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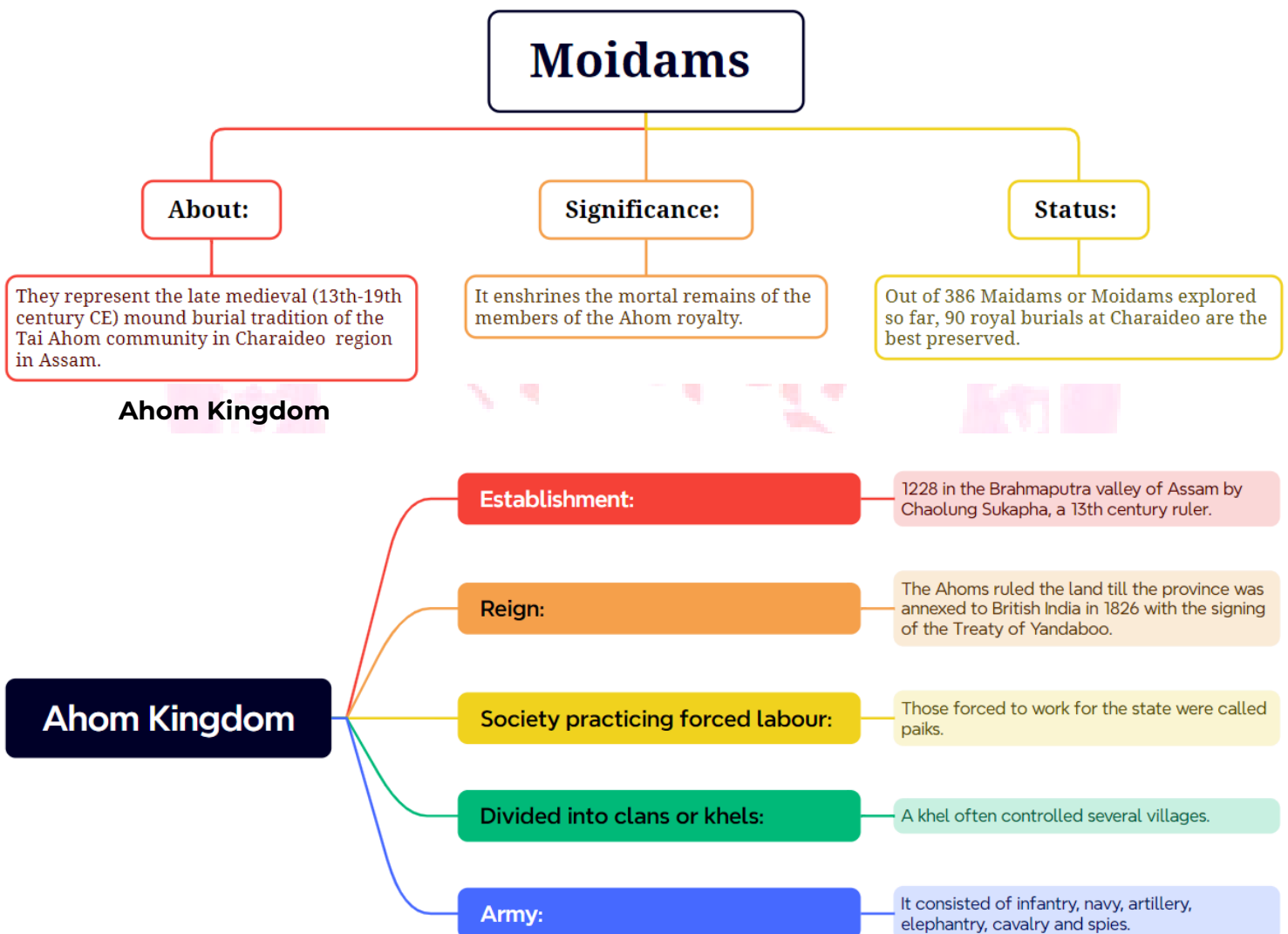
Art and Culture

1. Assam's 700-yr-old Moidams to be considered for World Heritage List - Indian Express

Context

The 700-year-old mound-burial system of the Ahom dynasty — the Moidams from Assam — will be considered for nomination on the World Heritage List next week during the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) in New Delhi recently. If the nomination comes through, it will become the first cultural site on the prestigious list from the northeastern region.

