

04/04/2026 Daily Current affairs

1. *India's Seafood Exports statistics:*

Context: India's Seafood Exports: From Growth to Global Competitiveness.

Details:

- ❖ India's fisheries sector is a key contributor to food security, employment, exports, and livelihoods with ₹39,272 crore investment since 2015.
- ❖ It supports ~30 million primary fishers and nearly double across the value chain.
- ❖ India is the 2nd largest aquaculture producer globally with ~8% share in global fish production.
- ❖ Fish production rose from 141.64 lakh tonnes (2019–20) to 197.75 lakh tonnes (2024–25) with ~7% annual growth.
- ❖ Seafood exports grew at ~7% annually over 11 years, doubling from ₹30,213 crore to ₹62,408 crore.
- ❖ Shrimp dominates exports, contributing ₹43,334 crore.
- ❖ India exports 350+ seafood products to ~130 global markets.
- ❖ USA is the largest export destination (36.42%), followed by China, EU, Southeast Asia, Japan, and the Middle East.
- ❖ Export basket is led by frozen shrimp, followed by fish, squid, cuttlefish, surimi, and live/chilled seafood.
- ❖ Value-added products share increased from 2.5% to 11% (USD 742 million).

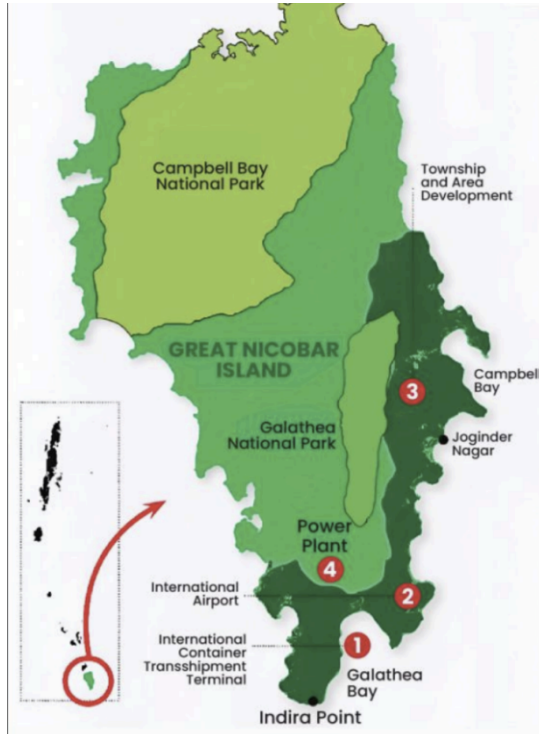
2. *Great Nicobar Project:*

Context: A draft plan "Comprehensive Tribal Welfare Plan" outlining the "relocation" of Nicobarese tribal communities affected by the Union government's Great Nicobar Island (GNI) mega-infrastructure project "to their ancestral lands" has created confusion and is exacerbating existing apprehensions among locals.

What is the issue?

- ❖ A draft "Comprehensive Tribal Welfare Plan" proposes ₹42.52 crore for relocation of tribal communities from project-affected areas.
- ❖ Contradiction exists as the government earlier stated the project would not displace tribal communities.
- ❖ Lack of clarity on who will be relocated and where, causing confusion among the Tribal Council.
- ❖ Ambiguity in relocation sites (Rajiv Nagar, New Chingenh, Pulobhabi, ancestral villages) and inconsistent housing details in the draft.
- ❖ Tribal communities have been protesting since 2022 after withdrawing consent, citing unsettled forest rights.
- ❖ Demand of tribes: return to all ancestral villages on the west coast destroyed in the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami.
- ❖ Government plan appears to limit relocation to select sites instead of full restoration of ancestral lands.

About Great Nicobar Project:



- ❖ The Great Nicobar Island Project is a major Greenfield infrastructure initiative conceptualised by NITI Aayog and approved in 2021.
- ❖ Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO) is the nodal agency responsible for implementing the project.
- ❖ Key components include a deep-sea international transshipment port at Galathea Bay (overseen by Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways), a Greenfield international airport, a 450 MW power plant, and a modern township.

