

CURRENTLY - FROM NEWS TO NOTES

# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

**The Hindu & The Indian express**

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# Govt. tweaks export promotion plan to soften blow of U.S. tariffs

Tariff-hit sectors such as textiles, shrimp exporters, and organic chemicals to become new focus of the Export Promotion Mission announced in the Budget; MSME exporters will get credit guarantees, speedy clearances, and export incentives

**T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan**  
NEW DELHI

The Indian government is tweaking its earlier plans for an Export Promotion Mission to make it more targeted towards specific sectors in the wake of the increased tariffs imposed by the U.S. on imports from India, *The Hindu* has learnt.

This would entail reducing the cost of credit for medium, small and micro enterprise (MSME) borrowers in the worst-hit sectors, expediting clearances, and providing them with some sort of export incentives. It is a joint effort across several Ministries and involves detailed consultations with industry stakeholders.

The sectors which will face the brunt of the U.S. tariffs are apparel and textiles, shrimp exporters, or-

## Bracing for impact

The govt. is tweaking its Export Promotion Mission to target the sectors that will likely be worst-affected by Trump's tariffs



- Affected sectors will include **textiles, organic chemicals, and machinery**
- This effort, spanning across Ministries, provides **easier export credit access** and speedier clearances for **MSME exporters**
- An official confirmed that a **credit guarantee scheme** was being prepared to help exporters

ganic chemicals, and machinery and mechanical appliances, according to an analysis by the Global Trade Research Initiative.

### To offer greater aid

"The Export Promotion Mission announced in the latest Budget is being tweaked now to provide more help to particular sectors that are likely to be hit by the [U.S.] tariffs," a senior government official

told *The Hindu*, speaking on the condition of anonymity. "The broad contours are to provide credit guarantees to MSME exporters, speed up their clearances, and there is some discussion on how to provide export incentives," the government official added.

In the Union Budget for 2025-26, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced an Export Pro-

motion Mission with a ₹2,250 crore allocation for the current financial year, which would "facilitate easier access to export credit, cross-border factoring support, and support to MSMEs to tackle non-tariff measures in overseas markets".

The official said that the tweaked Mission would cover these targets as well, adding that the Mission would now include coordination with the Ministry of Textiles and Department of Fisheries, in addition to Ministries of Commerce, Finance, and MSME.

Industry players have also confirmed that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has been in regular touch with them to receive their feedback and inputs. Trade analysts, too, confirmed this.

"Internally, authorities are consulting extensively

with exporters and sector representatives to fine-tune immediate relief measures and shape a long-term, resilient trade strategy capable of withstanding global shocks," said Krishan Arora, Partner at Grant Thornton Bharat.

**Focus on MSME exports** Separately, a Finance Ministry official also confirmed that the Ministry was coordinating with others to come up with a scheme that could address some of the issues being faced by these exporters.

The government had, as far back as January, announced a credit guarantee scheme for the MSME sector, which would cover loans up to ₹100 crore. The Finance Ministry official said that this scheme was being revamped to "focus on the export aspects of these MSMEs' activities".

## Usage in UPSC Prelims:

Major Indian exports to the U.S.: textiles & apparel, shrimp, organic chemicals, machinery, mechanical appliances

## Usage in UPSC Mains:

**GS-3: Trade policy, MSME support, tackling protectionism**

## Context:

The U.S. has increased tariffs on several Indian imports, impacting sectors such as apparel, textiles, shrimp, organic chemicals, machinery, and mechanical appliances. To counter these effects, the Indian government is modifying its Export Promotion Mission announced in the Budget.



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## Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – Union Budget 2025-26

### Main Support Measures:

- Easier access to export credit and cross-border factoring support.
- Credit guarantees for MSMEs
- Assistance for MSMEs to handle non-tariff barriers in foreign markets.

**Implementation:** Joint initiative across Ministry of Commerce & Industry (lead), Ministry of MSME & Ministry of Finance

- Budget Allocation: ₹2,250 crore for FY 2025-26.

