

8. Short News

1. About 'Kaushal Rath'

Launched by the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) under the 'Yuva AI for All' initiative.

What it is – A mobile AI awareness unit designed as a bus equipped with computer labs, internet, and audio-visual tools.

Objective – To travel to schools and community spaces in semi-urban areas to provide hands-on exposure to AI and Generative AI tools.

Goal – To democratize AI education and build a future-ready workforce.

Partners – MeitY and AISECT (All India Society for Electronics and Computer Technology).

'Yuva AI for All' Program – A 4-hour self-paced course focusing on AI fundamentals and ethics, requiring no prior coding knowledge.

2. UN Security Council 1267 Sanctions Committee

Recent report linked Jaish-e-Mohammed to the Red Fort attack.

Official Name – Da'esh and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee.

Origin – Established in 1999; strengthened after 9/11.

Composition – Includes all 15 members (permanent and non-permanent) of the UNSC.

Function – Maintains a global list of designated terrorists/entities linked to ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida. Decisions on listing/de-listing are made by consensus.

Measures Imposed – Asset freezes, travel bans, and arms embargoes.

3. NATO's Arctic Sentry Mission

NATO launched this initiative to consolidate military activities in the High North.

Objective – To integrate allied capabilities for surveillance and defense in the Arctic region.

Inspiration – Models like 'Baltic Sentry' and 'Eastern Sentry'.

Key Activities – Includes major drills like Exercise Cold Response and protecting critical infrastructure against sabotage.

Geography

1. Arctic – Region around the North Pole.
2. High North – Strategic term for northern Europe (e.g., Norway) and surrounding seas.

4. Proposed Guidelines for Publication by Armed Forces Personnel

Triggered by controversy over Gen. (Retd.) M.M. Naravane's unpublished memoir.

Proposed Changes – A standardized pre-publication clearance process for *both* serving and retired personnel. Mandatory MoD permission for content involving sensitive/classified info.

Current Rules

1. Serving Personnel – Need prior written permission for any literary work (Army Rules, 1954).
2. Retired Personnel – No specific service rule bars publication, but they remain bound by the Official Secrets Act, 1923 for life (cannot disclose classified info).

5. Shorter All-Oral Regimens for Drug-Resistant TB

ICMR-NIRT study found shorter regimens more effective and cost-efficient.

The Findings

1. New Regimens – BPaL (Bedaquiline + Pretomanid + Linezolid) and BPaLM (adds Moxifloxacin).
2. Duration – Reduced to 6 months (vs. traditional 18–20 months).
3. Method – All-oral (no injections required).

Benefits – Better patient compliance, reduced side effects, and lower costs.

About MDR/RR-TB – A severe form of TB resistant to first-line drugs (Isoniazid and Rifampicin), often caused by improper treatment.

6. Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati

Tributes paid on his birth anniversary.

Who – 19th-century reformer and founder of Arya Samaj (1875).

Philosophy

1. Slogan – “Back to the Vedas”.
2. Advocated Monotheism and rejected idol worship/ritualism.

Key Contributions

1. Social Reform – Opposed caste based on birth (supported merit-based Varna), untouchability, and child marriage.
2. Education – His vision led to the DAV (Dayanand Anglo-Vedic) movement in 1886.
3. Literary Work – Wrote Satyarth Prakash.

7. Motions of Parliament

A formal proposal by a member to initiate debate or decision.

Three Main Categories

1. Substantive Motion – Independent proposal on very important matters (e.g., Impeachment of President).
2. Substitute Motion – Proposed alternative to an original motion.
3. Subsidiary Motion – Dependent on an original motion (e.g., amendments).

Specific Types

1. Closure Motion – To cut short debate and put a matter to vote.
2. Privilege Motion – Against a Minister for breach of privilege (withholding facts).
3. Calling Attention – To draw a Minister's attention to urgent matters (Indian innovation).
4. Adjournment Motion – Disrupts normal business to discuss urgent public importance (Lok Sabha only).

Motion of Thanks – Discussed after the President's address; acts as a confidence vote for the government.

