

THINK IAS

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For UPSC CSE

31 August 2024

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

Geography

1. Sabina Shoal - Indian Express

Polity

2. 'D' voters - Indian Express

World Affairs

3. Members at Pacific Islands Forum back joint police plan, maintain ties with Taiwan - The Hindu

Economy

4. SEBI proposes mandatory UPI block mechanism facility for secondary market trading - The Hindu

Sci and Tech

5. Cyber Frauds - Indian Express
6. Solar Paraboloid Technology - The Hindu
7. Finternet - Indian Express
8. Piezoelectric Polymer - PIB

Defence

9. India's second nuclear sub / What commissioning of Arighaat means for India - Indian Express

Miscellaneous

10. Avani Lekhara - The Hindu
11. TN TO NATIONALISE KARUNANIDHI'S WORKS: WHAT THIS MEANS - Indian Express
12. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya Launches Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training (RESET) Programme - PIB

Geography

1. Sabina Shoal - Indian Express

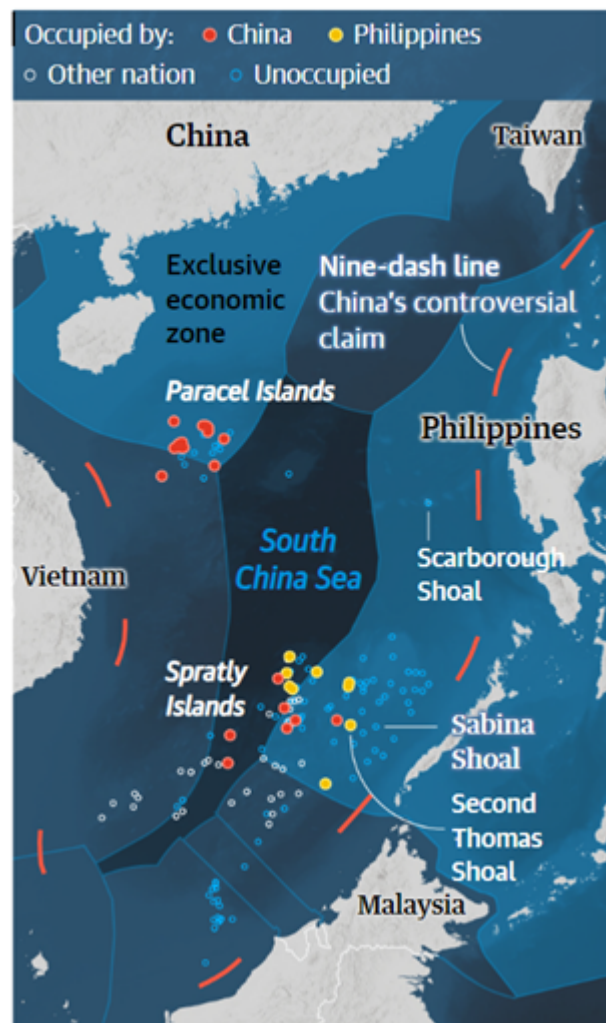
Relevance: Important Aspects of World Geography

Context

China's natural resource ministry recently released its first survey report of the South China Sea's disputed Sabina Shoal in which it accuses the Philippine's coast guard of littering and disputes the Philippine's claims of damage to its coral reefs.

Sabina Shoal/ Xianbin Reef

- **About:** An oceanic coral atoll developed on top of a seamount in the eastern part of the Spratlys Islands in the South China Sea.
- **Location:** ~ 75 nautical miles from the Philippine province of Palawan
- **Jurisdiction:** Within Philippines' 200-nautical mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- **Issue:** China claims the shoal and South China Sea as its territory and has maintained a continuous presence there.
- **2 main parts:**
 - **Western part:** It measures 13 km long & 6 km wide and is larger than the eastern part
 - **Eastern part:** It measures 10 km by 3 km.



