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**SAMYAK IAS, NEAR RIDDHI-SIDDHI, JAIPUR**

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# Society

## 1. ALL-WIN - Indian Express

### Context

Despite the challenges, India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) is one of the major public health success stories, globally. With the government planning the launch of a digital vaccination registry, U-Win, on August 15, the UIP is poised to be placed on a much surer footing.

### U- Win Portal

The authorities must take care to ensure that India's digital divide does not come in the way of beneficiaries keeping their date with the vaccinator.

#### Possible challenge:

It will capture every vaccination event and ensure the availability of real-time vaccination data to healthcare policymakers.

It could improve planning and lead to more responsive outbreak-averting interventions.

It can be accessed from any geographical location which can improve vaccine coverage among disadvantaged groups.

Parents will get SMS alerts on the date for the next jab and they can book slots in advance anywhere in the country, without having to carry physical records.

#### Benefits of U-Win:

### U- Win Portal

#### About the portal:

It will steer the inoculation of 29 million pregnant women and 26 million infants annually against vaccine-preventable diseases.

#### Issues in the current system:

Inoculation data is recorded manually by ASHA workers and then collated in state and national-level registries - this process takes more than a month.

Immunisation at private healthcare facilities is often not recorded.

### Expanded Programme for Immunisation

#### Expanded Programme for Immunisation

#### About:

India's first national immunisation programme launched in 1978 against multiple diseases which comprised four vaccines.

#### Currently targets 12 diseases.

#### Issues in the UIP:

Dip in the percentage of children inoculated against diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus.

A section of India's migrant population gets left out of the UIP, or does not receive timely jabs.

A huge number of children drop out from vaccination programme.

### Other healthcare portals

- **COWIN platform:** During Covid, it played a key role in vaccine delivery.
- **e-Vin:** It has been tracking vaccine-related cold chain logistics since 2015 — it has ensured an 80% reduction in instances of vaccine stock-outs.

