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PART I • HEADLINES TO ECONOMY

Thursday, 23 July 2026

"The Topper's Last Read. Every Morning."

§1 · TOP 10 HEADLINES — 23 JULY 2026

- 1. Parliament Monsoon Session Day 4** — Both Houses again adjourned; NEET paper-leak disruptions persist; no legislative business conducted; Education Minister Pradhan faces resignation demand. **GS2**
- 2. NCM Chairman Harjit Singh Grewal assumes charge** — National Commission for Minorities post vacant 14+ months; BJP's Punjab VP; S. Munawari Begum as VC; Glenn Ticlo as Member. **GS2**
- 3. Udmaroo Bridge, Shayok River, Nubra, Ladakh** — LG VK Saxena inaugurates ₹27.18 crore Truss bridge; 35 km saved; Buddhist pilgrimage connectivity; border security access. **GS2**
- 4. EAM Jaishankar at Manila** — ASEAN ARF + Quad FM Meet; bilateral with China's Wang Yi — "India-China ties gradually normalising"; "border peace is prerequisite for normal ties." **GS2-IR**
- 5. 16th India-Japan Annual Summit (July 1-3)** — 16 outcomes; UNICORN (first India-Japan defence co-development); \$12.5B investment; Economic Security Declaration; PM Takaichi + PM Modi. **GS2-IR**
- 6. DAC clears ₹52,000 crore defence procurement** — Akash Tarang (anti-UAV EW), MRSAM, V-SHORADS, MPATGM, naval multi-influence mines, IAF High-Altitude Pseudo Satellites. **GS3-DEF**
- 7. India's first eVTOL prototype unveiled** — ePlane Company (IIT Madras incubated) launches e200X at Chennai; 2,200 kg; 110 km range; 2028 commercial ops; Advanced Air Mobility. **GS3-S&T**
- 8. ICMR Medical Innovations Patent Mitra** — 3 biomedical technologies licensed; Emcure: SHetA2 (cervical cancer); Biological E: 2 enteric vaccines (typhoid+shigella); commercialising public R&D. **GS3**
- 9. India's 98 Ramsar Wetlands + CBD 7th National Report** — India submits biodiversity progress report; Kunming-Montreal GBF 30x30; forest cover 25.17%; 58 Tiger Reserves. **ENV**
- 10. India BRICS Chairship 2026** — Theme: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"; 3rd BRICS Transport Ministers Meeting concluded Nagpur; BRICS Summit New Delhi later this year. **GS2-IR**

SAHYOG Today's 10 headlines span 5 GS papers. Sahyog Mentorship structures your daily revision into PYQ-mapped answer frameworks — enrol at theiasakademia.com.

§2 · POLITY & GOVERNANCE

GS2

Statutory Bodies · Minorities

21 July 2026 · New Delhi · Source: SCC Online / Adda247 / Drishti IAS

NCM Chairman Harjit Singh Grewal Assumes Charge — Statutory Post Vacant 14+ Months; 6 Notified Minorities

Why in News: Harjit Singh Grewal (senior BJP leader, former Punjab State VP) assumed charge as Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) on July 21, 2026, filling a post that had been vacant since April 2025 — over 14 months. S. Munawari Begum took charge as Vice-Chairperson (July 20) and Glenn E. Souza Ticlo (former Goa MLA) as Member representing the Christian community.

Background: The NCM was established under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, with the mandate to safeguard the religious and linguistic minorities of India. The Commission evaluates the working of minority protection provisions in the Constitution and federal laws, and investigates specific complaints. The extended vacancy drew criticism from minority community groups and Opposition parties, who argued it weakened the Commission's ability to address grievances.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- NCM Act 1992: Commission of 7 members — 1 Chairman + 1 VC + 5 Members (from notified minorities); 3-year term (not renewable for more than 2 terms); appointed by GoI on recommendation of Ministry of Minority Affairs.
- 6 notified minorities (under NCM Act, Section 2(c)): Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Buddhist, Zoroastrian (Parsi), and Jain (added 2014 — first new minority since original notification).