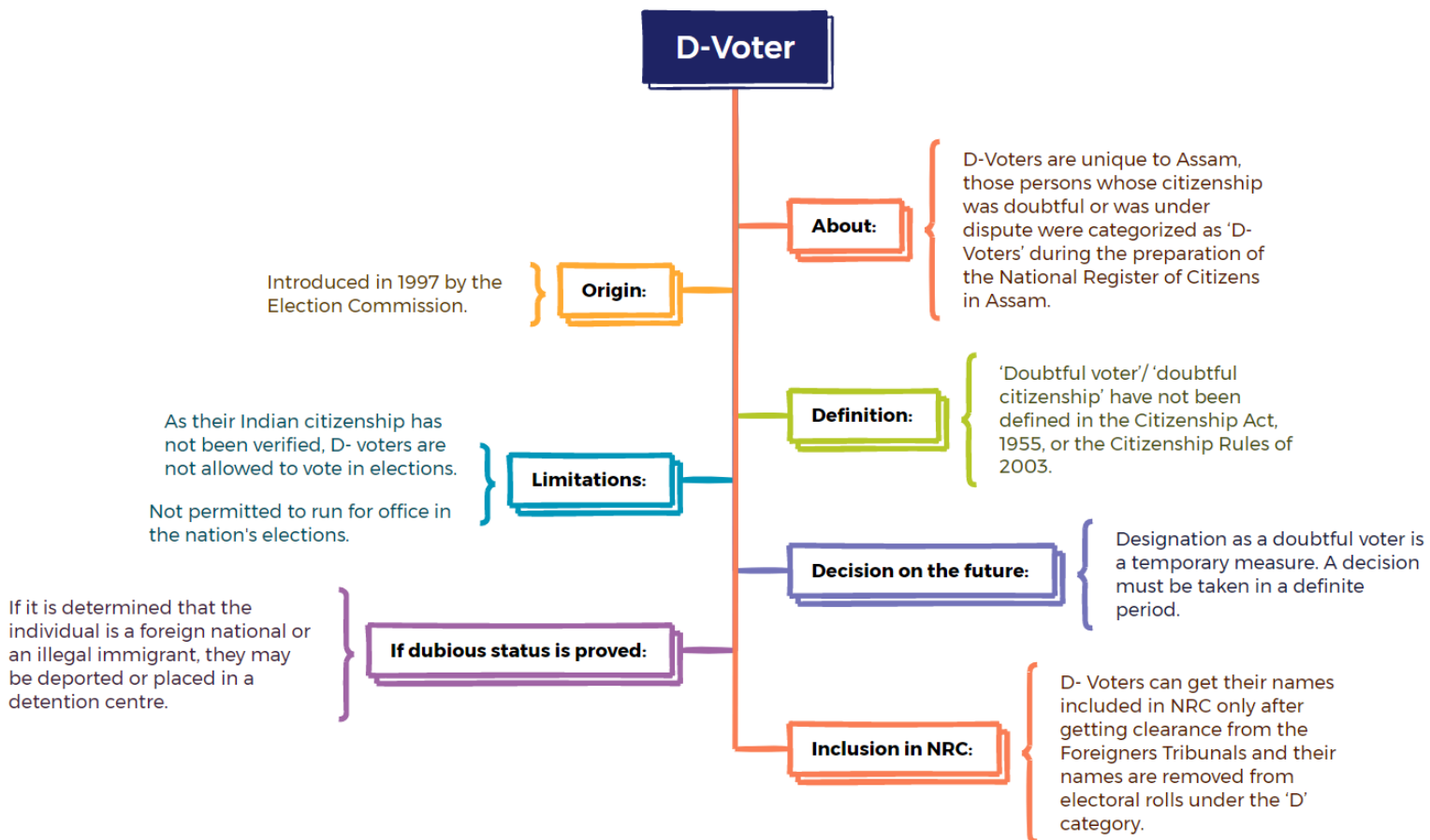
Polity

2. 'D' voters - Indian Express

Relevance: Parliament and State Legislatures

Context

Assam Chief Minister recently announced that nearly 1.2 lakh people in the state have been identified as 'D' (Dubious or Doubtful) voters, with 41,583 declared as foreigners.