Moidams



Polity

2. Enemy Property - The Hindu

Context

The Indian government has begun to auction properties belonging to erstwhile citizens of the country who now hold Pakistani and Chinese passports. Uttar Pradesh has the maximum number of estates classified as 'enemy properties'.

Enemy Property

About:

Those immovable and moveable assets which were left behind by people who took citizenship of Pakistan and China after leaving India during the partition and post the 1962 and 1965 wars.

Components:

Other than real estate, enemy property may also include bank accounts, shares, gold, and other assets of such individuals.

Jurisdiction:

The enemy properties are vested with the Custodian of Enemy Property for India (CEPI), an authority created under the Enemy Property Act, 1968.

Highest no. of enemy properties:

Uttar Pradesh (5,982) has the highest number of enemy properties, followed by West Bengal (4,354).

World Affairs

3. Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory ‘illegal’, says UN top court - The Hindu

Context

The United Nation’s top court said in a sweeping opinion recently that Israel’s decades-long occupation of Palestinian territory was “illegal” and needed to end as soon as possible. The advisory opinion by The Hague-based International Court of Justice (ICJ) was immediately slammed as a “decision of lies” by Israel, but welcomed by the Palestinian presidency which called it “historic”.

International Court of Justice (ICJ)/ World Court

- **About:** The principal judicial organ of the United Nations (UN) established in June 1945 by the Charter of the UN and began work in April 1946.
- **Seat of the Court:** Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands) (Of the six principal organs of the UN, it is the only one not located in New York, United States).
- **Official Languages:** French and English
- **Functions:** ICJ may entertain two types of cases:
 - First, it can act as a dispute settlement body between two member States in what are called “contentious cases” like land frontiers, maritime boundaries, territorial sovereignty, non-use of force, violation of international humanitarian law, non-interference in the internal affairs of States and diplomatic relations.
 - Second, it can accept requests to issue an advisory opinion on a legal question referred to it by a UN body or specialized agency.

- **Decisions:** The court's judgments in contentious cases are final and binding on the parties to a case, and without appeal but advisory opinions are not binding.