- Powers: NCM can inquire into deprivation of rights/safeguards — but has NO power to direct (only recommendatory); findings submitted to the Central/State government concerned.
- Constitutional basis: Art. 29 (protection of interests of minorities — language, script, culture) and Art. 30 (minorities' right to establish/administer educational institutions). NCM is statutory, NOT constitutional.

💡 TEACHING HOOK

Key trap: NCM is statutory (under NCM Act 1992) — NOT constitutional. The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (Art 338) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (Art 338A) are constitutional bodies. NCM is often confused with the National Minorities Commission vs the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) — a separate body under NCMEI Act 2004. Linguistic minorities have a separate body too: Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities (Art 350B — constitutional).

📄 PYQ LINKAGE

GS2 2018: "Enumerate the safeguards available to minorities under the Indian Constitution." | GS2 2021: "Discuss the role of statutory commissions in protecting rights of vulnerable groups in India." | GS2 2023: "Is India's minority protection framework adequate? Examine critically."

🎯 PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Q. Which of the following communities was added as the 6th notified minority under the NCM Act in 2014? (a) Bahá'í (b) Jewish (c) Jain (d) Buddhist. **Answer: (c) Jain.** Jains were added in 2014, making them the first new addition since the original 5 notified minorities (Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Buddhist, Zoroastrian) were notified in 1993. Note: Buddhist was notified originally, not added in 2014.

GS2

NCM

National Commission for Minorities

Minority Rights

Art 29-30

Statutory Body

GS2

Infrastructure · Border Connectivity

21 July 2026 · Nubra, Ladakh · Source: Ladakh UT Admin / Tribune India / GKToday

Udmaroo Bridge over Shayok River, Nubra Ladakh — ₹27.18 Crore Strategic Connectivity; 35 km Saved

Why in News: Ladakh Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena inaugurated the Udmaroo Bridge over the Shayok River in Nubra district, Ladakh, on July 21, 2026. Built at a cost of ₹27.18 crore under the UT Administration's Special Development Package, the three-span Truss System Bridge (with 70R load capacity) cuts the road distance between Udmaroo-Hundri villages and Terchey-Skuru villages by ~35 km, directly benefiting ~1,000 residents.

Background: Nubra Valley, located north of the Khardung La pass in Ladakh, is a strategically sensitive region adjoining the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China and close to the Siachen Glacier — the world's highest battlefield. The Shayok River (a major left-bank tributary of the Indus) flows through this valley. Infrastructure in this region serves a dual purpose: enhancing civilian connectivity and enabling quicker military logistics toward Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) and Siachin.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- Shayok River: originates near Karakoram Pass (5,540 m); flows through Nubra Valley; tributary of Indus; meets Indus near Skardu in Pakistan-administered territory; important for military logistics to DBO sector.
- Nubra Valley connectivity: Accessible via Khardung La (highest motorable road, ~5,359 m BSNL claim; survey says 5,602 m); also home to the famous Diskit Monastery and Nubra Bactrian camels.
- Strategic context: Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) Advanced Landing Ground (ALG) is India's highest ALG (~5,065 m); critical for airlifting troops and material near the LAC (Aksai Chin sector). Udmaroo Bridge improves the supply chain to DBO.
- Buddhist pilgrimage connectivity: The bridge provides uninterrupted access to Sham Gombo (Yarma Gonbo), an important Buddhist pilgrimage site, supporting religious tourism and local socio-economic development in the Ladakh UT.

💡 TEACHING HOOK

Nubra Valley geography for UPSC: Nubra = Sanskrit "Ldumra" meaning "land of flowers." The Shayok + Nubra rivers meet near Diskit before flowing into the Indus near Khalsar. Key BRO projects in Ladakh: Zoji La Tunnel (longest at 14.15 km under construction), DSDBO Road (Darbuk-Shyok-DBO; completed 2021; key military road). Ladakh is a Union Territory (NOT a state) — LG is the Administrator under Art 239; no legislature (unlike J&K UT which has a legislature).

📄 PYQ LINKAGE

GS2 2022: "What is the significance of border infrastructure in India's national security? Discuss with examples." | GS1 2020: "Rivers of the Indus system — tributaries and significance for India."

PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Q. The Shayok River in Ladakh is a tributary of which major river? (a) Chenab (b) Jhelum (c) Ravi (d) Indus. **Answer: (d) Indus.** Shayok is a left-bank tributary of the Indus; it originates near Karakoram Pass, flows through Nubra Valley, joins Nubra River near Khalsar, and then flows into the Indus. The Indus itself originates near Mansarovar in Tibet.

GS2

Ladakh

Shayok River

Nubra Valley

Border Connectivity

Indus System

DBO

§3 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

GS2

ASEAN · Quad · India-China

22–23 July 2026 · Manila, Philippines · Source: MEA / ANI / Prokerala

EAM Jaishankar in Manila — ASEAN ARF + Quad FM Meet + Wang Yi Bilateral: "Border Peace is Prerequisite for Normal India-China Ties"

Why in News: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is in Manila (July 22-23, 2026) for the ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers Meeting, East Asia Summit (EAS) FMM, and ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF). On July 22, he held a bilateral meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on the sidelines — stating that "India-China ties are gradually normalising since October 2024" but reiterating that "peace and tranquility in the border areas is the prerequisite for normal ties."

Background: India-China bilateral ties have been strained since the Galwan Valley clash (June 2020). October 2024 saw PM Modi and President Xi Jinping hold bilateral talks in Kazan (Russia) — marking the first formal summit since 2019. Subsequently, disengagement from key friction points in Eastern Ladakh was completed, paving the way for gradual normalisation. Resumption of direct flights, Kailash Manasarovar Yatra, and border trade are key indicators.

KEY FACTS

- ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF): established 1994; 27 members including India, US, China, Russia, EU, Japan; annual FM-level consultative forum for security dialogue in the Asia-Pacific; chaired by ASEAN Chair (2026: Philippines).
- Jaishankar-Rubio bilateral (July 22, Manila): discussed Middle East, Indo-Pacific; "almost complete" interim US-India trade deal; finalising key defence agreements (BECA, LEMOA, COMCASA fully operational — context for new agreements).
- Quad Foreign Ministers Meeting (July 22-23, Manila): India, US, Japan, Australia; discussed maritime security, AI governance, technology supply chains; ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation 2026 highlighted.
- Jaishankar raised economic concerns with Wang Yi: India's trade deficit with China (~\$85 billion in 2025-26); market entry barriers; need for fair access for Indian pharma and IT companies in China.

TEACHING HOOK

India-China normalisation timeline: (1) Galwan clash June 2020 → disengagement process 2021-24 → Kazan summit October 2024 → Eastern Ladakh disengagement complete → gradual normalisation. Key friction points: Gogra-Hot Springs, Pangong Tso south bank, Depsang. The ARF is NOT the same as the EAS (East Asia Summit — 18 members, PM-level). Jaishankar quote for GS4: "Border peace is the prerequisite for normal ties" — illustrates India's principled stand — link to values of integrity, rule of law.

PYQ LINKAGE

GS2 2021: "India-China relations post-Galwan — challenges and the road to normalisation." | GS2 2023: "What is the Quad? Examine its strategic significance and India's role." | GS2 2024: "Act East Policy and ASEAN — India's connectivity and security interests."

PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Q. The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) was established in which year? (a) 1991 (b) 1994 (c) 1997 (d) 2002. **Answer: (b) 1994.** ARF was established in 1994 as an Asia-Pacific security dialogue platform with 27 members. Distinct from EAS (East Asia Summit, 2005), SCO (2001), and RCEP (2020).

16th India-Japan Annual Summit — UNICORN Defence Co-Development, \$12.5B Investment, Economic Security Declaration

Why in News: Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi visited New Delhi (July 1-3, 2026) for the 16th India-Japan Annual Summit, producing 16 formal outcomes and three joint statements. The summit is historically significant for launching the UNICORN Project — India and Japan's first-ever defence technology co-development initiative — and for fresh Japanese investment pledges of \$12.5 billion from 150 firms.