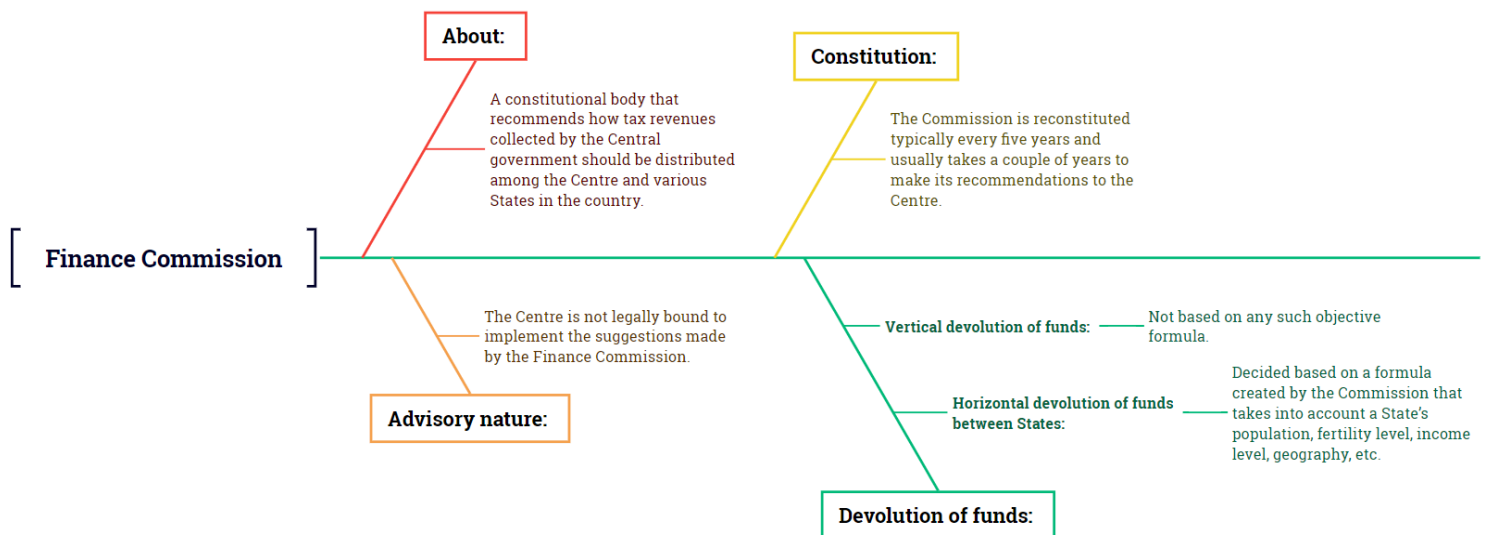
# Polity

## 2. What is the role of the Finance Commission? - The Hindu

### Context

The sixteenth Finance Commission headed by former Niti Aayog Vice-Chairman Arvind Panagariya has begun its work by inviting suggestions from the public on the mandate set for it by the Centre. The latest Finance Commission, which consists of five members including the chairman, was constituted in December last year and is expected to submit its recommendations by October, 2025. Its recommendations will be valid for five years starting from April 1, 2026.

### Finance Commission



### Reasons for friction between the Centre and States

- **Sharing of tax revenues:** The Centre collects major taxes - income tax, corporate tax, & GST while the States rely on taxes collected from the sale of goods - liquor and fuels. But the States are responsible for the delivery of many services to citizens, including education, healthcare and the police.
- **Issue on the % of total tax proceeds that should go to the States:** States argue that they should receive more funds than what is recommended by the Finance Commission as they have greater responsibilities to fulfill.
- **Centre does not share the amount of funds recommended by Finance Commissions:** As per an analysis, the Centre has devolved an average of only 38% of funds from the divisible pool to the States under the current Fifteenth Finance Commission as against the Commission's actual recommendation of 41%.
- **Disagreements about what portion of Centre's overall tax revenues should be considered as part of the divisible pool out of which the States are funded.**

- **Some states receive less money from the Centre than what they contribute as taxes:** Tamil Nadu, for example, received only 29 paise for each rupee that the State contributed to the Centre's exchequer while Bihar gets more than ₹7 for each rupee it contributes.
- **Issue on the independence of Finance Commission:** It is argued that the members of the FC are appointed by the Centre which may not be fully independent and immune from political influence.

### 3. How do Assam's Foreigners Tribunals function? - The Hindu

#### Context

Recently, the Assam government asked the Border wing of the State's police not to forward cases of non-Muslims who entered India illegally before 2014 to the Foreigners Tribunals (FTs). This was in keeping with the Citizenship (Amendment) Act of 2019 that provides a citizenship application window for non-Muslims — Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, Parsis, Jains, and Buddhists — who allegedly fled persecution in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan.

#### Foreigners Tribunals (FTs)

An FT has the powers of a civil court in matters like summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him or her on oath and requiring the production of any document.

A tribunal is required to serve a notice in English or the official language of the State to a person alleged to be a foreigner within 10 days of receiving the reference from the authority concerned.

Such a person has 10 days to reply to the notice and another 10 days to produce evidence in support of his or her case.

An FT has to dispose of a case within 60 days of reference.

If the person fails to provide any proof of citizenship, the FT can send him or her to a detention centre, now called transit camp, for deportation later.

#### Functions:

### Foreigners Tribunals (FTs)

#### About:

Quasi-judicial bodies formed through the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order of 1964 under Section 3 of the Foreigners' Act of 1946, to let local authorities in a State refer a person suspected to be a foreigner to tribunals.

#### Currently exclusive to Assam:

It is because the cases of "illegal immigrants" are dealt with according to the Foreigners' Act in other States.

#### Structure:

Each FT is headed by a member drawn from judges, advocates, and civil servants with judicial experience.

## World Affairs

### 4. California law on gender identity in schools: the provisions and the debate - Indian Express

#### **Context**

California has become the first US state to prohibit schools from sharing information about its students' gender identity and sexual orientation with anyone without the students' consent, including their parents. The policy was part of the Support Academic Futures and Educators for Today's Youth Act or the SAFETY Act.

