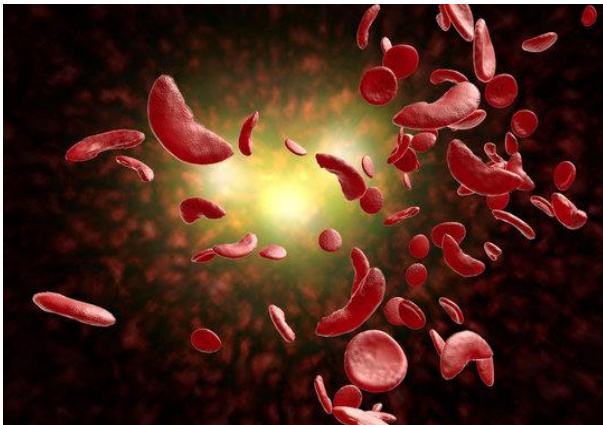


## TERMS IN NEWS

### Sickle cell Anaemia



- It is an inherited blood disorder.
- It affects hemoglobin, the molecule in red blood cells that delivers oxygen to cells throughout the body.
- People with this disease have atypical hemoglobin molecules called hemoglobin S, which can distort red blood cells into a sickle, or crescent, shape.
- These sickle cells also become rigid and sticky, which can slow or block blood flow.
- The cause of Sickle cell disease is a defective gene, called a sickle cell gene.
- A person will be born with sickle cell disease only if two genes are inherited—one from the mother and one from the father.
- **Symptoms:**
  - Early stage: Extreme tiredness or fussiness from anemia, painfully swollen hands and feet, and jaundice.
  - Later stage: Severe pain, anemia, organ damage, and infections.

- **Treatments:** The only cure for this disease is bone marrow or stem cell transplantation.
- However, there are treatments that can help relieve symptoms, lessen complications, and prolong life.

### Koraga Tribe

- The Revenue department in Kerala has initiated steps to provide land titles (patta) to the Koraga tribe (ST) group in Kasaragod and Manjeswaram taluks under a project called Operation Smile.
- Koragas are one of the **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)** found in the southern part of India particularly **Kerala and Karnataka**.
- **Language:** At present most of the Koragas are speaking Tulu languages but they have their own independent language.
- Koragas are divided into a number of exogamous clans or sects. The clan is known as bali. There are 17 balis found among Koragas.
- **Economy:** The Korags are basically agriculturists and eke out their livelihood depending on the forest produce such as bamboo, cane, creepers for basketry.
- They sing songs and perform folkdances, rituals and magics to appease their deity for bountiful crops and eradicate epidemics.

- Dholu and Voote (Drum and Flute) were two important musical instruments of the Koragas.
- The Family among the Koraga is matrilineal, the decent being reckoned along the female line. But residence after marriage is patrilocal.
- The property is equally divided among both son and daughters.
- The Koragas were worshippers of different Bhuta's (Bhuta Kola is a ritual folk dance in Tulu Nadu) such as Panjurli, Kallurti, Korathi and Guliga etc.



### UN Peacebuilding Commission

- Recently, India has been re-elected to the U.N. Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) for 2025–2026.
- It was established on 20 December 2005 by resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the UN Security Council.
- It is an intergovernmental advisory body that supports peace efforts in conflict-affected countries and is a key addition to the capacity of the International Community in the broad peace agenda, according to its website.
- The PBC is composed of 31 Member States, elected from the General Assembly, the Security Council, and the Economic and Social Council.
- The top financial contributing countries and the top troop-contributing countries to the United Nations system are also members.



### The Commission is mandated

- To bring together all relevant actors to marshal resources and to advise on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery.
- To focus attention on the reconstruction and institution-building efforts necessary for recovery from conflict and to support the development of integrated strategies in order to lay the foundation for sustainable development.
- It is also mandated to provide recommendations and information to improve the coordination of all relevant actors within and outside the United Nations, to develop best practices, to help to ensure predictable financing for early recovery activities and to extend the period of attention given by the international community to post-conflict recovery, the Commission said.
- The Commission also focuses on promoting an integrated, strategic and coherent approach to peacebuilding.
- India is among the largest contributors of uniformed personnel to U.N. Peacekeeping.

- It currently deployed about 6,000 military and police personnel to UN operations in Abyei, the Central African Republic, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon, the Middle East, Somalia, South Sudan, and Western Sahara.

## SCHEMES IN NEWS

### Lakhpati Didi Scheme



- **Aim:** To catalyze economic empowerment and financial independence among women in rural areas.
- **Nodal ministry:** Ministry of Rural Development
- **Criteria** for identifying potential lakhpati Didi:
  - A Self Help Group member who has completed a minimum of two years and has availed of the Community Investment Fund (CIF).
  - A beneficiary of livelihood intervention through DAY-NRLM and practising at least two livelihood activities.
- The government aims to train 3 crore women to become influencers both at home and in their communities.

