



# Career Strategists IAS

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# CURRENT AFFAIRS



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## USEFUL FOR

- ★ UPSC
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## 1. Dr. Jitendra Singh launched "Kisan Kavach".

India has introduced indigenous anti-pesticide suit called "Kisan Kavach" to protect farmers. It has been developed in collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Sepio Health Pvt Ltd. The suit is designed to protect farmers from health problems caused by pesticides such as breathing disorders, vision loss and even death. Union Science Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh unveiled the suit and called it an important step in protecting farmers.



## 2. Russia offers visa-free travel for Indians by 2025.

Bilateral talks between India and Russia may result in India getting visa-free travel facility to Russia, which is likely to come into effect in the spring of 2025. The move is aimed at easing visa restrictions and promoting tourism between the two countries. Currently Indian citizens require a visa to visit Russia, but the upcoming agreement may simplify travel procedures. Russia already offers visa-free travel for citizens of China and Iran, leading to increased tourism.



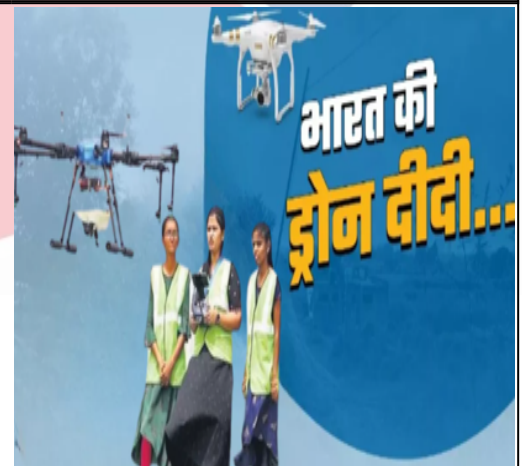
## 3. Partnership of Dialogue and Cooperation between India and Armenia.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla held a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Alan Simonyan, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia, at Parliament House. Trade, economic investments and other mutual interests between the two countries were discussed in the meeting. Birla, while welcoming the Armenian delegation, recalled their last meeting in Geneva earlier this year.



## 4. Namoo Didi Drone Scheme.

The Central Government has approved the 'Namoo Didi' scheme for providing drones to women self-help groups (SHGs), with an outlay of Rs 1261 crore from 2023-24 to 2025-26. A total of 15000 drones will be provided under the scheme, out of which leading fertilizer companies have distributed the first 500 drones to SHGs in 2023-24. The target is to provide drones to 3090 SHGs in 2024-25.



## 5. Israel expands settlements in Golan Heights amid regional changes.

Israel has approved a new settlement expansion plan in the Golan Heights, allocating \$11.13 million. The plan aims to promote public services and infrastructure in the region, and aims to double the population. The Golan Heights were captured by Israel in the 1967 6-Day War and annexed in 1981, although most of the international community does not consider it part of Israel.



## 6. Cyclone Chido and Mayotte Island.

Cyclone Chido has caused extensive loss of life and property in the French island group of Mayotte. The cyclone was a category-4 tropical storm, with winds of over 220 kmph, and is the most powerful storm to hit France or its islands in the last 90 years. The Mayotte Islands are located off the east coast of Africa in the Indian Ocean, near Madagascar and are part of the Comoros Islands.



## 7. Sri Lanka-India Naval Exercise.

The Sri Lanka-India naval exercise SLINEX 2024 began recently, which is being held in Visakhapatnam from December 17 to 20, 2024. The exercise is divided into two phases: the harbour phase on December 17-18 and the sea phase on December 19-20. SLINEX 2024 will showcase the capabilities of India's indigenously built naval ships and aircraft. The exercise will include surface and air attack exercises, weapons firing, seamanship, navigation and house deck flight operations.



## 8. International Migrants Day.

International Migrants Day is celebrated every year on 18 December, with the aim of protecting the rights of migrants, recognizing their contributions and raising awareness of migrant issues. The day marks the anniversary of the International Migrant Workers Day Convention adopted in 1990 for the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families. It was initiated by the United Nations General Assembly on 4 December 2000. The theme for 2024 is:



**1. Recently, the Government of India has launched a suit keeping in mind the safety of the health of farmers - which is that indigenous suit?**

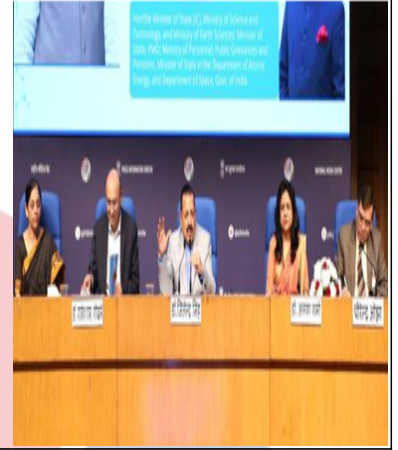
**A - Kisan Kavach**

**B - Kisan Mitra**

**C - Kisan Suraksha**

**D - Kisan Saathi**

India has introduced an anti-pesticide suit called "Kisan Kavach" for the safety of farmers, which was jointly developed by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Sepio Health Private Limited. This suit is designed to protect farmers from health problems caused by pesticides. "Kisan Kavach" is washable and reusable, costing Rs 4000 and can last up to a year.