Ministry of Finance



**Government Approves Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme to Strengthen MSME Manufacturing Sector, fulfilling the budget announcement of 2024-25**

Loans upto Rs. 100 crore for purchase of Plant and Machinery / Equipment are eligible for guarantee coverage giving a boost to manufacturing sector

Scheme offers 60% guarantee coverage to Member Lending Institutions (MLIs\*) for credit facility upto Rs.100 crore sanctioned to eligible MSMEs

Posted On: 29 JAN 2025 8:35PM by PIB Delhi



### Chhattisgarh govt. cuts thousands of forest rights titles

#### Lost rights

Several individual forest rights titles distributed in at least three districts in Chhattisgarh have 'disappeared'

**2,788** individual forest rights (IFR) titles have gone missing in Bastar district

**50%** of community forest resource titles in Rajnandgaon reduced within a month last year



■ The Forest Rights Act, 2006 recognises the rights of Scheduled Tribes and other forest-dwelling communities to use forests

Abhinav Lakshman  
NEW DELHI

Thousands of forest rights titles distributed across at least three districts in Chhattisgarh seem to have disappeared from the records of the State government's Tribal Welfare Department at various points over the last 17 months, according to documents accessed by *The Hindu* through the Right to Information Act.

State government officials claimed that the earlier, higher figures were faulty, due to "miscommunication and error in reporting", which has now been corrected.

The data, which was provided in response to an RTI query by *The Hindu*, showed that as of May, a total of 4.82 lakh IFR titles and 4,396 CFRR titles had been distributed across 30 districts of the State.

In Bastar district, for instance, the total number of individual forest rights (IFR) titles as of January 2024 was 37,958, which fell to 35,180 by May 2025, according to the data. In Rajnandgaon district, similarly, the total number of community forest resource rights (CFRR) titles halved within a month last year, from 40 to 20. In Bijapur district, there were 299 CFRR titles distributed till March 2024; by the following month, this was reduced to 297.

These reductions can be seen in the State's district-wise monthly progress reports on the FRA, sought under RTI. The Centre's publicly available FRA pro-

gress reports only record data at the State level. Some FRA researchers and experts have termed such a decrease as an "anomaly", as there is no process under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 to withdraw titles which have been granted.

↑ The Act recognises and vests rights to use forests to Scheduled Tribe and other forest-dwelling communities. It allows individuals and communities to get various types of titles over forest areas which they live on, use for their livelihoods, or collect produce from.

#### Reporting error

Responding to questions on the decrease in forest rights titles in some districts, a senior State government official claimed this was because of "miscommunication" between officials working at the gram sabha, sub-divisional, and district levels that had resulted in the need for "correction" of the records. "It may be seen as a reporting error," the official said.

State officials said that the FRA is not implemented in Raipur, Durg, and Bemetara districts. Central government data on the FRA shows that, as of May 2025, Chhattisgarh accounts for over 43% of the forest area over which FRA titles have been granted.

In the three districts declared free of Naxalism by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs over the last year, FRA implementation has been slow, this data shows.

### Usage in UPSC Prelims:

Forest Rights Act, 2006 – provisions & beneficiaries

### Usage in UPSC Mains:

GS-2: Tribal welfare, governance challenges

GS-3: Forest governance, land rights, environmental justice

### 1.Context:

Over the past 17 months, thousands of forest rights titles have reportedly disappeared from Chhattisgarh's official records in at least three districts, sparking concern among tribal rights researchers and activists. Officials attribute it to "correction" of earlier reporting errors, but experts argue there is no legal provision to withdraw already granted titles under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.

### 2. Data:

2,788 individual forest rights titles lost in Bastar.

50% reduction in community forest resource rights in Rajnandgaon in 1 month. Similar declines in Bijapur and other districts.

- Reason cited by officials: Earlier figures were inflated due to miscommunication; corrections made at gram sabha and district levels.
- Criticism: FRA researchers term it an "anomaly" since FRA, 2006 does not allow withdrawal of granted titles.
- Central Data: As of May 2025, Chhattisgarh accounts for over 43% of the forest area where FRA titles have been granted.
- Issue: Implementation delays in Naxal-affected districts



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### 3. Forest Rights Act, 2006

- **Objective:** To correct historic injustice to forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFDs), secure their land and resource rights, empower them for livelihood and forest governance, and promote community-led conservation.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

**Individual Forest Rights (IFR):** Rights to occupy and cultivate forest land (up to 4 hectares), reside there, and collect/use minor forest produce. Given to STs or OTFDs (must show residence and dependence; OTFDs need proof of 3 generations/75 years before 13 Dec 2005).