- The objective is to shift the focus from social and financial inclusion to entrepreneurial success.
- It is aimed at training women in self-help groups (SHGs) to earn a sustainable income of at least Rs 1 lakh per annum per household.
- Women will be trained in various skills and after completing the training, women will be provided with opportunities to earn income using their skills.
- It facilitates diversified livelihood activities, by ensuring convergence across all Government departments/ Ministries, Private sector and Market players.
- **Drone Didi:** Subset of the Scheme:
  - Under this scheme, drones will be provided to approximately 15,000 women SHGs for agricultural activities.
  - Drones have the potential to revolutionize agriculture by enabling precision farming, crop monitoring, and pest control.
  - Skill training: Women under this scheme receive training in diverse skills such as LED bulb making, plumbing, and more.

### Global Engagement Scheme

- It was previously known as the Scheme for promotion of International Cultural Relations.
- It aims to promote India's rich cultural heritage and enhances India's image in the global arena in a concerted manner.

It has following three components:





- **Festival of India:** It is organized abroad to promote people to people connect and bilateral cultural contacts. The artists from diverse cultural fields such as Folk Art including Folk Music, Folk Dance, Folk Theatre & Puppetry, Classical and Traditional Dance, Experimental/Contemporary Dance, Classical/Semi Classical Music, Theatre etc. perform in the 'Festivals of India' abroad.
- **Grant in aid to Indo Foreign Friendship Cultural Societies Scheme:** The Grants under this scheme will be sanctioned with the object of fostering closer friendship and cultural contacts between India and foreign country concerned.
- **Contribution Grant:** This component is meant for Indian contribution towards membership of International Organizations like ICROM, UNESCO, World Heritage Fund and to facilitate Indian participation and hosting of international meetings
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Culture

## PLACES IN NEWS

### Phlegraeen Fields

- The Phlegraeen Fields, now considered one massive supervolcano, are beginning to stir, making the scientific community uneasy.

- The Phlegraeen Fields (also known in Italian as 'Campi Flegrei') is an active volcanic area located in the vicinity of Naples, Italy.



- Unlike the nearby Mount Vesuvius, Campi Flegrei is not characterised by a single volcano.
- It is more of a volcanic system, with several centres situated within a depressed area called a caldera (essentially a deep sinkhole or cauldron).
- The caldera has a diameter of about 12-15 km (7.5-9.3 miles).
- It was formed 39,000 years ago after an eruption emptied it of magma.
- According to a new hypothesis, this eruption could have been the beginning of the end of the Neanderthal.
- One-third of it lies under the Tyrrhenian Sea, between the Italian mainland and the country's island of Sardinia.
- It is the largest active caldera in Europe. It is much larger than the cone-shaped Vesuvius, which destroyed the ancient Roman city of Pompeii in AD79, and is much more active.
- Phlegraeen Fields has been in a restless state since 1950.

- It is a result of a phenomenon known as bradyseism, which scientists understand to be the gradual movement of part of Earth's surface caused by the filling or emptying of an underground magma chamber or hydrothermal activity.
- It last erupted in 1538, after an interval of about 3000 years. This eruption, although minor in comparison, formed Monte Nuovo, a new mountain.
- Scientists consider Phlegraean Fields to be a supervolcano whose eruptions can have worldwide effects.
- These volcanic fields are among the top eight emitters of volcanic carbon dioxide worldwide.

## PRACTICE QUESTIONS

**Q1: The Phlegraean volcanic Field is located in which of the following countries?**

- A. Japan
- B. Indonesia
- C. Italy
- D. France

**Q2: Koraga Tribes belongs to which of the following regions in India?**

- A. Kerala and Karnataka
- B. Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh
- C. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
- D. Goa and Maharashtra

**Q3: Consider the following statements regarding Sickle Cell Anaemia**

1. It is an inherited blood disorder.
2. It affects hemoglobin, the molecule in red blood cells that

delivers oxygen to cells throughout the body.

3. The only cure for this disease is bone marrow or stem cell transplantation.

**How many of the above statements are incorrect?**

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All of the Above
- D. None of the Above

**Q4: Consider the following statements regarding Lakpati Didi Scheme**

1. It aims to catalyze economic empowerment and financial independence among women in rural areas through entrepreneurship success
2. Ministry of Cooperative affairs is the nodal ministry for this scheme

**How many of the above statements are incorrect?**

- A. Only Statement 1
- B. Only Statement 2
- C. Both the statements
- D. None of the Above

**Q5: Consider the following statements regarding Global Engagement Scheme**

1. It aims to promote India's rich cultural heritage and enhances India's image in the global arena in a concerted manner.
2. Ministry of External Affairs is the Nodal Ministry for the scheme

**How many of the above statements are incorrect?**

- A. Only Statement 1

- B. Only Statement 2
- C. Both the statements
- D. None of the Above

**Answers**

1. C
2. A
3. D
4. B
5. B