



DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 10-06-2025

GS-1

1. DRUM App

GS-2

2. Corruption in Governance
3. The World Bank Revised the Global Poverty Line

GS-3

4. India's Textile and Apparel Industry
5. International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI) 2025

DRUM App

Syllabus: GS-1: Urbanisation and Urban Mobility.

Context:

- The DRUM app, developed by IIT-Kharagpur researchers, is set to begin **real-world trials in Delhi** after successful simulations.
- The app aims to offer **eco-friendly route planning** to reduce commuters' exposure to air pollution.

What is DRUM App (Dynamic Route Planning for Urban Green Mobility)?

- A **web-based mobility application** that provides **real-time route suggestions** optimized for:
 - Air pollution exposure
 - Energy efficiency
 - Travel speed
 - Distance
- Developed by **IIT-Kharagpur** researchers.

Key Features

- Offers **five types of route options**:
 1. Shortest route
 2. Fastest route
 3. Least Exposure to Air Pollution (LEAP)
 4. Least Energy Consumption Route (LECR)
 5. Balanced Suggested Route
- Integrates **real-time traffic and air quality data**:
 - Sources include **CPCB** (Central Pollution Control Board) and **World AQI**.
 - Capable of providing route guidance even in **data-sparse zones**.
- Built using:
 - **GraphHopper** (an open-source routing engine)

- **Mapbox** (a mapping platform supporting vehicle-specific adjustments).
- **Prioritizes exposure time** as the **primary metric** to optimize route planning.
- **Future-ready enhancements:**
 - Will incorporate **crowdsourced sensor data**.
 - Planned **DRUM 2.0 version** to include **ML-powered time-based suggestions**.

Significance

- Proven potential to **reduce pollution exposure by up to 50%** in high-pollution zones like **Central Delhi**.
- Supports the goal of **sustainable urban mobility** and **better public health outcomes**.
- Especially beneficial for **vulnerable commuter groups**:
 - Cyclists
 - Pedestrians
 - Public transport users
- Promotes **data-driven environmental decision-making** in urban transport planning.

Overall Impact

- Encourages the adoption of **green mobility practices**.
- Aims to create **healthier urban commuting experiences**.
- Aligns with broader goals of **reducing urban air pollution** and achieving **sustainable development objectives**.

Corruption in Governance

Syllabus: GS-2: Governance – Corruption & GS-4: Corruption in Public Servants.

Context:

An IAS officer Dhiman Chakma was recently caught by Odisha Vigilance for accepting ₹10 lakh bribe to allegedly prevent closure of a business unit.

What is Corruption?

- Misuse of public office or power for personal gain.
- **Impacts:**
 - Erodes trust in governance.
 - Distorts policymaking.
 - Diverts resources from essential services.

Types of Corruption

Type	Description	Example
Bribery	Exchange of money/favours to influence public officials.	IAS officer in Odisha demanded ₹10 lakh to avoid shutting a business unit.
Embezzlement	Misappropriation/theft of public funds.	Officials diverting government funds into private accounts.
Nepotism	Favouritism in appointments or contracts.	Civic tenders awarded to relatives of politicians without bids.
Collusive Corruption	Secret pact between officials & private entities.	Contractors colluding with officials to inflate Smart City project costs.

Reasons Behind Corruption in India

- **Election Expenditure Pressure:**
 - Campaign funding needs foster quid pro quo culture with businesses.
 - *E.g. ₹1 lakh crore spent in 2024 Lok Sabha elections (CMS data).*
- **Weak Institutional Checks:**
 - Lokpal and Lokayuktas exist but are largely ineffective.
- **Red Tape & Discretion:**
 - Overregulation + discretionary powers = opportunities for rent-seeking.
- **Inequality & Rising Aspirations:**
 - Income disparities push low-paid officials to seek bribes.

- *E.g. Bribes used to afford luxury goods.*

➤ **Lack of Public Awareness:**

- Underuse of RTI or grievance portals by citizens to demand accountability.

Government Initiatives Against Corruption

Initiative	Mechanism	Example
Vigilance Raids	Trap cases & cash recoveries by anti-corruption agencies.	Odisha Vigilance arrested IAS officer with ₹57 lakh unaccounted cash.
Digital Systems	Reduce human discretion via e-tendering, PFMS, DBT.	PDS benefits transferred directly to bank accounts.
Whistleblower Act	Legal protection to individuals reporting corruption.	---
RTI Act	Citizen access to government records to enhance transparency.	---
Mandatory Asset Declarations	Annual asset disclosure by officials.	---

Way Ahead

Measure	Action	Example
Revive Lokpal & Lokayuktas	Ensure funding, independence, & oversight.	Mandatory reports & audits to improve impact.
Cap Political Funding	Regulate campaign spending & donations.	Ban cash donations; mandatory disclosure of electoral bond donors.
Use AI Surveillance	AI to detect anomalies in approvals & registrations.	AI tracking of sand mining in Rajasthan exposed illegal activity.
Guarantee Time-bound Services	Enforce service delivery laws with penalties.	Delhi RTS Act fines officers for delays.