#### **California law**

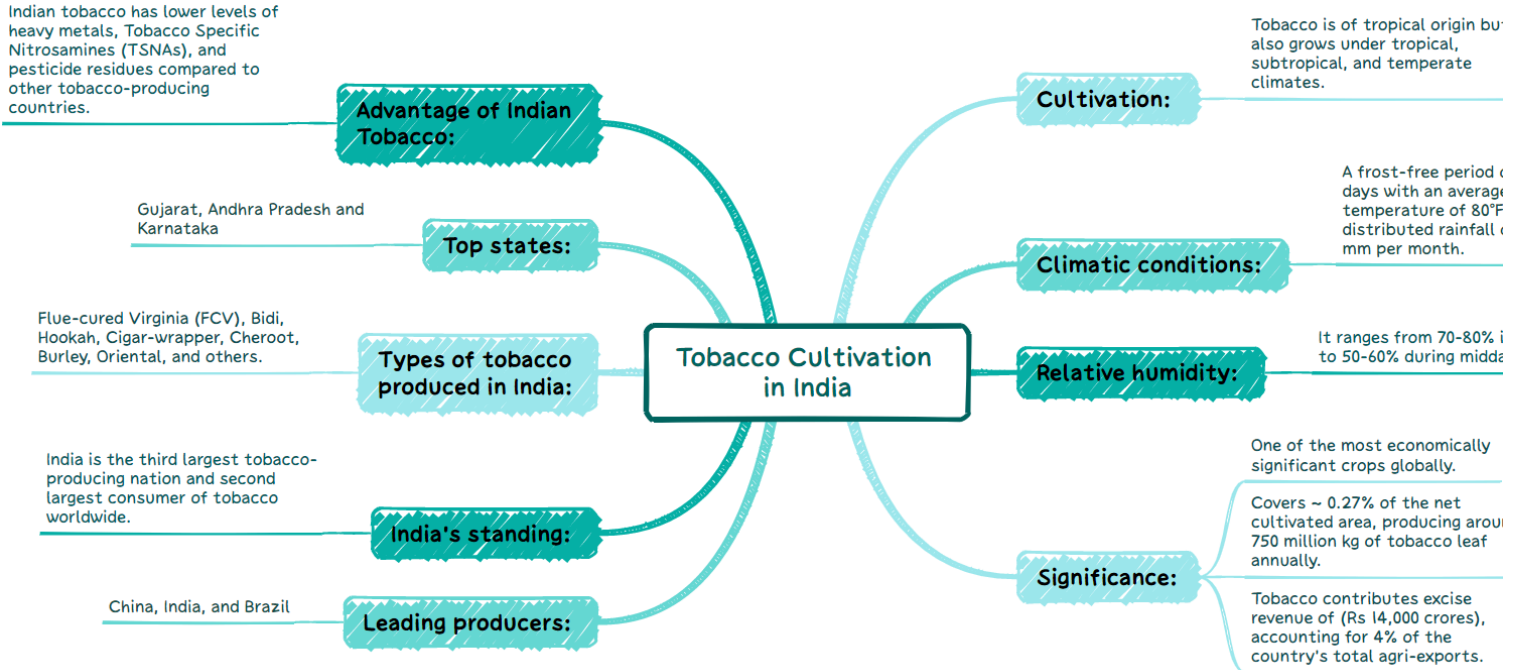
- **Clause (f) of Section 2:** It states that "Policies that require outing pupils without their consent violate pupils' rights to privacy and self-determination."
- **Clause (g):** "Pupils have a constitutional right to privacy when it comes to sensitive information about them, and courts have affirmed that young people have a right to keep personal information private."
- **Clause (d):** "Studies confirm that LGBTQ+ youth thrive when they have parental support and feel safe sharing their full identities with them, but it can be harmful to force young people to share their full identities before they are ready".
- **Clause (e):** "Policies that forcibly out pupils without their consent remove opportunities for LGBTQ+ young people and their families to build trust and have these conversations when they are ready."

#### **Obligations on the State Department of Education**

- **To develop resources, or update existing resources,** for supports and community resources for the support of parents, guardians, and families" of LGBTQIA+ pupils.
  - **Resources:** Anti-bullying and harassment policies, counselling services, and suicide prevention policies.
- **School district officials,** including members of the governing board, "shall not in any manner retaliate or take adverse action against any employee" for actions performed "in a manner consistent with the recommendations or employer obligations set forth in this chapter".
- **Identical responsibilities on schools, employees and governing bodies:** They shall not be required to disclose any information related to a pupil's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression to any other person without the pupil's consent.