**Community Forest Rights (CFR):** Rights of Gram Sabha/community over grazing areas, water bodies, biodiversity, non-timber forest produce; also the right to conserve, protect, and manage forest resources for sustainable use. Granted based on traditional collective use and dependence.

**Key Implementation Issues:** Bureaucratic resistance, difficulty in producing old evidence, poor recognition of CFRs compared to IFRs, low awareness, digital/process hurdles, and resistance to Gram Sabha authority.

### 4. Role of Gram Sabha under FRA, 2006

- Receive & verify claims for IFR and CFR.
- Collect evidence (oral, documentary, field verification).
- Pass resolution on accepted/rejected claims.

- Forward to SDLC for approval.
- Manage community forest resources post-recognition.



## A war game-changer in a battle for influence in Asia

The world first noticed a massive shift in how wars are fought during the second Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (2020): the increasingly integral role that drones play. For India and Pakistan, Operation Sindoor (May 7-10) cemented this shift, as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and unmanned combat aerial vehicles (UCAVs) moved from serving purely reconnaissance needs to becoming instrumental for precision strikes.

### An exercise of modernisation

In the aftermath of the clashes, India is trying to upgrade and modernise its military. In 2024, India finalised an order for 31 MQ-9B Reapers from the United States, including SkyGuardian and SeaGuardian models. These aircraft will supplement India's need for maritime domain awareness and reinforce the strategic partnership between the countries. Still, this partially addresses just one of the needs of a country with its varied terrains and multiple contested borders. Given its vast border territories with Pakistan and China in high-altitude regions, India requires systems that are capable of high-altitude surveillance – larger fixed-wing long-range systems that can deliver significant payloads during precision strikes, and smaller, cost-effective systems for precision strikes.

Currently, the unmanned platforms that India has in operation address only some of these requirements. Israeli systems such as the relatively older Harop loitering munition and the medium-altitude long-range Heron are useful for aerial strikes and surveillance, respectively. But they are not the most advanced systems on the market. Apart from these, India largely operated legacy systems that were imported prior to the last decade and some indigenous models.

Despite the long defence relationship between the two countries, as India seeks to procure state-of-the-art drones, it no longer makes sense for it to look largely to the U.S. for outright



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With unmanned aerial vehicles becoming crucial for precision strikes, India can benefit from filling the space in the Indo-Pacific drone market

purchases. There is likely to be a shift where the U.S. becomes more important for components such as power plants and electronic payloads. Conversations about leading unmanned aerial systems invariably come back to the U.S., China, Türkiye, and Israel. However, recent reports question whether American drones are good enough even to meet their domestic demands, let alone dominate the export market.

A New York Times article, written by an observer of exercises with U.S. drone companies, revealed the growing gap between American systems and those made by Russia and China. Congruent with these concerns, the 'US Drone Dominance' executive order was rolled out with massive plans for American drone production. A CNAS report finds that the U.S.'s adherence to the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) has resulted in it falling far behind China and Türkiye in the UAV export market, making up only 8% of the market as of the end of 2023. Although recent and upcoming reforms to the MTCR will allow the U.S. to tap into the export market more, it already lags behind.

Today, India finds itself trying to fill these gaps in its arsenal through imports, joint ventures and domestic production, largely relying on Israel and European countries. Given the state of its ties with both China and Türkiye at the moment, India is unlikely to rely on either country for critical defence technologies. As it attempts to further its own interests, India should also leverage its technological advancements to become a supplier of fixed-wing UAVs for the broader Indo-Pacific region.

### The China factor

A number of countries, including Vietnam, the Philippines, Taiwan, South Korea and Japan have relations with China that can only be described as strained at best. Maritime Domain Awareness is essential for these countries to monitor and counter China's use of 'gray-zone' warfare, using

agents such as their coast guard and maritime militia, to enforce disputed territorial claims. This also enables them to protect their sovereignty and safeguard vital economic interests, such as fisheries and energy exploration, from constant encroachment.