Measure	Action	Example
Empower Citizens	Strengthen online portals, social audits, watchdog committees.	Civic participation keeps corruption in check.

Conclusion

- India's fight against corruption is **multi-dimensional**:
 - Requires **institutional reforms + public vigilance**.
 - **Technology & strong laws** deter wrongdoers.
 - **Citizen pressure** remains key.
- A transparent, accountable civic system is the **foundation of good governance**.

The World Bank Revised the Global Poverty Line

Syllabus: GS-2: Poverty and Poverty Alleviation.

Context:

The World Bank has revised the **global poverty line** from **\$2.15/day (PPP 2017)** to **\$3/day (PPP 2021)** to reflect updated price data and improved survey methods.

What is the Global Poverty Line?

- A **poverty line** defines the **minimum daily spending** needed to meet basic human needs (food, clothing, shelter).
- The **global poverty line** uses **Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)** adjustments to enable cross-country comparisons, irrespective of currency fluctuations.

How is Poverty Rate Determined?

- Measured as the **percentage of population** living below a defined daily expenditure threshold.
- The World Bank uses:
 - Household consumption surveys
 - Adjustments for **PPP** and **inflation**

- To calculate **national** and **global poverty rates**.

Comparison of Old vs New Poverty Line

Aspect	Old Poverty Line	New Poverty Line
Benchmark	\$2.15/day (2017 PPP)	\$3/day (2021 PPP)
Basis	Limited surveys, older PPP	Improved CES 2022–23, updated price levels
Result	9% global poverty in 2022	10.5% global poverty in 2022

Why the Revision?

- Incorporates **updated PPP (2021)** and richer **household consumption data**.
- Reflects improved **cost of living estimates**, particularly in countries like India.
- The new **extreme poverty line** is now linked to the **median poverty line** of **low-income countries**.

Implications for India

Sharp Drop in Extreme Poverty (Long-Term Trend)

- Under **old \$2.15 line** → **2.4% Indians poor** (2022).
- Under **new \$3 line** → **5.3% Indians poor** (2022). However, still a **significant drop** from **16.2% in 2011–12**.

Data Shift: Improved Survey Data

- Driven by India's first **official Consumer Expenditure Survey (CES)** in **11 years (2022–23)**.
- CES 2022–23 indicates **higher consumption patterns** → sign of **improved living standards**.

Moderate Poverty Remains High

- Using **\$4.20/day** poverty line (benchmark for **lower-middle-income countries**): → **23.9% Indians poor** (2022).
 - Indicates **moderate poverty** is still a significant issue.

Improved Global Comparisons

- **New PPP-adjusted benchmarks** and better **domestic data** now reflect India's progress more accurately in global comparisons.

Caution in Historical Comparison

- **Direct comparison** with older data (e.g., **2011–12 CES**) is not valid:
 - Different **survey methodologies**.
 - Different **inflation** and **PPP adjustments**.

Summary Points

Aspect	Before Revision (\$2.15 PPP 2017)	After Revision (\$3 PPP 2021)
India's extreme poverty (2022)	2.4%	5.3%
India's extreme poverty (2011–12)	16.2%	NA (not directly comparable)
Moderate poverty (\$4.20/day)	NA	23.9%

Significance for India

- Reflects **real improvements** in **living standards**.
- Highlights **persisting moderate poverty** → need for **targeted welfare policies**.
- Demonstrates importance of **high-quality national data** in shaping global narratives.

India's Textile and Apparel Industry

Syllabus: GS-3: Indian Economy – Textile sector.

Context:

A recent study highlighted India's stagnant global apparel trade share (3%), stressing the urgent need for policy innovation to achieve the \$40 billion export target by 2030.

Sector Overview

- **Employment:** Over 45 million employed; second-largest employer after agriculture.
- **GDP Contribution:** 2.3% of GDP.

- **Manufacturing Employment:** 12% share.
- **Export Share:**
 - Global T&A trade share: 4.2% (\$37.8 bn of \$897.8 bn).
 - Apparel trade share: 3%.
- **Industry Structure:**
 - 80% of apparel units = MSMEs.
 - Small, fragmented, lacking integration and global scale.

Importance of T&A Industry

Mass Employment Generator

- Key employment source in Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, West Bengal.

High Value Addition

- Adds value from raw cotton → readymade garments.
- Example: Apparel exports yield higher returns than raw textile exports.

Export Potential

- Current contribution: ~\$37.8 bn.
- Export target: \$40 bn by 2030.