# Economy

## 5. Tobacco Cultivation in India - The Hindu

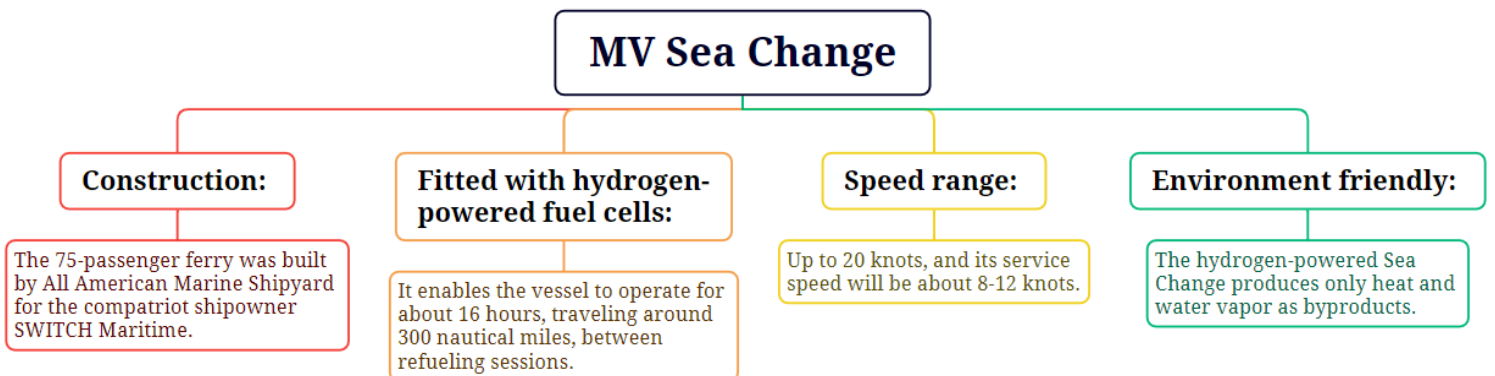


## 6. World's first hydrogen-powered commercial ferry launches in San Francisco - Indian Express

### Context

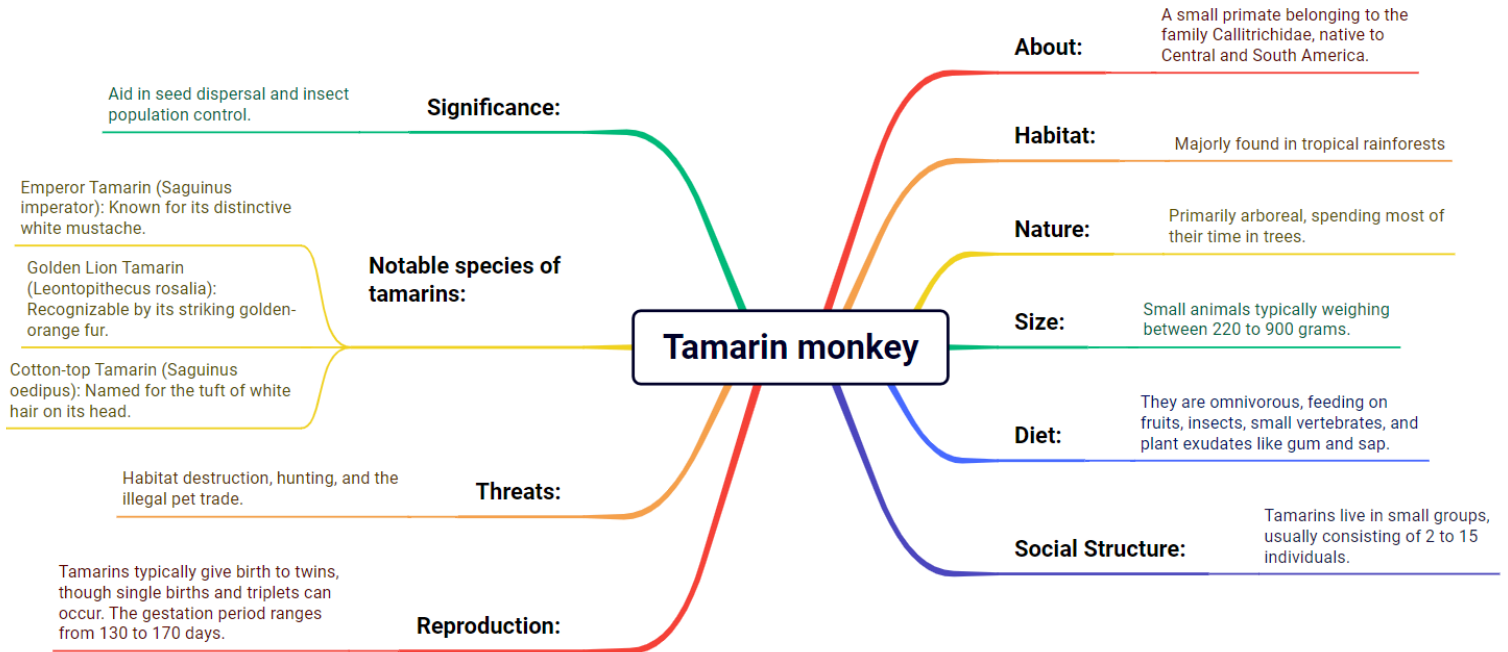
The world's first commercial passenger ferry powered by 100% hydrogen fuel, the MV Sea Change, was launched recently at the San Francisco Ferry Building.

