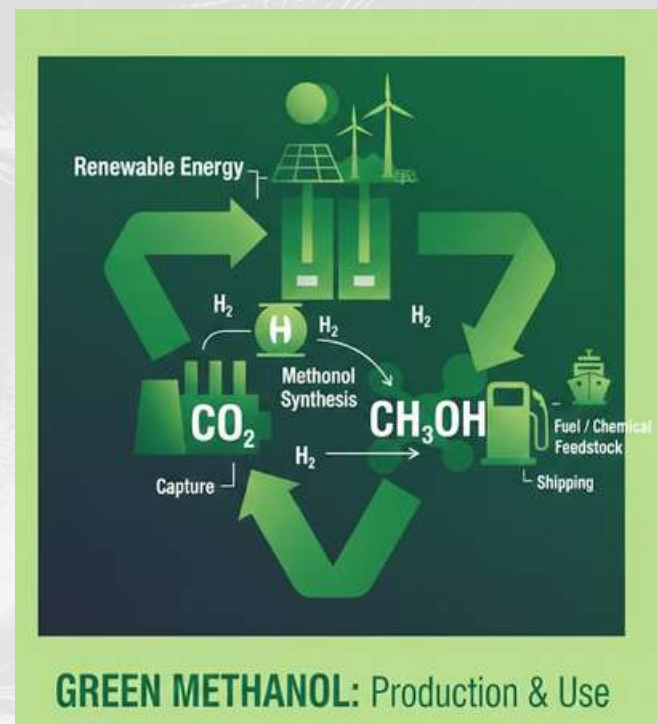
- Methanol is a low carbon, hydrogen carrier fuel produced from high ash coal, agricultural residue, CO₂ from thermal power plants and natural gas.
- When the methanol is produced renewably and without polluting emissions it is known as Green Methanol.

How is it produced?

- It has been produced from biomass (bio-methanol) or captured carbon dioxide combined with green hydrogen (e-methanol).

Where can it be used?

- Blending of 15% methanol in gasoline can result in at least 15% reduction in the import of gasoline/crude oil.
- Can bring down GHG emissions by 20% in terms of particulate matter, NO_x, and SO_x, thereby improving the urban air quality.
- Since it is a liquid at room temperature, making it easy to store and transport.
- It is used as a raw material in plastic, chemical and energy sector.



What is Methanol Economy?

- It focuses at reducing India's oil import bill, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and converting coal reserves and municipal solid waste into methanol.
- Methanol Economy will also create close to 5 million jobs
- Rs 6000 crore can be saved annually by blending 20% DME (Di-methyl Ether, a derivative of methanol) in LPG.