Israel finds itself otherwise preoccupied with its long and drawn-out conflict in West Asia, and is unlikely to be a reliable supplier to the region.

With the U.S. struggling to remain in the race, Türkiye is the primary option for procuring high-performance and cost-effective systems. Given that India and Türkiye find themselves in a fairly adversarial relationship, it is in India's interest to prevent Türkiye from expanding its sphere of influence through drone diplomacy.

Many countries in the Indo-Pacific also share similar geographies with India, and, consequently, a pressing need for systems tailored to maritime domain awareness and high-altitude border patrol. If India were to develop systems to suit its own needs, they would also suit the strategic requirements of its not-so-distant neighbours.

### A contested space

The U.S.-shaped vacuum in the drone market within the Indo-Pacific, is becoming a highly contested space that India would benefit from filling. Not only would it boost trade and influence with a host of countries but it would also fulfil the country's own strategic needs. Despite being held back by bureaucratic red tape and a public sector dominated defence sector, it would benefit India to capitalise on its existing ties with Israel and utilise its learnings from joint production ventures to better its domestic UAV ecosystem. Beyond just producing everything domestically, technology-sharing regimes with like-minded countries in the Indo-Pacific would further mutual interests and foster trust-based relationships in a region that is becoming increasingly polarised.

Usage in UPSC Mains (Internal Security)

Role of UAVs/UCAVs in modern warfare and surveillance.

### Context

The editorial discusses how unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and unmanned combat aerial vehicles (UCAVs) are reshaping military strategy, particularly in the Indo-Pacific. It highlights India's procurement of MQ-9B Reapers from the U.S., reliance on Israel and European partners, competition from China and Türkiye in drone exports, and the geopolitical implications for maritime security and territorial claims.



## Summary

- **Shift in Warfare:** Post-second Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (2020), Operation Sindoor... UAVs/UCAVs have moved from reconnaissance to precision strikes.
- **India's Steps:** Order for 31 MQ-9B drones from the U.S. (2024) to enhance maritime domain awareness and strengthen strategic ties.
- **Current Gaps:** India operates some Israeli drones but lacks the most advanced UAV systems; depends on imports and joint ventures.
- **Global Drone Market:** U.S. lags behind China & Türkiye due to MTCR restrictions; India could fill the Indo-Pacific UAV gap.
- **China Factor:** Maritime domain awareness needed to counter China's "gray-zone" tactics in disputed waters.
- **Geopolitical Moves:** Partnerships with Israel, European countries, and Indo-Pacific nations can help India strengthen influence.

Usage in UPSC Prelims (Science & Tech):

EO (Earth Observation) satellites

Role of IN-SPACE

### 1.Context

The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) announced the selection of the Pixxel-Space India-led consortium to design, build, and operate India's first fully indigenous commercial EO satellite constellation under the PPP model.

### 2. Summary

- **Consortium Composition:** Pixxel-Space India, Piersight Space, Satsure Analytics India, Dhruva Space.
- **Investment:** ₹1,200 crore over 5 years to launch 12 state-of-the-art EO satellites.

# India's first private constellation of EO satellites under PPP model to be set up

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BENGALURU

The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) on Tuesday announced the selection of the Pixxel-Space India-led consortium to design, build, and operate India's first fully indigenous commercial earth observation (EO) satellite constellation under the public-private partnership (PPP) model.

The Bengaluru-based PixxelSpace India consortium comprises Piersight Space, Satsure Analytics India, and Dhruva Space. IN-SPACE said the Pixxel-Space India consortium was selected in a competitive bidding process which



**New endeavour:** The initiative is said to reduce India's reliance on foreign sources and ensure data sovereignty. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

involved two more consortia.

It is for the first time in the history of the Indian space sector that a private consortium would invest more than ₹1,200 crore over the next five years to launch a constellation of 12

state-of-the-art EO satellites.

The constellation will deliver Analysis Ready Data (ARD) and Value-Added Services (VAS) for applications in climate change monitoring, disaster management, agriculture, ma-

rine surveillance, national security, and urban planning, while also catering to the global demand for high-quality geospatial intelligence.

IN-SPACE said that by generating high-resolution, indigenous satellite data, the initiative will significantly reduce India's reliance on foreign sources and ensure data sovereignty.

