

1. **Ayush Nivesh Saarthi Portal:** Recently, the Government of India launched the 'Ayush Nivesh Saarthi' portal, a significant step to bolster India's leadership in traditional medicine and wellness sectors.
 - **About Ayush Nivesh Saarthi Portal :** Specifically designed to meet the needs of investors in the Ayush sector.
 - Developed by Ministry of Ayush & Invest India
 - Integrates policy frameworks, incentive structures, and investment-ready projects.
 - Facilitates dynamic engagement between investors and opportunities in the Ayush sector.
 - Connects investors with India's wealth of over 8,000 medicinal plant species.
 - Showcases India's traditional and trusted wellness systems to the global investor community.
 - Enhances India's position in the **Medical Value Travel (MVT)** market by streamlining investments into wellness tourism.
 - **About National AYUSH Mission (NAM):** Launched in 2014 as a centrally sponsored scheme by the Ministry of Ayush to promote and strengthen India's traditional medicine systems — Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)
 - **Objectives:** Enhance access to and availability of AYUSH healthcare services.
 - Promote cultivation and sustainable use of medicinal plants.
 - Strengthen AYUSH education and infrastructure.
 - Raise public awareness on the health benefits of AYUSH systems.
2. **Index Cards :** Recently, in a significant step to enhance electoral data management, the Election Commission of India (ECI) streamlined the process for generating Index Cards and statistical reports post-elections.
 - **About Index Card:** A non-statutory, **post-election statistical reporting tool** and contains candidate-wise and party-wise vote shares and constituency turnout data.
 - Includes elector demographics and gender-based voting patterns.
 - Basis for over 35 Lok Sabha and 14 State Assembly statistical reports.
 - Used by researchers, journalists, policymakers, and citizens to analyze electoral trends and voter behavior.

- **About ECI** : A permanent Constitutional Body established on 25th January 1950.
 - Since 2011, National Voters' Day is celebrated every year on 25th January to mark the ECI's foundation.
 - It is governed by Part XV of the Constitution, covering Articles 324 to 329.
 - The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023 regulates their appointment, service conditions, and tenure.
 - ECI administers elections for the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and the offices of the President and Vice President.
- 3. **EnviStats India 2025: Environment Statistics**: Recently, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) launched the **eighth edition of "EnviStats India 2025: Environment Statistics"** at a National Workshop in New Delhi.
 - The event focused on leveraging alternative data sources and advanced technologies for policymaking.
- **Key Highlights**: Thermal power generation rose by more than 65% from 2013–14 to 2023–24.
 - Electricity generation from renewable sources increased – **more than 240%** during the same period.
 - **Inland fish production - more than doubled** (2013-14 to 2023-24).
 - **Annual mean temperature** increased from 25.05°C (2001) to 25.74°C (2024), with rises in annual minimum and maximum temperatures as well.
 - **India hosts 1,04,561 faunal species** across various ecosystems, including 20,613 marine species and 22,404 soil species, indicating high biodiversity.
 - **Marine fish production** grew – **more than 30%** (2013-14 to 2023-24).
 - Environment Sustainability Sector had the highest expenditure at Rs. 2,433 crore in 2021-22, followed by Conservation of Natural Resources; Agro-Forestry had the lowest expenditure.