World Affairs

3. Members at Pacific Islands Forum back joint police plan, maintain ties with Taiwan - The Hind

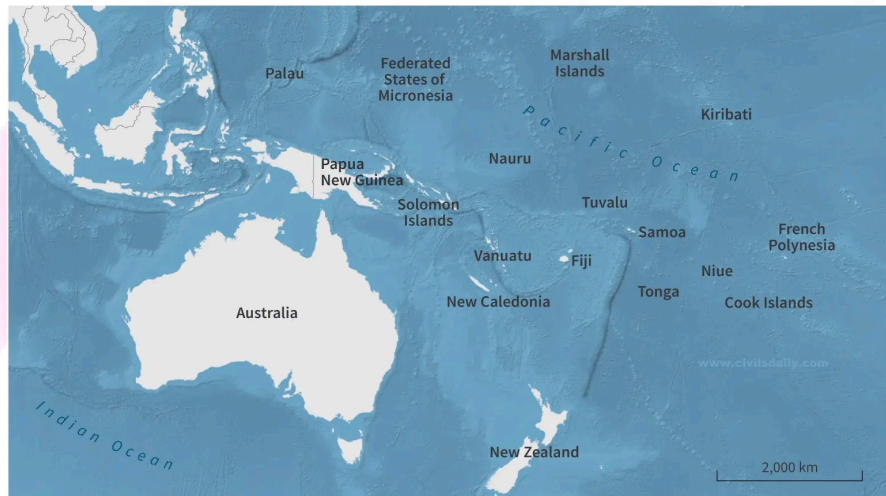
Relevance: Bilateral, Regional and Global Groupings and Agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests

Context

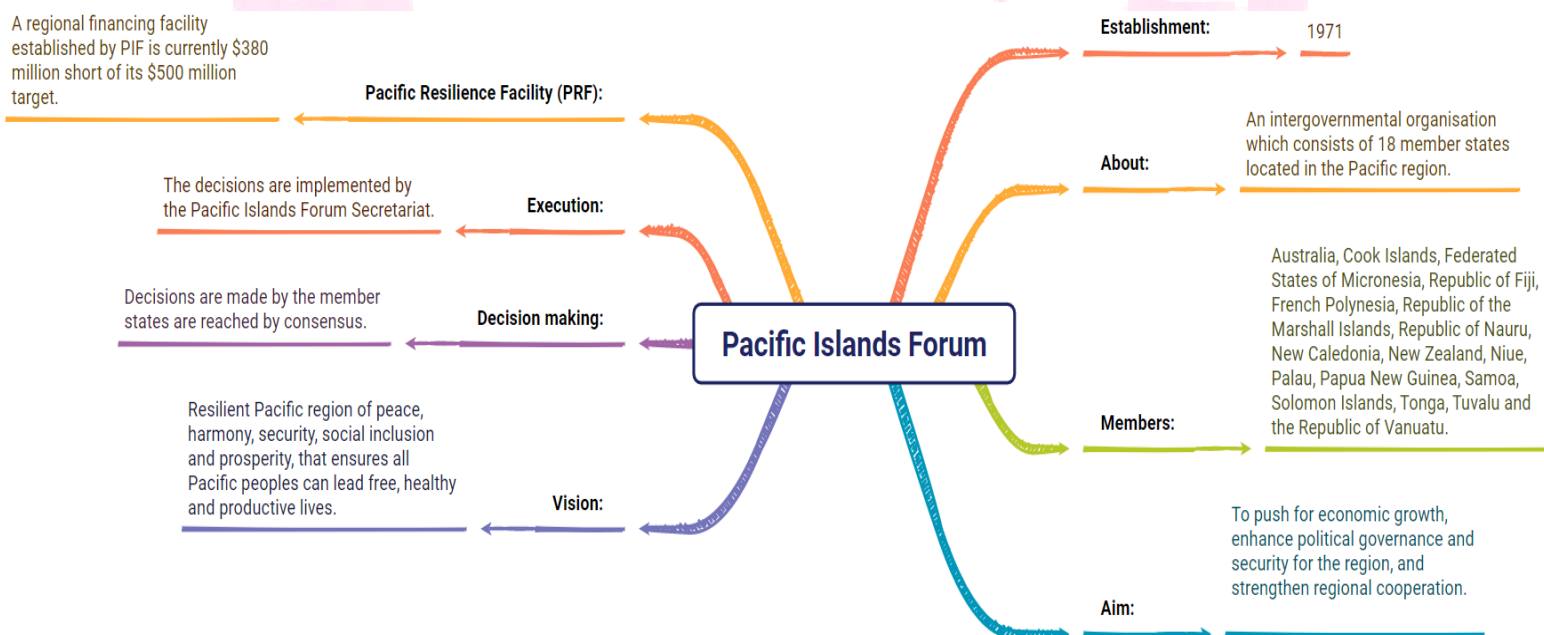
The annual meeting of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) began recently in Nuku'alofa, the capital of Tonga. The event is being attended by more than 1,500 delegates from around 40 countries. Pacific leaders endorsed a major joint policing initiative and rebuffed moves from China's allies to sideline Taiwan, as they wrapped up a regional summit in Tonga.