"This initiative signals the coming of age of India's private space industry in the space sector. It demonstrates the capability of Indian companies to lead large-scale, technologically advanced, and commercially viable space missions," Pawan Goenka, chairman, IN-SPACE, said.



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- **Capabilities:** Deliver Analysis Ready Data (ARD) and Value-Added Services (VAS) for climate change monitoring, disaster management, agriculture, marine surveillance, national security, and urban planning.
- **Significance:** First time a private consortium will lead such a project; will reduce India's reliance on foreign satellite data and ensure data sovereignty.
- **Global Role:** Will also serve global demand for high-quality geospatial intelligence.

### 3. Difference between IN-SPACe and Antrix Corporation

- **Nature:** IN-SPACe is a regulatory and promotional body for private sector participation in India's space sector, while Antrix Corporation is the commercial arm of ISRO.
- **Established:** IN-SPACe was established in 2020, whereas Antrix Corporation was set up in 1992.

- **Function:** IN-SPACe approves, facilitates, and authorises private space projects, including PPP models, and provides access to ISRO facilities. Antrix markets ISRO's products, services, and technologies in the global market.
- **Focus:** IN-SPACe focuses on enabling and expanding private participation and setting regulatory frameworks, while Antrix focuses on revenue generation from ISRO's assets and capabilities.

### 4. Earth Observation (EO) Satellite

- **Purpose:** Captures high-resolution images and data of Earth's surface for applications like climate change monitoring, agriculture, disaster management, urban planning, and national security.
- **Orbit Type:** Usually placed in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) (500–900 km altitude) or Sun-Synchronous Polar Orbit to cover the entire globe over time.
- **Key Feature:** Frequent revisits and high spatial resolution.

## 5. Geostationary Satellite

- **Purpose:** Provides continuous coverage over a fixed area – mainly used for telecommunications, weather forecasting, and broadcasting.
- **Orbit Type:** Geostationary Orbit (GEO) at ~35,786 km altitude above the equator, matching Earth's rotation.
- **Key Feature:** Appears stationary over one point on Earth.

# Jihadist fighters leave Burkina Faso cotton farmers hanging by a thread

**Agence France-Presse**  
ABIDJAN

Laurent Koadima yearns for the days when his cotton farm in Burkina Faso allowed him to provide for his family, before advancing jihadists forced them to make sacrifices.

"Before, we were envied because cotton was a good business and the harvests were good," the 48-year-old said. "Today, we struggle to live."

Mr. Koadima is but one of many in Burkina Faso, among Africa's top producers of cotton, whose output has been decimated due to jihadist fighters stalking the Sahel nation for more than a decade.

Many farmers have fled the violence or been forced to leave their crops untended as the threat of ambush made them too dangerous to pick.

As a result, cotton production fell by more than a quarter in one year, from 386,794 tonnes in 2023 to 286,623 in 2024, according to official figures.

"These past two or three years, it's been very tough... the security situation means that we've lost much good farmland," Mr. Koadima said.

"I have trouble tending to my family's needs as last year I was unable to harvest, so currently I'm doing odd jobs and a bit of trading," he added. "Two of my

children have had to drop out of school."

Around four million people out of Burkina Faso's population of 23 million owe their livelihoods to cotton, either directly or indirectly.

Issa Lompo's fields are his sole source of income, which the 38-year-old farmer needs to take care of his seven children.

But his eastern region has been in the firing line since 2018, falling prey to attacks by Islamists affiliated with Al-Qaeda or the Islamic State group.

Though the ruling junta has pledged to crack down on the unrest since seizing power in a coup in September 2022, its military rulers



**In limbo:** Farmers throw cotton bales in central Burkina Faso. Cotton production has fallen by more than a quarter in a year. AFP

have so far proven unable to stem the jihadist tide.

"In four years, we have lost more than 32,000 cotton farms in the region due to insecurity," Lompo said, adding that those who lost

their fields have turned to "other professions, like herding or business".

One such series of attacks at the end of June killed seven police officers and a soldier near Fada

N'Gourma, the regional capital to which many cotton farmers have sent their families for safety.

The town is home to Socoma, one of Burkina Faso's three big cotton-farming companies.