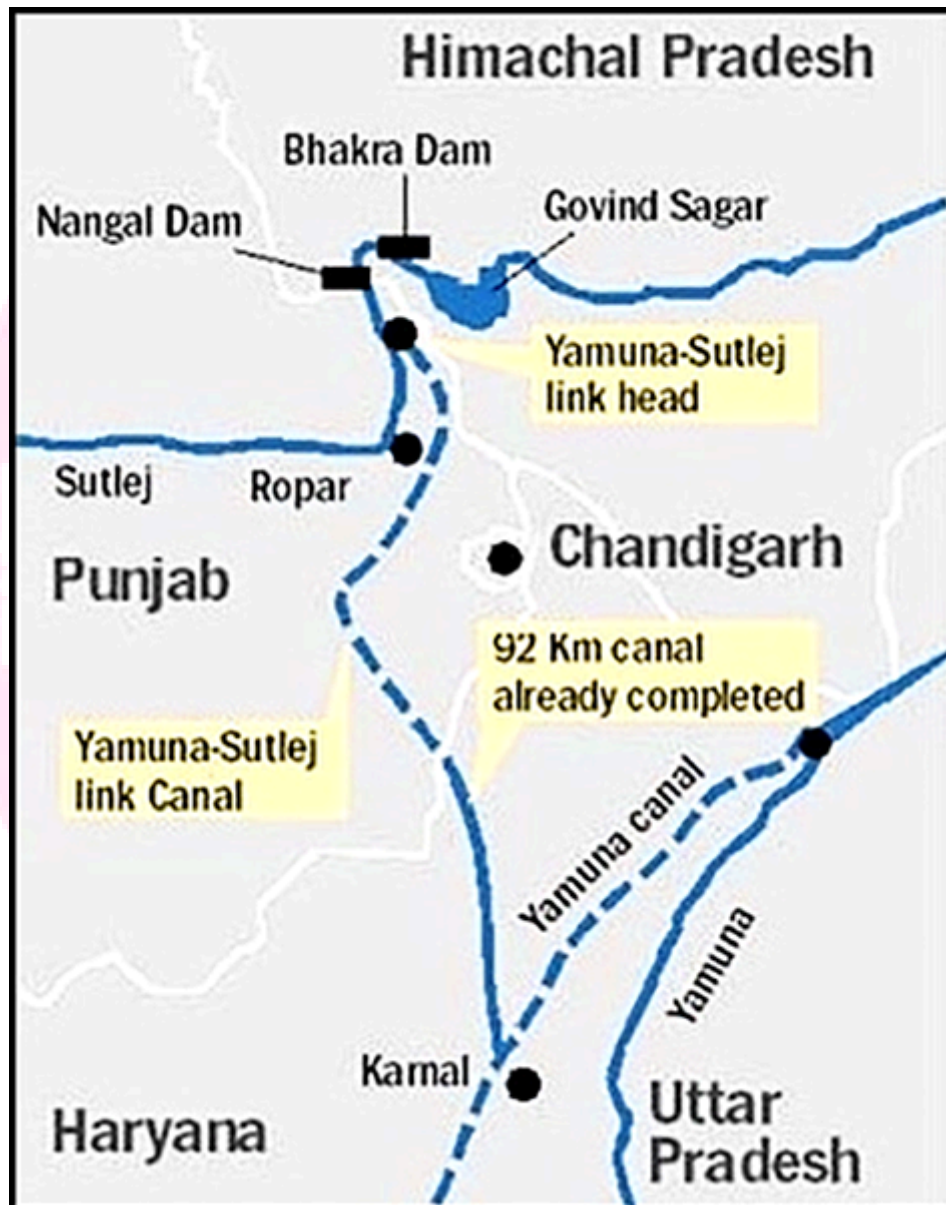
- **Composition:** It consists of 15 judges, all from different countries, who are elected to nine-year terms by majority votes in the UN General Assembly and the Security Council.
- **Re-election:** The judges, 1/3 rd of whom are elected every three years, are eligible for reelection.

	 ICJ vs. ICC 	
	International Court of Justice (ICJ) La Cour Internationale de Justice (CIJ)	International Criminal Court (ICC) La Cour pénale internationale (CPI)
Year Court Established	1946	2002
UN-Relationship	Official court of the U.N., commonly referred to as the "World Court."	Independent. May receive case referrals from the UN Security Council.
Location	The Hague, The Netherlands	The Hague, The Netherlands
Types of Cases	Contentious between parties & Advisory opinions	Criminal prosecution of individuals
Subject Matter	Sovereignty, boundary, & maritime disputes, trade, natural resources, human rights, treaty violations, treaty interpretation, and more.	Genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, crimes of aggression
Funding	UN-funded.	Assessed contribution from state parties to the Rome Statute; voluntary contributions from the U.N.; voluntary contributions from governments, international organizations, individuals, corporations and other entities.

Economy

4. Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal - The Hindu

- **About:** A proposed 214-kilometre-long canal connecting Sutlej and Yamuna rivers
- **Significance:** The canal, once completed, will enable sharing of the waters of the rivers Ravi and Beas between Haryana and Punjab.