### MV Sea Change



# Environment

## 7. Tamarin monkey - The Hindu

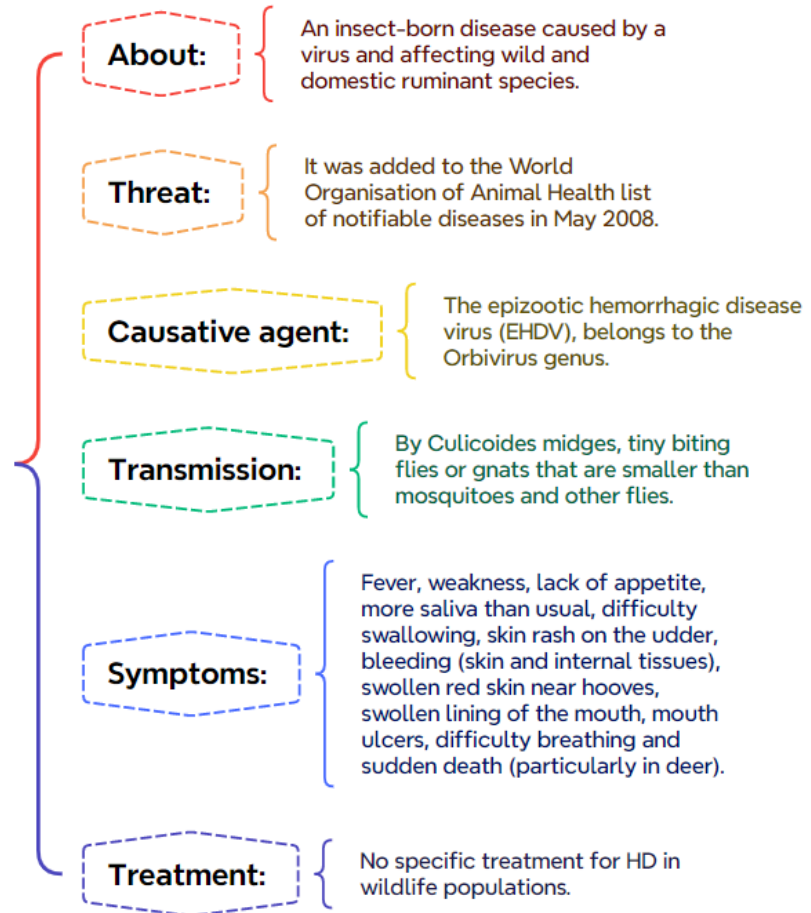




## Sci and Tech

### 8. Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease (EHD) - The Hindu

#### Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease (EHD)