### 'Taking a beating'

At one point, its farmers produced an average of 80,000 tonnes of cotton a year.

But after three years of minimal harvests, Socoma announced in July that it would fire every one of its hundreds of employees "for economic reasons".

Its 2024 production had plummeted to 3,000 tonnes.

At its general assembly

in late June, the National Union of Cotton Producers of Burkina Faso sounded the alarm over the obstacles the violence was creating to the transport and harvest of cotton.

Before that, Burkina Faso's Interprofessional Cotton Association had warned in 2023 about the difficulty of delivering agricultural supplies.

But it also bemoaned a rise in sea transport costs, a key issue for a landlocked country which exports nearly all of its cotton abroad, mostly to Asian countries.

"The industry is taking a beating year after year," lamented Moussa Barro, another producer.

According to Burkina Faso's commerce ministry, cotton accounts for four percent of the country's national output and around 14% of its export revenues.

To help shore up its ailing cotton farmers, Burkina Faso's junta has provided subsidies worth five billion CFA francs (\$9 million) for agricultural supplies such as seeds, fertilisers and equipment.

The jihadist insurgency has killed more than 26,000 people, both civilians and soldiers, in Burkina Faso since it began more than 10 years ago.

Over half of those deaths have taken place in the past three years.



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## Usage in UPSC Prelims:

Cotton Crops

Sahel Region

Burkina Faso

### 1. Context

Burkina Faso, a leading cotton producer in Africa, is facing a severe decline in cotton output due to ongoing jihadist insurgency in the Sahel region. Production has fallen from 386,794 tonnes in 2023 to 286,623 tonnes in 2024. About four million people rely on cotton farming for income, but constant threats from armed groups linked to Al-Qaeda and ISIS have forced many to flee or abandon crops. Over 32,000 farms have been lost since 2018. Cotton contributes roughly 4% of the country's GDP and 14% of export earnings. Government subsidies and agricultural support have been provided, but insecurity and rising transport costs remain major hurdles.

### 2. Cotton Crop – Key Information

Major Producers (Global): India, China, USA

#### Agro-Climatic Requirements:

- **Temperature:** 21°C–30°C, frost-free period of at least 210 days.
- **Rainfall:** 50–100 cm; irrigation needed in drier regions.