**2. Which country has recently offered visa-free travel for Indians?**

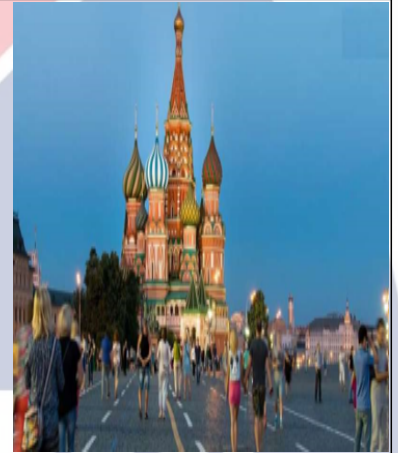
**A - China**

**B - Russia**

**C - Britain**

**D - Japan**

As a result of bilateral talks between India and Russia, India may get visa-free travel facility to Russia in the spring of 2025. This is aimed at easing visa restrictions and boosting tourism. Currently Indians need a visa to visit Russia, but the upcoming agreement will simplify travel procedures. Russia already provides visa-free travel to citizens of China and Iran.



**3. Who was the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia who recently visited India?**

**A - William Tудо**

**B - Novak Sis**

**C - Alan Simonyan**

**D - Nathan Bracken**

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla held a bilateral meeting with Armenia's National Assembly Speaker Alan Simonyan at Parliament House, in which trade, economic investment and other issues were discussed. Birla mentioned India's stable government and high growth rate. He spoke of increasing political and trade relations between India and Armenia and expressed the need for continued cooperation on multilateral forums.



**4. Namo Didi Drone Yojana has been launched by the Central Government. This scheme is run by which department?**

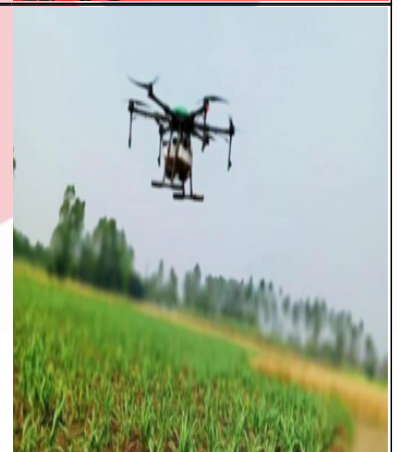
**A - Department of Finance Ministry** **B - Ministry of Home Affairs**

**D - Department of Rural**

**C - Ministry of Textiles**

**Development - and Department of Fertilizers**

The Central Government has approved the 'Namo Drone Didi' scheme to provide drones to women self-help groups (SHGs), under which a budget of Rs 1261 crore has been kept from 2023-24 to 2025-26.



5. 'Golan Heights', which was in the news recently, is related to which country?

- A - Israel  
C - India

- B - America  
D - Japan

Israel has approved a new settlement expansion plan in the Golan Heights, allocating \$11.13 million. The plan aims to promote public service, infrastructure and population growth in the region. The Golan Heights was captured by Israel in the 1967 war and annexed in 1981, but most of the international community does not consider it part of Israel.



6. Recently, the wrath of cyclone 'Fio' was seen in which country?

- A - France  
C - Italy

- B - Germany  
D - Japan

Cyclone CHIDO caused heavy loss of life and property in the French island group Mayotte. It was a category-4 tropical storm, with a speed of more than 220 km per hour and was the most powerful storm to hit the French islands in the last 90 years. Mayotte is located off the east coast of Africa in the Indian Ocean and is part of the Comoros Islands.



7. Under what name has the naval exercise between India and Sri Lanka started?

- A - SLINEX - 2024  
C - SENSEX - 2024

- B - BLINEX - 2024  
D - BREXIT - 2024

Sri Lanka-India naval exercise SLINEX 2024 is being held from 17-20 December in Visakhapatnam. The exercise is conducted in two phases: harbour phase (17-18 December) and sea phase (19-20 December). It will showcase the capabilities of India's indigenous naval ships and aircraft, practicing surface and air strikes, weapons firing, seamanship and half deck flying operations.

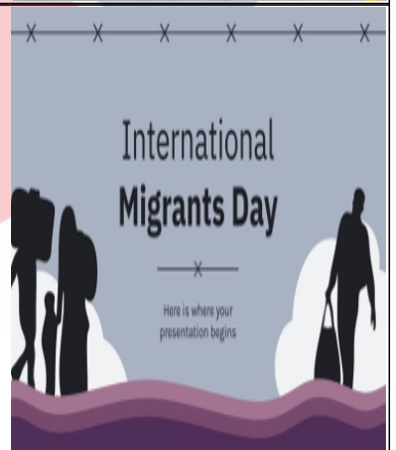


8. When did the United Nations General Assembly institute the International Migrants Day?

- A - 4 December - 2000  
C - 1 April - 2000

- B - 6 November - 2001  
D - 5 March - 2005

International Migrants Day is observed on 18 December, which aims to protect the rights of migrants, recognize their contributions and raise awareness of migration issues. The day marks the anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families in 1990.





## One Liner

1. Union Minister of State for Science and Technology is - **Dr. Jitendra Singh**
2. India's rank in Henley Passport Index (Passport Ranking) is - **82nd**
3. Which bill was introduced for gender equality and reservation for women in politics - **Nari Shakti Vaidya Act**
4. Which department has released the detailed information of Namoo Didi Drone Scheme - **Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**
5. Which country of the world recognizes Israel's sovereignty - **America**
6. The Prime Minister of Israel is - **Benjamin Netanyahu**
7. Mayotte Island group is located - **Located in the Indian Ocean, west of Madagascar.**
8. Which bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha regarding one nation - one election - **129th**
9. When did the naval war exercise between India and Sri Lanka start - **17 December - 2024 (SLINEX)**
10. What is the theme of International Migrants Day - **"Respecting the contribution of migrants and respecting their rights"**