Pacific Islands Forum

Founded in 1971



Pacific Islands Forum



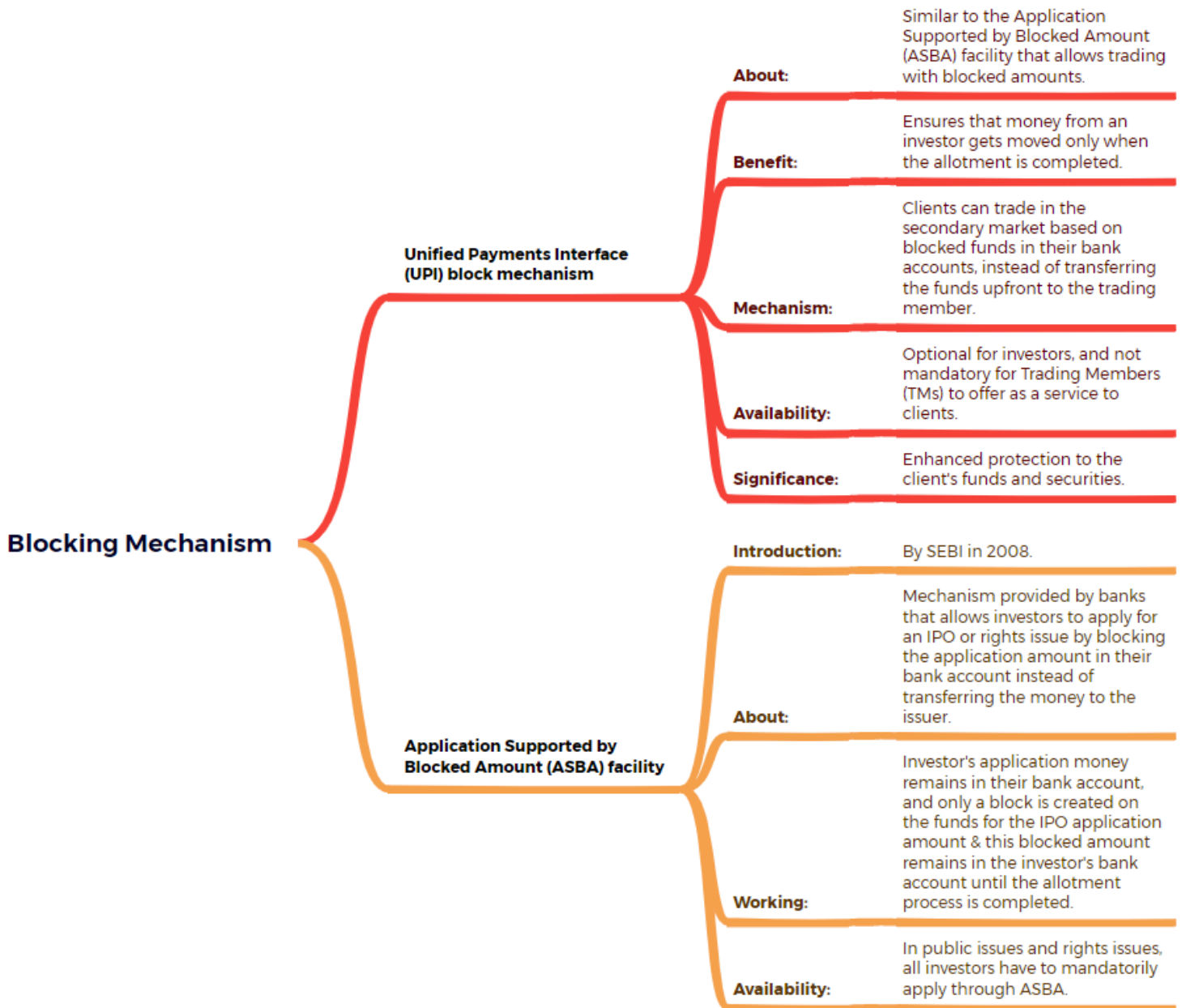
Economy

4. SEBI proposes mandatory UPI block mechanism facility for secondary market trading - The Hindu

Relevance: Indian Economy

Context

Markets regulator SEBI recently proposed that qualified stock brokers (QSBs) mandatorily offer a facility for trading in the secondary market, using the UPI block mechanism.



Sci and Tech

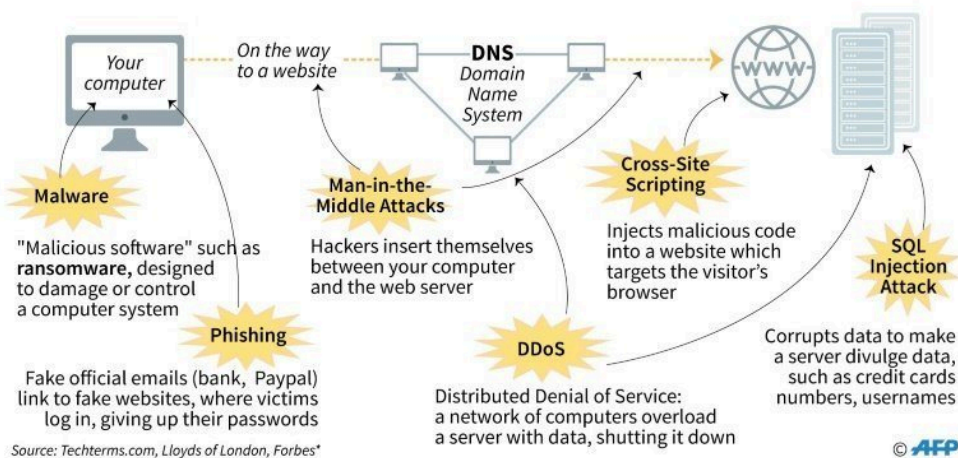
5. Cyber Frauds - Indian Express

Relevance: Sci and Technology - Developments

- **Meaning:** Criminal activities done on the internet or using digital tools to trick people, businesses, or even governments to make money.
- **Aim:** To acquire sensitive information of the business, people, and government.

The different types of cyber attacks

Cyber crime worldwide cost \$400 billion in 2015 and is forecast to reach \$2 trillion in 2019*



SAFETY NET

MOVING FORWARD

- Paradigm shift in leadership perspective towards security risks
- Awareness about physical security risks on the rise
- More power to physical security function
- Fewer budget constraints

AREAS THAT NEED WORK

- Security standards, regulatory framework in need of an overhaul
- Lack of confidence to face natural disasters
- Sharp increase in physical security incidents
- Biggest security threats: cyber crime,