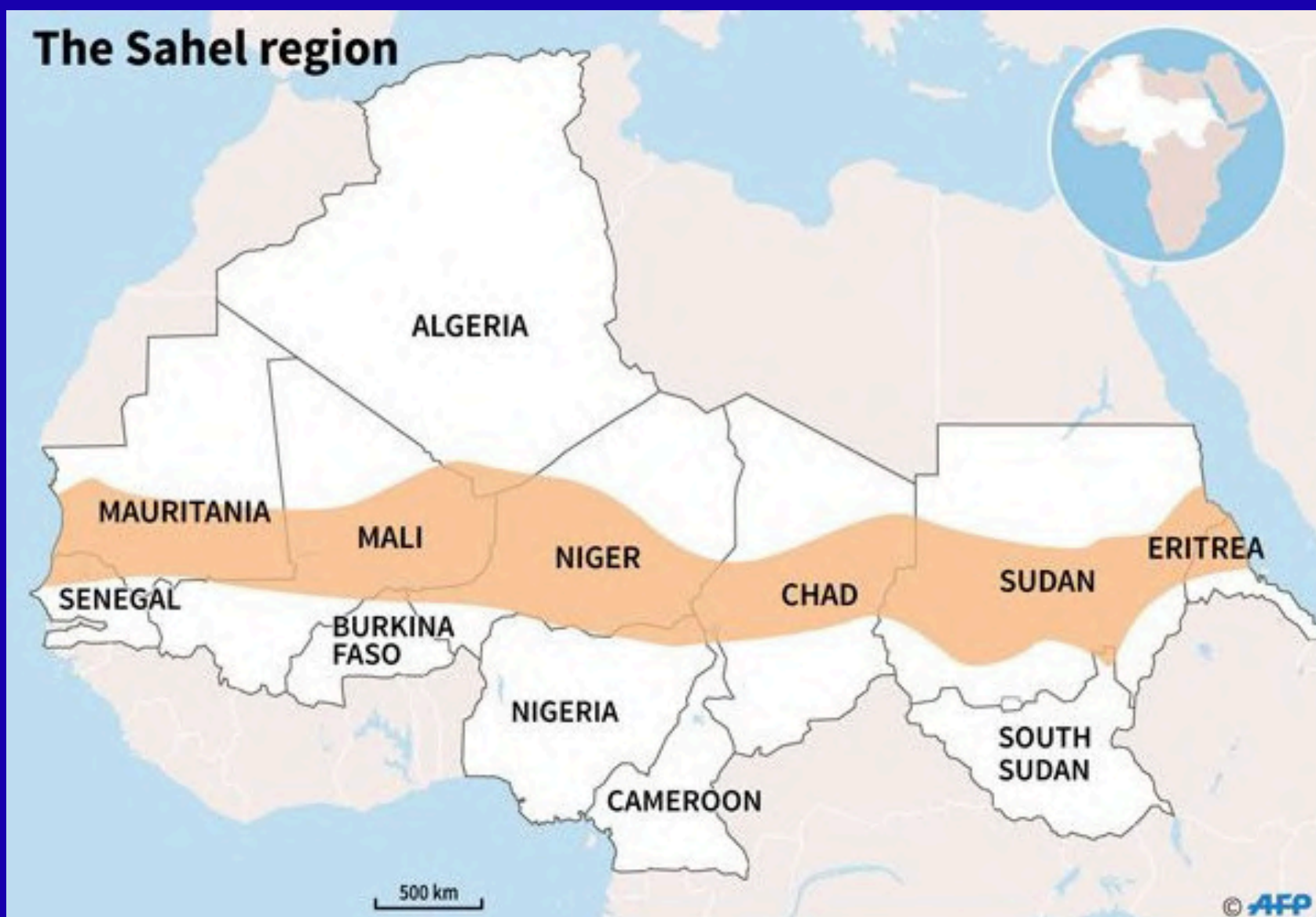
**Soil:** Deep, well-drained black cotton soil (regur) or alluvial soil.

**Sunlight:** Abundant sunlight during growth and boll formation.

- **India – Major Producing States:** Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana



## The Sahel region



### 3. Sahel Region

- **Location:** Semi-arid zone south of the Sahara Desert, stretching across Africa from Senegal in the west to Sudan in the east.
- **Countries:** Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad, Sudan, Eritrea & Ethiopia (sometimes included).
- **Climate:** Hot, semi-arid, short rainy season, long dry season.
- **Issues:** Desertification, drought, food insecurity, armed conflicts, extremism.



# DAILY MCQs FOR PRACTICE

**Q1. Which of the following countries are members of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)?**

1. India
2. Russia
3. USA
4. China

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only  
B. 1 and 3 only  
C. 1, 2, 3, and 4  
D. 2 and 4 only

**Q2. Consider the following about IN-SPACe:**

1. It works as an autonomous body under the Department of Space.
2. It regulates and promotes private sector participation in space activities.
3. It directly launches all Indian communication satellites.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only  
B. 2 and 3 only  
C. 1 and 3 only  
D. 1, 2, and 3

**Q3. Under the Forest Rights Act, 2006, consider the following claims:**

1. Individual Forest Rights (IFR) are granted for self-cultivation and habitation to eligible individuals.
2. Community Forest Rights (CFR) give the Gram Sabha ownership of forest land for industrial use.
3. The Gram Sabha is the first authority to verify and recommend claims under the Act.

Which of the above claims is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only  
B. 2 only  
C. 1 and 2 only  
D. 1, 2, and 3

## DAILY MCQs FOR PRACTICE

**Q4. Which of the following best describes Grey Zone Warfare as discussed in the editorial?**

- A. Full-scale military confrontation with declared war status
- B. Coercive actions short of open warfare, often ambiguous in nature
- C. Military operations only in cyberspace
- D. Maritime law enforcement under UNCLOS provisions

**Q5. Which of the following are required conditions for cotton cultivation?**

1. Frost-free period of at least 210 days
2. Annual rainfall between 50 cm and 100 cm
3. Deep black cotton soil or well-drained alluvial soil

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

# The Dimension Factory

**Q. The Revolt of 1857 did not achieve its objectives. Why?**



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