Background: India-Japan relations are anchored in the "Special Strategic and Global Partnership" (2014). India is the 3rd largest recipient of Japanese ODA globally. The annual summit framework has been in place since 2006. PM Takaichi is Japan's first female PM (took office after Kishida). The previous 2022 Modi-Kishida summit had a ¥5 trillion investment target; the 2026 summit doubled it to ¥10 trillion.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- UNICORN Project: India-Japan first-ever defence technology co-development; specific system not publicly detailed; builds on the 2022 Japan-India "2+2" Dialogue framework; classified as Make-I equivalent under Defence Acquisition Procedure.
- India-Japan Joint Declaration on Economic Security: cooperation in semiconductors, critical minerals, AI, ICT, clean energy, pharma; supply chain resilience; context of US-China tech decoupling creating opportunities for India-Japan linkages.
- India-Japan Cooperative Biogas for Growth Initiative: promotes sustainable biogas energy; complements Japan's hydrogen + ammonia decarbonisation strategy; Odisha Green Hydrogen and Clean Ammonia Project reaffirmed.
- Japan investment in India: ¥10 trillion target over 5 years; 129 MoUs at Joint Economic Forum; sectors: infrastructure (Metro rail, bullet train Mumbai-Ahmedabad), semiconductors (Renesas collaboration), digital economy.

💡 TEACHING HOOK

India-Japan bilateral framework: Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA, 2011) + Special Strategic and Global Partnership (2014) + 2+2 Dialogue (Foreign + Defence Ministers, 2022). Japan funds Bullet Train (Mumbai-Ahmedabad) with 80% of cost as ODA loan at 0.1% interest. Japan is also India's partner for Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). UNICORN: first defence co-development — distinct from DTTI (US) and IDICA (Australia). Japan's Article 9 (pacifism) constraints are evolving — Takaichi expanded Japan's defence spending to 2% of GDP.

📄 PYQ LINKAGE

GS2 2019: "Examine the India-Japan partnership — from economic ties to security cooperation." | GS2 2022: "India-Japan relations in the context of the Indo-Pacific strategic framework." | GS3 2021: "Economic corridors in India — examine their geopolitical significance."

🎯 PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Q. The UNICORN project is associated with which bilateral relationship? (a) India-USA (b) India-France (c) India-Australia (d) India-Japan.

Answer: (d) India-Japan. UNICORN is the first-ever India-Japan defence technology co-development project, announced at the 16th India-Japan Annual Summit (July 2026) in New Delhi.

ANTIM 2027 ANTIM 2027 Mains Programme covers India's bilateral partnerships with dedicated IR modules mapped to GS2 PYQs. Batch info at theiasakademia.com.

§4 · DEFENCE & SECURITY

DAC Clears ₹52,000 Crore Procurement — Akash Tarang Anti-UAV EW, MRSAM, V-SHORADS, Naval Mines, IAF HAPS

Why in News: The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, on July 3, 2026, accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) to acquisition proposals worth ~₹52,000 crore (\$5.47 billion) across the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force — the largest single DAC clearance in recent years. The approvals reflect post-Operation Sindoor urgency in plugging critical capability gaps.

Background: India's counter-drone and layered air defence needs have been underscored by the Pakistan conflict (Operation Sindoor, May 2026) and lessons from the Russia-Ukraine and Israel-Hamas conflicts, where UAV swarms overwhelmed conventional air defences. The DAC is the apex body for defence procurement decisions, headed by the Defence Minister with the three Service Chiefs and other senior officials.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- Akash Tarang: Indian Army's Anti-UAV Electronic Warfare (EW) system; jams, spoofs, and neutralises drone swarms; name from "Akash" (sky) + "Tarang" (waves); indigenous development by DRDO + Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).
- MRSAM (Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missile): joint development DRDO + Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI); in service with Army, Navy, Air Force; range ~70 km; Mach 2+ intercept speed; can engage aircraft, cruise missiles, UAVs.
- V-SHORADS (Very Short Range Air Defence System): Indian procurement; multi-spectral sensing; counters low-level aerial threats; 100+ launchers + 2,300 missiles; infantry-portable.
- IAF High-Altitude Pseudo Satellites (HAPS): unmanned, solar-powered, stratospheric (~20 km altitude); persistent ISR (intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance); can loiter for months; cost-effective alternative to satellites for border monitoring.