terrorism, fire and corporate espionage

AREAS THAT NEED GOVT. ATTENTION

- Need for public-private partnership in policy-making

■ Need for actionable efforts on women employees' safety

■ Review the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005

■ National benchmarks on the deployment of security personnel in industries

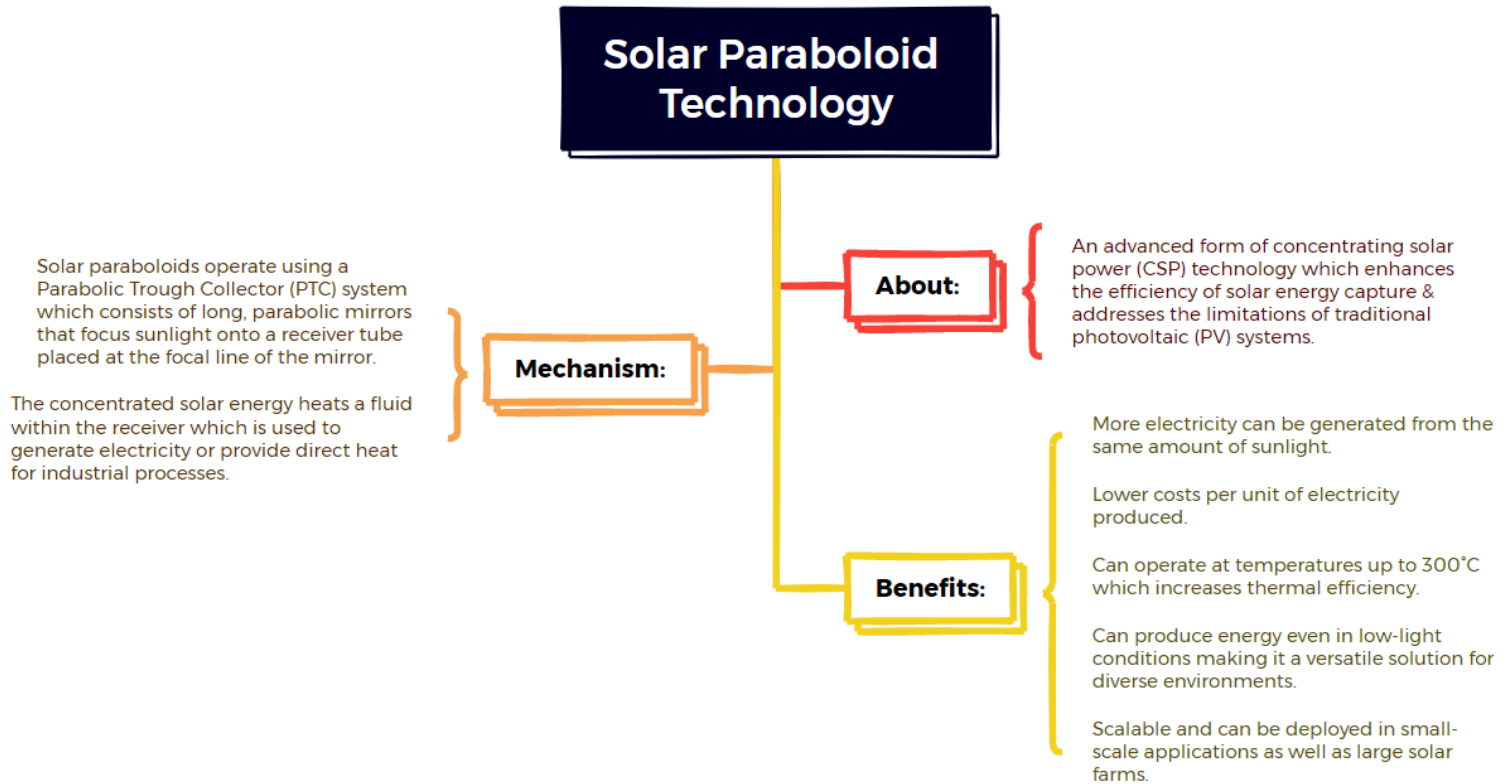
6. Solar Paraboloid Technology - The Hindu