4. **The Ocean Protection Gap: Assessing Progress toward the 30x30 Target Report:** Recently, a new report titled “The Ocean Protection Gap: Assessing Progress toward the 30x30 Target” highlighted a substantial shortfall in funding for global ocean conservation efforts.
- The report comes ahead of the United Nations Ocean Conference 3 (UNOC3), scheduled to be held in France.
 - **Key Findings:** The 30x30 target aims to protect 30% of the world’s oceans by 2030.
 - According to the report, achieving this goal requires an annual investment of **\$15.8 billion**.
 - Current global spending is only **\$1.2 billion**, leaving a **\$14.6 billion shortfall**.
 - This investment represents just **0.5% of global annual defence budgets**, yet remains unmet.
 - **About the 30x30 Target:** It is part of the **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**, adopted by **196 countries in 2022**.
 - The goal includes conservation and sustainable management of 30% of terrestrial, inland water, marine, and coastal ecosystems.
 - **About Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF):** Adopted at COP15 to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in December 2022.
 - Aims to support Sustainable Development Goals and promote global harmony with nature by 2050.
 - **Goals and Targets:** Includes **4 global goals (by 2050)** and **23 targets (by 2030)**.
 - Focuses on: Reducing threats to biodiversity
 - ✓ Ensuring sustainable use and equitable benefit-sharing
 - ✓ Enhancing implementation tools and mainstreaming biodiversity in policies
5. **Global Energy Investment Report 2025:** Recently, the International Energy Agency (IEA) released the 10th edition of the Global Energy Investment Report 2025.
- It highlighted a significant surge in global clean energy investments expected to reach \$2.2 trillion in 2025—double the combined investment in oil, gas, and coal.
 - **Key Highlights:** Global clean energy investment is expected to reach \$2.2 trillion in 2025, double the combined investment in fossil fuels.
 - China leads energy investments, accounting for over 25% of the global total and doubling clean energy spending since 2015 to over \$625 billion.

- India's renewable investments rose from \$13 billion (2015) to \$37 billion (2025), now investing four times more in clean energy than fossil fuels.
- Global grid investment lags behind generation spending, with \$1 trillion spent on generation vs. \$400 billion on grids annually.
- **About IEA** : Autonomous intergovernmental organization within the OECD framework.
 - Established in 1974 after the 1973-74 oil crisis to help members manage major oil supply disruptions.
 - **Focus areas**: energy security, economic development, environmental awareness, and global engagement.
 - Comprises 131 member countries and 11 association countries.
 - To qualify as a candidate country for the IEA, it must be a member of the OECD.
 - India joined as an Associate Member in 2017.
 - Publishes key reports such as World Energy Outlook, World Energy Balances, Energy Technology Perspectives, World Energy Statistics, and Net Zero by 2050.

6. Bannerghatta National Park : Recently, a year-long camera trap survey by the Holématti Nature Foundation (HNF) revealed an increase in leopard numbers inside Bannerghatta National Park.

- This rise has contributed to a total population of 80-85 leopards in Bengaluru and its surrounding forests, surpassing Mumbai's count of about 54.
- **About Bannerghatta National Park** : Situated near Bangalore, Karnataka, in the hills of the Anekal range and declared a National Park in 1974.
 - feature a fenced forested elephant sanctuary.
 - India's first butterfly enclosure was opened in the park in 2006.
 - The Suvarnamukhi stream, the park's main water source for animals, flows through its center.



- Contains three types of vegetation—Dry Deciduous Scrub Forests, Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests, and Southern Tropical Moist Mixed Forests.
- **Flora:** Includes species like *Narcissus latifolia*, *Schleichera oleosa*, Sandalwood, Neem, Tamarind, Bamboo, and Eucalyptus.
- **Fauna:** Provides habitat to diverse wildlife such as the endangered Asian Elephant, Indian gaur, Tiger, Sambar deer, Spotted deer, Leopard, Wild dog, Wild pig, Sloth bear, Common mongoose, Pangolin, Slender loris, and Black-naped hare.

7. UMEED Portal : Recently, the Union government announced the launch of the Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency, and Development (UMEED) portal.

- **About UMEED Portal :** A centralized digital platform for registering Waqf properties nationwide.
 - It aims to improve management and increase transparency of Waqf assets.
 - The portal launch follows the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which has received presidential assent.
 - Registrations will be carried out by respective State Waqf Boards.
- **About Waqf Properties:** Waqf is a permanent charitable endowment under Islamic law, where property is donated for religious or public welfare use and cannot be sold, inherited, or transferred.
- **The Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025:** It has been passed by Parliament and received the President's assent, amending the Waqf Act of 1995.
 - It enables better regulation and dispute resolution of Waqf properties by the government.
 - The Act updates the definition of Waqf, streamlines registration processes, and aims to enhance the efficiency of Waqf boards.
 - **Introduces several key reforms:** Decisions of Waqf Tribunals can now be appealed in High Courts within 90 days, providing judicial oversight.
 - ✓ All Waqf properties must be digitally registered within a strict six-month deadline.
 - ✓ Properties not registered by this deadline will be considered disputed and will be adjudicated by Waqf Tribunals.