About Great Nicobar Island:

- ❖ Great Nicobar Island is India's southernmost island located in the Bay of Bengal near Indonesia, with Indira Point as the southern tip.
- ❖ It is strategically located near the Strait of Malacca, enhancing India's maritime security and Indo-Pacific presence.
- ❖ The island hosts the Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve with rich biodiversity including endemic and endangered species.
- ❖ It is inhabited by indigenous tribes like Nicobarese and Shompen, classified as PVTGs dependent on natural resources.
- ❖ The island is highly disaster-prone, having been severely impacted by the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and lies in a seismic zone.
- ❖ Administratively, it is part of Nicobar district with headquarters at Campbell Bay.

3. *Namo Drone Didi Yojana (NDDY):*

Context: Karnataka, which is one of the leading aviation hubs in the country, also has the most number of women self-help groups (SHGs) to have undergone training as drone pilots under the ‘Namo Drone Didi Yojana’ (NDDY).

About Namu Drone Didi Yojana (NDDY):

- ❖ The Namu Drone Didi Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme with an outlay of ₹1,261 crore (2023–26).
- ❖ It aims to distribute 15,000 drones to Women Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- ❖ The scheme promotes advanced agricultural technology to improve efficiency and crop yield.
- ❖ It seeks to reduce cost of operations in farming.
- ❖ It empowers SHGs as drone service providers for income generation and livelihood support.
- ❖ Provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of 80% of drone cost (up to ₹8 lakh).
- ❖ Includes 15-day drone pilot training for one SHG member.
- ❖ Provides 5-day drone assistant training for another member or family member.
- ❖ This scheme will be implemented through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) across the country.
- ❖ It is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

4. *Home Ministry revises classification of districts affected by left-wing extremism:*

Context: The Union Home Ministry has re-categorised the total number of districts affected by left-wing extremism (LWE) in the country.

More about:

- ❖ Re-categorisation: The Ministry of Home Affairs has revised LWE district classification into three categories: LWE affected, districts of concern, and legacy & thrust districts.

Category	Description
LWE Affected Districts	Districts currently experiencing significant Left Wing Extremism activities and requiring focused security and development interventions.
Districts of Concern	Districts with declining but still notable LWE presence; need continuous monitoring and targeted measures.
Legacy & Thrust Districts	Districts where LWE has reduced considerably but require sustained development efforts to prevent resurgence.

- ❖ Number of Districts: Total LWE-affected districts remain 38, but classification reflects reduced intensity of violence.
- ❖ Red Corridor Trend: The LWE “red corridor” has shrunk drastically from over 200 districts (2005) to just 2 districts in 2026.

- ❖ Severely Affected Districts: Only Bijapur (Chhattisgarh) and West Singhbhum (Jharkhand) are now classified as “LWE affected”.
- ❖ District of Concern: Kanker (Chhattisgarh) is categorized as a district of concern with declining but present LWE activity.
- ❖ Legacy & Thrust Districts: 35 districts across 9 States fall under this category, requiring continued development focus to prevent resurgence.
- ❖ States Covered: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, and West Bengal.
- ❖ Earlier Classification Change: Previous “most affected” category has been removed and replaced with the new classification.
- ❖ Improvement Indicator: Earlier highly affected districts like Sukma and Narayanpur have moved out of the most severe category.
- ❖ Policy Purpose: Categorisation helps in targeted deployment of resources and security measures.
- ❖ Schemes Linkage: Revised classification aligns with implementation of schemes like Security Related Expenditure (SRE).
- ❖ Overall Assessment: Reflects significant decline in LWE influence and progress towards a “Naxal-free” India goal.

5. *INS Taragiri:*

Context: In a significant boost to India’s maritime security and the ‘Aatmanirbharta’ initiative, the guided-missile stealth frigate INS Taragiri was commissioned into the Indian Navy at the Eastern Naval Command base in Visakhapatnam

About INS Taragiri:

- ❖ INS Taragiri: Fourth frigate of the Project 17A class of the Indian Navy.
- ❖ Built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited with over 75% indigenous content.
- ❖ Displacement of 6,670 tonnes showcasing advanced indigenous shipbuilding capability.
- ❖ Designed with reduced Radar Cross-Section for enhanced stealth operations.
- ❖ Powered by Combined Diesel or Gas (CODOG) propulsion for high-speed and endurance.
- ❖ Equipped with supersonic surface-to-surface missiles and medium-range surface-to-air missiles.
- ❖ Features advanced anti-submarine warfare (ASW) capabilities.
- ❖ Integrated with a modern Combat Management System for real-time threat response.
- ❖ Supported by a domestic ecosystem of 200+ MSMEs under Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- ❖ Capable of multi-role operations including combat and humanitarian assistance (HADR).