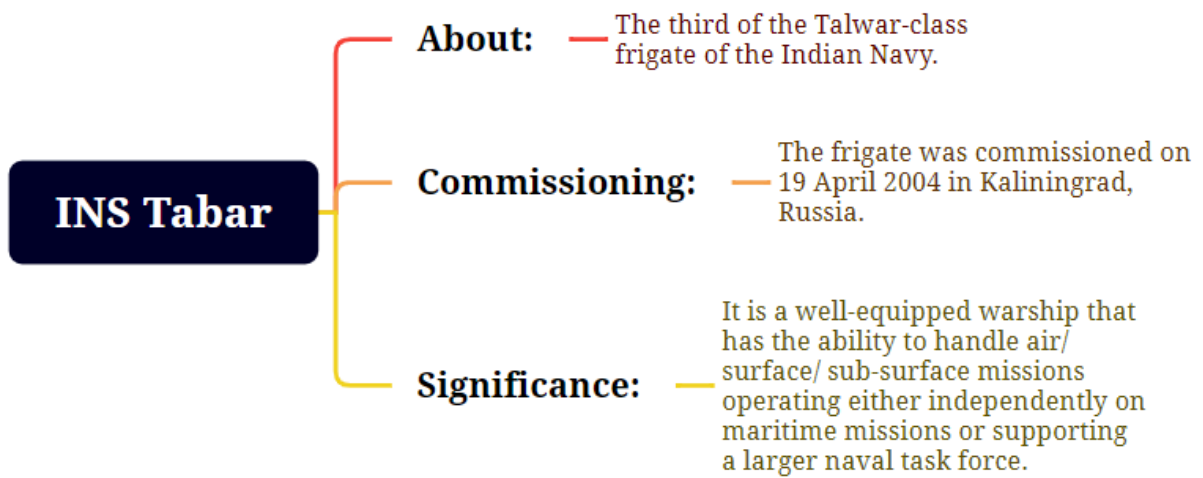
## Defence

### 9. Indian Naval Ship Tabar - PIB

#### **Context**

Indian Navy's frontline frigate, INS Tabar arrived at Hamburg, Germany on 17 July 24 for a three day visit. Activities during the visit include professional interactions between the Indian Navy and German Navy, visit of ship's crews to the German Naval Academy and ship open to visitors.

#### **INS Tabar**



## Miscellaneous

### 10. Dr. M.S. Valiathan - The Hindu

#### **Context**

- Cardiac surgeon and innovator, Dr MS Valiathan, developed a low-cost, mechanical heart valve.
- The founder director of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) and the first Vice-Chancellor of Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), died recently at 90.



### 11. MASHCO PIRO - Indian Express

#### **Context**

Indigenous rights NGO Survival International has released rare pictures of the Mashco Piro tribes people, one of the world's 100-odd uncontacted tribes.

#### **Mashco Piro**

- **Location:** Almost all of them live in the jungles of Amazon and Southeast Asia.
- **Population:** Possibly numbering more than 750
- **Sustenance:** Nomadic hunter-gatherers that live in the Amazon jungles of the Madre de Dios Region, close to Peru's border with Brazil and Bolivia.

# **Rajasthan Current Affairs**

## **1. Major announcements by the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment**

- SC-SP and TSP funds increased from Rs 1000 crore to Rs 1500 crore.
- For the first time, a provision of Rs 150 crore was made for social security of OBC and EWS youth.
- Provision of Rs 25 crore for providing loans to EWS through Anuja Nigam.
- For the first time, announcement of giving wheel chairs worth up to Rs 1 lakh to specially abled people suffering from muscular dystrophy.
- Monthly grant for boys and girls living in hostels was increased from Rs 2500 to Rs 3000.
- Chief Minister Ghumantu Aawas Yojana will be started.
- Ambedkar Teerth Yojana will be started for SC category.

## **2. 4302 tribal dominated villages will be developed**

- Under the Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana, 4302 tribal dominated villages of the state will be developed in a phased manner.
- It has been announced to start the Govind Guru Janjati Kshetra Vikas Yojana for approval of development works in forest areas.

## **3. Bishan Singh Shekhawat Award**

- Bishan Singh Shekhawat Award will be given by the state government for outstanding work in the field of journalism in Rajasthan.

## **4. Indian Soft Hockey League**

- Indian Soft Hockey League of Amateur Soft Hockey Federation of India will be organized from 7 to 10 November at Sawai Mansingh Indoor Stadium.
- The logo and mascot of this league were launched. The name of the mascot is 'Toto'.
- Eight men's and four women's teams will participate in the league.
- There will be 10 players in each team, comprising 6 national and 3 international players.
- Red Ranger Odisha, Delhi Fighter, Royal Challenger Rajasthan, Star of Chandigarh, UP Writer, Power Striker Uttarakhand, Maharashtra Dragon, Punjab Lion, Game Changer Bangalore, Hyderabad Tiger, Gujarat Hunter, Haryana Big Bull, Pink City Eagle and Marwar Warriors teams are participating in this league.

## **5. Pawan Kumawat wins gold in World Strength Championship**

- Pawan Kumawat has won the gold medal in the 11th World Strength Lifting Championship held in Kazakhstan.
- Pawan won this medal by lifting 245 kg in the 76 kg weight category.