Relevance: Sci and Technology - Developments

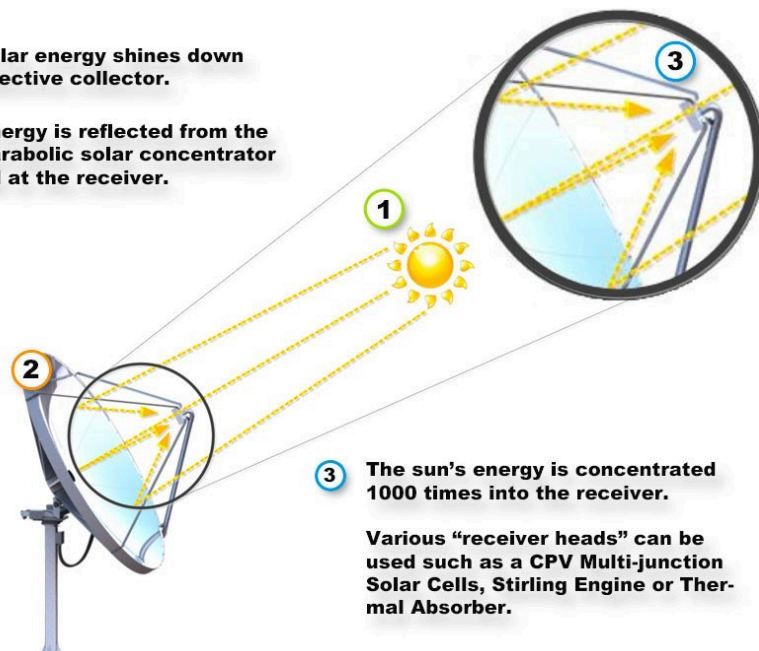
Context

As the world grapples with the urgent need to transition to renewable energy, solar paraboloid technology is emerging as a potentially transformative solution.

Solar Paraboloid Technology



- 1 The sun's solar energy shines down onto the reflective collector.
- 2 The sun's energy is reflected from the reflective parabolic solar concentrator and directed at the receiver.



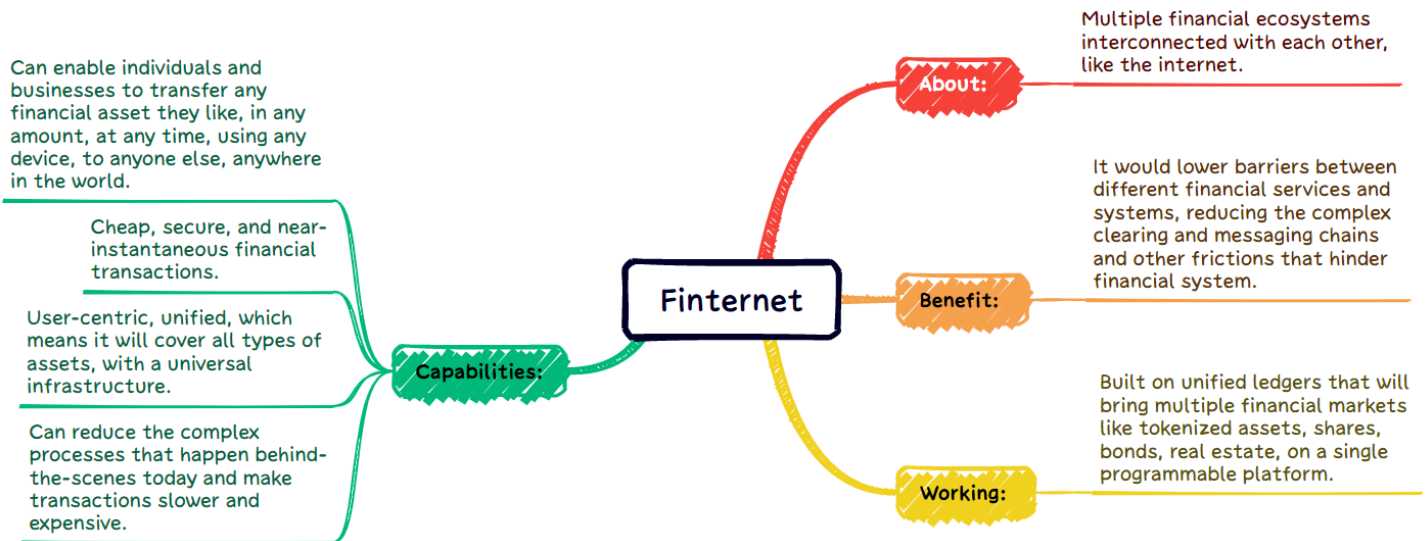
7. Finternet - Indian Express

Relevance: Sci and Technology - Developments

Context

Tokenisation of real-world assets, smart contracts enabled by mainstream banks and regulated by the government - Infosys co-founder and chairman Nandan Nilekani gave a sneak peek into the future of India's fintech landscape through the next decade.

Finternet



8. Piezoelectric Polymer - PIB

Relevance: Sci and Technology - Developments

Context

Researchers from Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), an autonomous institute of Department of Science and Technology, in collaboration with scientists from National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL), Pune have developed a security alert system based on piezoelectric polymer nanocomposite.