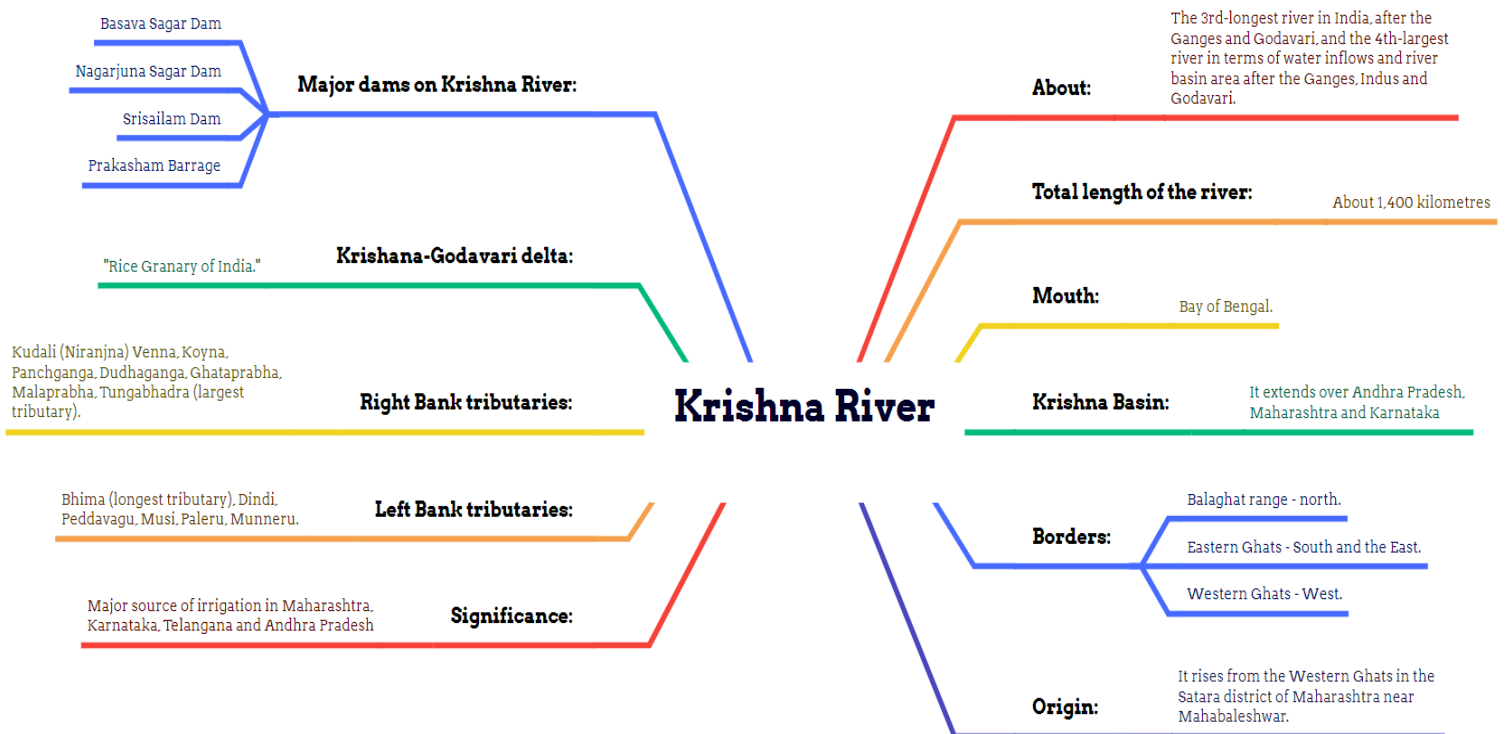


5. Prakasam Barrage - The Hindu

- **About:** Conceptualized by East India Company.

- **River:** It is constructed across the Krishna river near Vijayawada in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Krishna River



6. Windows outage: How a faulty software update hit businesses globally - Indian Express

Context

A major disruption in Microsoft Corp's cloud services recently caused service disruptions to a number of businesses around the world, including in India.