6. *INS Aridhaman (S4):*

Context: INS Aridhaman, nuclear-powered submarine, enters India’s naval fleet.

About INS Aridhaman(S4):

- ❖ It is India’s third indigenously built nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine.
- ❖ It is the second submarine in the Arihant class.
- ❖ It was built under the Advanced Technology Vessel (ATV) project to build nuclear submarines at the Ship Building Centre in Visakhapatnam.

- ❖ INS Arihant was the first vessel under the nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) project.
- ❖ INS Arihant is India's first home-made nuclear submarine. It was launched in July 2009 and was quietly commissioned in 2016.
- ❖ The Navy commissioned its second indigenous SSBN, INS Arighaat, in August 2024.
- ❖ While Arihant and Arighaat are smaller vessels of about 6,000 tonnes, Aridhaman (S4) and S4* are bigger vessels of about 7,000 tonnes.
- ❖ The S4* (which may be named Arisudan) is currently undergoing sea trials. Compared to its predecessors, Aridhaman and its successor S4* will have more firepower.

7. *Mission Mitra:*

Context: India's human spaceflight programme has advanced with the launch of Mission Mitra in Ladakh, involving four astronauts selected for the Gaganyaan mission.

About Mission Mitra:

- ❖ Mission Mitra evaluates human performance in extreme, space-like environments.
- ❖ Conducted in Ladakh due to its low oxygen, extreme cold, and isolation resembling space conditions.
- ❖ Led by ISRO Human Space Flight Centre with support from multidisciplinary experts.
- ❖ Focuses on psychological resilience rather than just technical astronaut training.
- ❖ Studies stress, hypoxia, isolation, and human adaptability in harsh conditions.
- ❖ Examines team dynamics, decision-making, and emotional stability under pressure.
- ❖ Provides data for improving astronaut training for long-duration missions.
- ❖ Aligns with global practices like simulation-based training used by international space agencies.
- ❖ Highlights shift towards holistic approach combining technology with human factors in space missions.

8. *Arab League:*

Context: Arab League held an emergency session in Cairo over Al-Aqsa closure. Al-Aqsa Mosque (Aqsa Mosque) is the main congregational mosque within the Al-Aqsa compound located in the Old City of Jerusalem.

About Arab league:

- ❖ Arab League is an intergovernmental body of 22 Arab countries in the Middle East and North Africa aimed at cooperation and policy coordination.
- ❖ Established on March 22, 1945 (after the Alexandria Protocol, 1944) with founding members including Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan, and Yemen.
- ❖ Headquarters located in Cairo, focusing on strengthening relations while preserving sovereignty of member states.

Quick Bites:

- ☐ MoPSW Signs Implementation Plan with Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) to Boost Skill Development in India's Shipbuilding Sector.
- ☐ The 13th Asian Textile Conference (ATEXCON 2026) is being held in Hyderabad, organised by the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry in association with the Telangana government, bringing together industry leaders, policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders from across Asia to discuss advancements in textile technology.
- ☐ Recent reports indicate the spread of Newcastle Disease across Europe, prompting poultry producers in the United Kingdom to enhance surveillance and biosecurity measures. Newcastle disease (ND) is a highly contagious, often fatal viral infection affecting domestic poultry and wild birds worldwide, caused by virulent strains of avian paramyxovirus type 1.
- ☐ The Khelo India Tribal Games concluded in Chhattisgarh with a vibrant closing ceremony. Medal toppers are:

Rank	State	Gold (G)	Silver (S)	Bronze (B)	Total
1	Karnataka	23	8	7	38
2	Odisha	21	15	21	57
3	Jharkhand	16	8	11	35

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