Piezoelectric Polymers

- **About:** Polymers that can generate electric charges on the surface under pressure/strain thus converting mechanical energy into electrical energy.
- **Features:**
 - Much better sensors than ceramics.
 - Have high voltage sensitivity and low acoustic and mechanical impedance (crucial for medical and underwater applications).
 - Lightweight, tough, readily manufactured into large areas
 - Can be cut and formed into complex shapes.
 - Can withstand much higher driving fields than ceramics.

Defence

9. India's second nuclear sub / What commissioning of Arighaat means for India - Indian Express

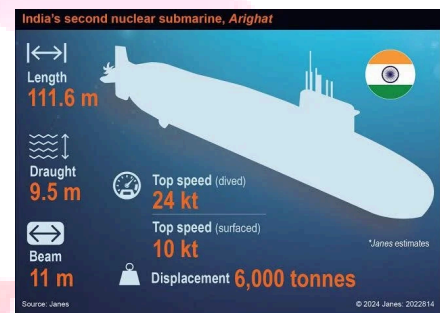
Relevance: Indigenization of Technology and Developing New Technology

Context

India's second nuclear submarine, the Arighaat, was commissioned into the Indian Navy recently at Visakhapatnam. The submarine has undergone extensive trials over the last few months.

Arighaat

- **Weight:** 6,000-tonne
- **About:** INS Arighaat will join its predecessor, the nuclear submarine INS Arihant, as a key component of the India's nuclear triad, which refers to a country's ability to launch nuclear missiles from platforms in the air, land, and at sea.
- **Other countries having nuclear triad capabilities:** United States, Russia, China, and France.
- **Significance:** The commissioning of INS Arighaat will enhance the Navy's nuclear strike capability.
- **Other warheads:** Armed with indigenously built K-15 missiles, with a range of more than 700 km & powered by 83 MW pressurised light-water nuclear reactors, which allow it to remain submerged and undetected for much longer.
- **Features:** Advanced design and manufacturing technology, detailed research and development, utilisation of special materials, complex engineering, and highly skilled workmanship, the statement said.



Navy's submarines

- **Arihant and Arighaat**
- **2 nuclear ballistic submarines (SSBNs):** Having around 7,000-tonne displacement, currently being built.
- **16 conventional submarines in service:** 7 Kilo (Sindhughosh) class, 4 Shishumar class, & 5 French Scorpène (Kalvari) class attack submarines.
- **USSR-developed, diesel electric Kilo-class submarines:** Procured from the mid-1980s onward having a lifespan of around 30 years.
- **Shishumar class submarines:** Developed by the German yard Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft (HDW) and built in India, commissioned from the 1980s onward.
- **Kalvari class submarines:** Built at India's Mazagon Dock in partnership with France's Naval Group. The first of these submarines, INS Kalvari, was commissioned in 2017, followed by several other vessels.

Miscellaneous

10. Avani Lekhara - The Hindu

- Avani Lekhara and Mona Agarwal secured gold and bronze, respectively, in the Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 final.
- Avani also became the first Indian woman to win two Paralympic gold medals.
- After this, shooter Manish Narwal bagged a silver medal in the men's 10m air pistol (SH1) final.
- Meanwhile, sprinter Preethi Pal secured another medal for India, clinching bronze in Women's 100m T35 final.
 - Preethi finished third with a timing of 14.21s.
 - She became the first ever sprinter to win a medal for India at the Para Games.



11. TN TO NATIONALISE KARUNANIDHI'S WORKS: WHAT THIS MEANS - Indian Express

Context

The Tamil Nadu government recently announced that the collected works of former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi would be "nationalised" - making them freely available for the public to publish, translate and adapt.

Copyright laws

- **Provisions for author works under Copyright Act, 1957:** Upon the death of the author, the ownership of the copyright falls to her legal heirs.
- **Section 18 of the Act:** It allows a copyright owner to "assign" the copyright "wholly or partially" to anyone she pleases, in return for compensation.
- **Time limit for a copyright:** A copyright for any literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work remains in place until 60 years after the original author's death. After this, the work can be used freely without permission from former copyright owners.

12. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya Launches Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training (RESET) Programme - PIB

Context

Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports and Labour & Employment recently launched “Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training” (RESET) Programme on the occasion of National Sports Day in New Delhi recently.

RESET Programme