💡 TEACHING HOOK

India's layered air defence (low to high altitude): V-SHORADS (very low) → Akash missile (short range, ~25 km) → MRSAM (medium range, ~70 km) → S-400 Triumf (long range, ~400 km; procured from Russia). MPATGM (Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile) approved simultaneously — different from MRSAM; for anti-tank use, not air defence. Naval Multi-Influence Mines: triggered by magnetic, acoustic, or pressure signatures — effective against submarines and surface ships in shallow waters — connects to INS Malvan (ASW) coverage.

📄 PYQ LINKAGE

GS3 2020: "Examine India's progress in indigenisation of defence equipment." | GS3 2023: "What is the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP)? Examine its significance for Atmanirbharta." | GS3 2024: "Counter-drone technology — emerging threats and India's response."

🎯 PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Q. Akash Tarang is India's indigenously developed system for: (a) Anti-submarine warfare (b) Anti-UAV electronic warfare (c) Long-range surface-to-surface missiles (d) Satellite jamming. **Answer: (b) Anti-UAV electronic warfare.** Akash Tarang is developed by DRDO and BEL to neutralise unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) using electronic jamming and spoofing.

GS3

DAC

Akash Tarang

MRSAM

V-SHORADS

HAPS

Atmanirbhar Defence

§5 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

GS3

Aviation · Advanced Air Mobility

20–21 July 2026 · Chennai · Source: Business Standard / Urban Air Mobility News / Trak.in

ePlane Company eVTOL e200X — India's First Electric Air Taxi Prototype; IIT Madras Startup; 2028 Commercial Launch

Why in News: The ePlane Company, an IIT Madras-incubated aerospace startup, unveiled the full-scale prototype of its e200X (PT-01) eVTOL (Electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing) aircraft at its 60,000 sq. ft. production facility in Chennai (July 20–21, 2026) — India's first domestically developed electric air taxi prototype. The company targets commercial operations by 2028, initially for air ambulance services, before expanding to airport transfers and urban air taxi routes.

Background: Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) refers to safe, affordable, on-demand air transport in urban and sub-urban areas using electric aircraft. The global eVTOL market is projected at \$30 billion by 2030, with companies like Joby Aviation (US), Lilium (Europe), and EHang (China) already flight-testing. India's DGCA has been drafting an AAM regulatory framework, and the ePlane launch positions India to become a manufacturer, not just an importer, of future air taxis.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- e200X specs: 2,200 kg maximum take-off weight; 800V high-voltage EV powertrain; advanced carbon fibre airframe; NVIDIA IGX Thor compute platform (edge AI for autonomous flight); HENSOLDT avionics; range 110 km on single charge; cruising at ~200 km/h.
- Technology: Hybrid eVTOL — combines fixed-wing cruising efficiency (not hovering only) with vertical take-off like a helicopter; 8 rotors for VTOL + wing for forward flight. Ground testing begins 2027; commercial certification targeted 2028.
- IIT Madras incubation: ePlane Company founded 2017; IIT Madras Research Park; received funding from Inflection Point Ventures + Indian Angel Network; first full-scale prototype delivery = milestone from lab to manufacturing.
- AAM applications for India: Air ambulance (golden hour in rural areas), inter-city connects (Mumbai-Pune: 15 min by air vs 3 hrs by road), border area mobility, disaster relief. UDAN 2.0 integration potential.

💡 TEACHING HOOK

eVTOL vs helicopter: Helicopters use a single large rotor (mechanical complexity); eVTOLs use multiple small electric motors (simpler, quieter, lower maintenance). Electric propulsion = zero direct emissions + 70% cheaper to operate than jet helicopters. For UPSC: IIT Madras incubation connects to "Innovation ecosystems" in GS3 (technology policy, startups). India's DGCA is the Civil Aviation regulator — needs to certify eVTOL under Aircraft Rules 1937 (amended) or create new AAM-specific certification norms. UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) = India's regional connectivity scheme.

📄 PYQ LINKAGE

GS3 2022: "Discuss India's emerging aviation sector — UDAN scheme, air connectivity and challenges." | GS3 2024: "Role of IIT incubators in India's startup ecosystem — discuss with examples." | GS3 2020: "Electric vehicles — policy push, infrastructure, and industry readiness."

