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International & National News

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| <p>RapidX or Nammo Bharat</p> | <p>Context High-speed train, RapidX, all set to be inaugurated.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) has named India's first semi-high-speed regional rail services as 'RAPIDX'.• These trains will operate on the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridors, which are being constructed to link important urban nodes across the National Capital Region (NCR).• The brand aims to incorporate green energy into its operations by installing solar panels at stations and depots and gradually increasing the use of blended power in traction. <p>About NCRTC The NCRTC is a joint venture company between the Union government and the states of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.</p> |
| <p>Nammo Bharat</p> | <p>Context Prime Minister flagged off the country's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), Nammo Bharat train.</p> <p>About train</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The RRTS is a new rail-based, semi-high-speed, high-frequency commuter transit system.• With a design speed of 180 kmph, it is a regional development initiative, which is designed to provide high-speed trains for intercity commuting every 15 minutes, going up to a frequency of every five minutes when required.• The train will allow a commuter to travel between Delhi and Meerut in less than an hour. |
| <p>'Tej'</p> | <p>Context A low-pressure area over the southeast and the adjoining southwest Arabian Sea is about to develop into a depression. It has the potential to impact Mumbai, Pune, and other regions of Maharashtra and the Konkan area.</p> <p>About Cyclone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cyclones are rapid inward air circulation around a low-pressure area. |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The air circulates in an anticlockwise direction in the Northern hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern hemisphere.Cyclones are usually accompanied by violent storms and bad weather. |
| Mehrauli park structures | <p>Context Major restoration and conservation works have been done at Mehrauli Archaeological Park</p> <p>About Mehrauli</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">It is spread over 200 acres.Mehrauli Archaeological Park is adjacent to Qutub MinarIt is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.It is home to 55 historic structures built by various empires — including the Khaljis, Tughlaqs, Lodhis, Mughals, and the BritishThese include the Jamali Kamali Mosque, Metcalfe House, Rajon ki Baoli, as well as the tombs of Mamluk king Ghiyas-ud-din Balban and Mughal governor Shah Quli Khan. |
| Dhordo in Gujarat | <p>Context Dhordo in Gujarat has made it to the United Nations World Tourism Organization's best villages list.</p> <p>About UNWTO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations.It promotes responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.It is headquartered in Madrid, Spain.UNWTO promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development, and environmental sustainability. |
| Star rating energy efficiency scheme for solar panels | <p>Context The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has expanded its scheme to solar panels. Starting in January 2024, solar panel manufacturers can apply to get their products rated for energy efficiency.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">BEE manages the 'star rating' scheme and is a subsidiary of the Ministry of Power.A panel with an efficiency of 17% to 18% will be rated 1 star, 18% to 20% 2-star, and so on.Panels will be rated 5-star for efficiency greater than 22%. |
| China to curb graphite export | <p>Context China will require export permits for some graphite products to protect national security</p> |



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| | <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China is the world's top graphite producer and exporter. • It also refines 90% of the world's graphite into the material that is used virtually in all EV battery anodes, which is the negatively charged portion of a battery. |
| <p>President launches fourth Krishi Road Map of Bihar</p> | <p>Context The President launched the fourth Krishi Road Map (2023-28) with an estimated ₹1.62 lakh crore.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The map focuses on increasing agricultural production, while also increasing farmers' incomes in the five years. • The road map, the fourth of its kind, focuses on storage, processing, and expanding seed and irrigation along with crop diversification and improved agriculture marketing. |
| <p>Ayodhya Ram Temple Trust receives FCRA license to accept foreign donations</p> | <p>Context The Ayodhya Ram Temple Trust, known as the Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra, has received a license to accept foreign donations under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA).</p> <p>About FCRA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) was enacted in 1976 to regulate foreign donations and ensure that such contributions do not adversely affect the internal security of the country. • The FCRA applies to all associations, groups, and NGOs which intend to receive foreign donations. • All such NGOs must register themselves under the FCRA. • This legal Provision is not only meant for NGOs but also for Political Organisations and Political Parties. • Moreover, the 2010 Amendment Act has also included electronic media companies and “organizations of a political nature” to the list. |

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