Support to Ancillary Sectors

- Boosts dyes, chemicals, logistics, machinery, retail.
- Example: 10% rise in garment output → higher demand for spinning & processing.

Women-Centric Employment

- ~70% of workforce in apparel hubs = women.
- Example: Shahi Exports employs >70,000 women.

Key Government Schemes

For Textiles:

- **PM MITRA Parks:** 7 integrated parks → competitiveness & reduced logistics cost.
- **Amended TUFs:** Incentivises technology upgradation.

For Apparel:

- **RoSCTL Scheme:** Refund of state + central taxes/levies on exports.
- **SAMARTH:** Skilling programme for textile/apparel sector.
- **PLI Scheme for Textiles:**
 - Focus: MMF (Man-Made Fibres), technical textiles.
 - PLI 2.0: Draft proposes inclusion of large garment units.

Key Structural Bottlenecks

- **Fragmented Units:**
 - 80% MSMEs → limits scale & global visibility.
- **High Capital Cost:**
 - India: 9% interest rates vs. 3–4.5% in China/Vietnam.
- **Rigid Labour Laws:**
 - Complex laws, 2x wage overtime cost → deters scaling.
- **Supply Chain Inefficiencies:**
 - Dispersed production → longer delivery & higher logistics cost.
- **Low Female Labour Force Participation (FLFP):**
 - Underutilised despite sector's potential for women-centric employment.

Way Ahead

- **Subsidised Capital for Scale:**
 - 25–30% capex subsidy + 5–7 year tax holiday for units with >1,000 machines.
- **Flexible Labour Norms:**
 - Rationalise overtime to 1.25x (ILO standard).
 - Simplify compliance for formal hiring.
- **Link MGNREGA with Wages:**
 - 25–30% MGNREGA funds → subsidise garment factory wages.
- **Designate MITRA Garment Hubs:**
 - Target UP/MP → reduce migration, lower costs, boost industrialisation.

➤ **Introduce Export-Linked Incentive (ELI):**

- Shift from production-linked to **export-linked** → reward market competitiveness.

Conclusion

- Immense potential for **job creation&export growth**.
- \$40 bn export goal needs:
 - Bold reforms
 - Scalable models
 - Policy precision
- Example: Shahi Exports proves large-scale models are achievable — requires enabling ecosystem.

International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI) 2025

Syllabus: GS-3: Disaster Management

Context:

- Prime Minister of India addressed the *ICDRI 2025*, held for the first time in Europe.

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)

What It Is

- A global multilateral platform to promote infrastructure resilience against climate and disaster risks.
- Launched by: India in 2019.
- Headquarters: New Delhi.

Membership

- 46 member countries + 8 partner organizations.
- Composition:

- National governments.
- UN agencies.
- Multilateral development banks.
- Private sector entities.

Objective

- Mobilize investments to make infrastructure climate- and disaster-resilient by 2050.
- Enhance:
 - Environmental quality.
 - Livelihood security.
 - Resilience for over 3 billion people globally.

Funding

- Primarily voluntary contributions.
- Major funders: India (lead funder), USA, UK, France, Japan, Germany, Australia, Canada, World Bank.
- No mandatory financial commitment for members.

Functions

- Facilitate global knowledge exchange.
- Conduct research and promote capacity building.
- Support financing mechanisms for resilient infrastructure.
- Implement 10 thematic initiatives, including:
 - Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
 - Urban resilience.
 - Africa.
 - Critical infrastructure protection.

Key Highlights of ICDRI 2025

Theme of the Conference

- "Shaping a Resilient Future for Coastal Regions"
→ Special focus on protecting vulnerable coastal zones amid rising climate risks.

India's 5 Global Priorities at CDRI (as articulated by the PM at ICDRI 2025)

- **Education & Skill Development**

- Integrate disaster resilience modules into higher education.
- Create a future-ready workforce in climate adaptation and resilience.

- **Global Digital Repository**

- Build a platform to share case studies, learnings, and post-disaster rebuilding models.
- Aim: Foster global learning and best practices exchange.

- **Innovative Financing for Developing Nations**

- Ensure greater access to resilience financing.
- Special focus on vulnerable and low-income nations.

- **Special Focus on SIDS**

- Recognize Small Island Developing States (SIDS) as Large Ocean Countries.
- Prioritize unique climate adaptation needs and infrastructure resilience for these nations.

- **Early Warning & Coordination Systems**

- Strengthen real-time alert systems.
- Improve last-mile communication to reduce disaster impacts and save lives.

Significance of ICDRI 2025 and CDRI

- Elevates India's leadership in climate diplomacy and disaster risk reduction.
- Fosters global partnerships for achieving resilient, sustainable infrastructure.
- Aligns with SDG 9 (Infrastructure, Innovation, and Industry) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).