🎯 PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Q. The ePlane Company, which launched India's first eVTOL prototype in 2026, is incubated at: (a) IIT Delhi (b) IIT Bombay (c) IIT Kharagpur (d) IIT Madras. **Answer: (d) IIT Madras.** Founded in 1971, it operates from the IIT Madras Research Park, Chennai. The e200X prototype was unveiled at its Chennai production facility in July 2026.

GS3

eVTOL

ePlane Company

IIT Madras

AAM

Electric Aviation

Startup

📖 LAKSHYAM AIR1

LAKSHYAM AIR1 covers India's technology sector with case studies — India's first startup-to-prototype stories for GS3. Enrol at theiasakademia.com.

§6 · ECONOMY

GS3

Health Economy · IP & Innovation

21 July 2026 · Source: PIB / ICMR / DrugsControl.org / Sahi.com

ICMR Medical Innovations Patent Mitra — 3 Biomedical Technologies Licensed to Emcure and Biological E

Why in News: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has transferred commercial licensing rights for three indigenously developed biomedical technologies to Indian pharmaceutical companies under its "Medical Innovations Patent Mitra" (MIPM) initiative. Emcure Pharmaceuticals acquires SHetA2 (a therapeutic for cervical precancerous cells), while Biological E. Limited acquires two next-generation enteric vaccines targeting typhoid, paratyphoid, and Shigella infections.

Background: ICMR's Medical Innovations Patent Mitra (MIPM) is a centralised digital IP incubator — a 100% government-funded platform providing end-to-end support for patent filing, prosecution, maintenance, and technology transfer of biomedical innovations developed by ICMR researchers. It demonstrates the "bench-to-bedside" pathway for publicly-funded R&D. The NMC (National Medical Commission) has directed medical colleges to promote the platform among researchers.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- SHetA2 (licensed to Emcure): First-in-class therapeutic agent targeting cervical precancerous cells — selectively kills precancerous cells without harming normal cervical cells; ICMR-developed with NIH collaboration; potential alternative to surgery for CIN (Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia).
- Enteric vaccines (licensed to Biological E): Two next-generation vaccines covering typhoid, paratyphoid A&B, and Shigella — diseases responsible for ~1.3 million deaths globally per year; enteric diseases are a top cause of under-5 mortality in India.
- ICMR: Indian Council of Medical Research — apex biomedical research body under MoHFW; established 1911 (as Indian Research Fund Association — IRFA); HQ New Delhi; runs 25+ research institutes across India; COVID-19 vaccine development (Covaxin — ICMR + Bharat Biotech).
- India's pharma-biotech landscape: India = world's 3rd largest pharmaceutical market by volume; vaccine manufacturer (Serum Institute); "pharmacy of the world" = 20% of global generics by volume; this licensing strengthens India's pipeline in preventive + curative oncology.

💡 TEACHING HOOK

Patent Mitra = "Patent Friend" — bridges the gap between government R&D and industry commercialisation. India's traditional challenge: excellent public research (CSIR, ICMR, ICAR) but poor commercialisation. MIPM directly addresses this. Compare: USA's Bayh-Dole Act (1980) allows universities to own patents from federally funded research — India's NIPAM (National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission) and NASTI (National IP system) are working towards a similar ecosystem. ICMR's Covaxin (2021) is the most famous public R&D commercialisation success.

📖 PYQ LINKAGE

GS3 2021: "Discuss India's pharmaceutical sector — opportunities and challenges." | GS3 2023: "Intellectual property and innovation — should public-funded research be patentable?" | GS2 2020: "ICMR's role in India's public health architecture."

🎯 PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Q. ICMR was originally established in which year, under which name? (a) 1947, as ICMR (b) 1911, as Indian Research Fund Association (c) 1935, as Bharat Arogya Parishad (d) 1950, as Indian Medical Council. **Answer: (b) 1911, as Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA).** It was renamed ICMR in 1949. ICMR is under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), not DSIR or DBT.

GS3

ICMR

Patent Mitra

Emcure

Biological E

IP Commercialisation

Pharma

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