Reasons for the outage

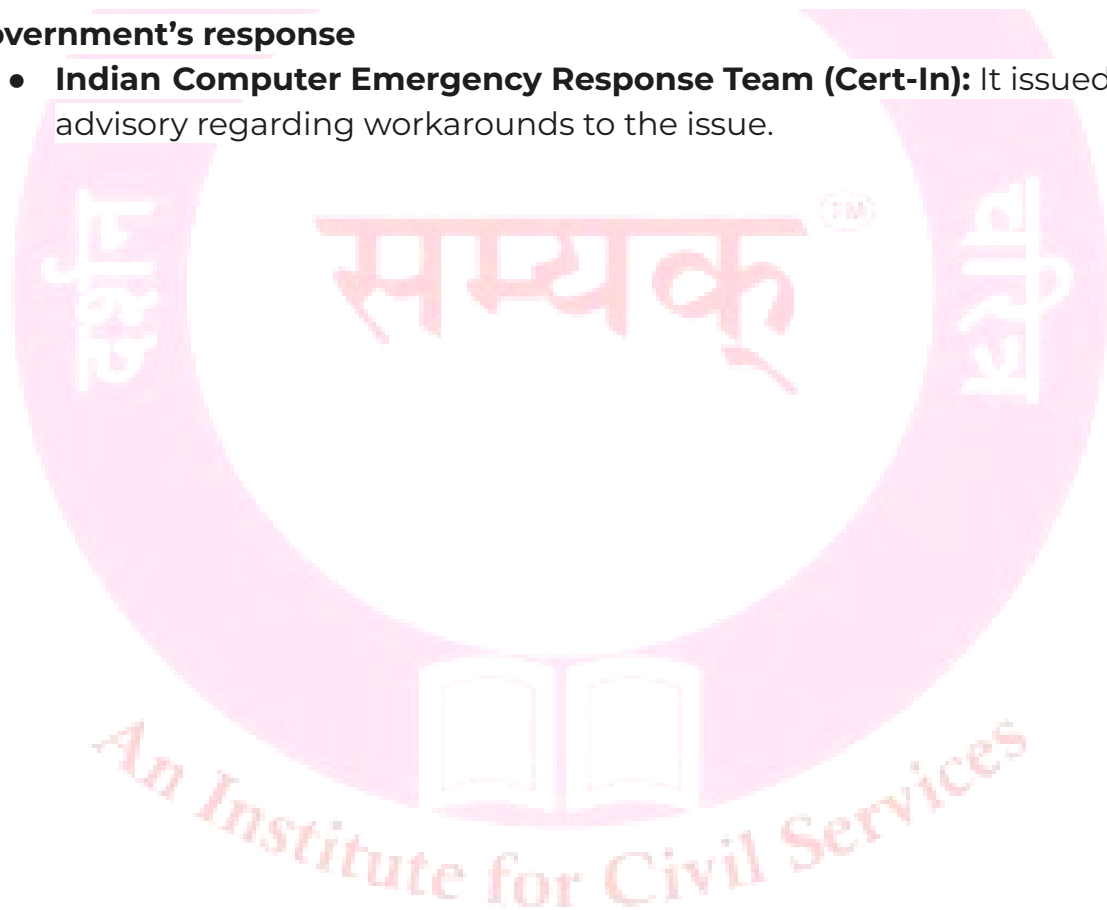
- **Configuration change in a portion of its Azure** (Microsoft's cloud computing platform) backend workloads which resulted in connectivity failures that affected Microsoft 365 services dependent on these connections.
- **Software update issued by US cybersecurity firm CrowdStrike** for Windows systems, which ended up malfunctioning and caused system downtimes specific to Falcon, one of the company's main software products, which is deeply embedded with the Windows operating system.

Falcon

Falcon	About:	The "endpoint detection and response" (EDR) complex software.		
	Function:	To monitor activity on computers on which it is installed, and constantly scan them for any potential threats such as malware.		
	Mechanism:	Falcon first gets access to deep details of a system like the communications that computers are sending over the internet, programs they are running, & files opened.		
		Since a number of businesses use systems which run on Windows, Falcon is deeply embedded within those systems.		
	Sectors in India impacted by the outage	Aviation sector:	Hundreds of flights were delayed, and several cancelled, as airline operators found their systems inoperational.	
		Banking and non-banking sector:	In India, ~ ten banks and NBFCs faced minor disruptions, which have either been resolved or are being resolved.	
		Windows PC-users:	Their systems simply did not start up beyond a blue screen displaying an error message.	

Government's response

- **Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (Cert-In):** It issued an advisory regarding workarounds to the issue.



Environment

7. India plans to enter into carbon crediting mechanism with Japan - The Hindu

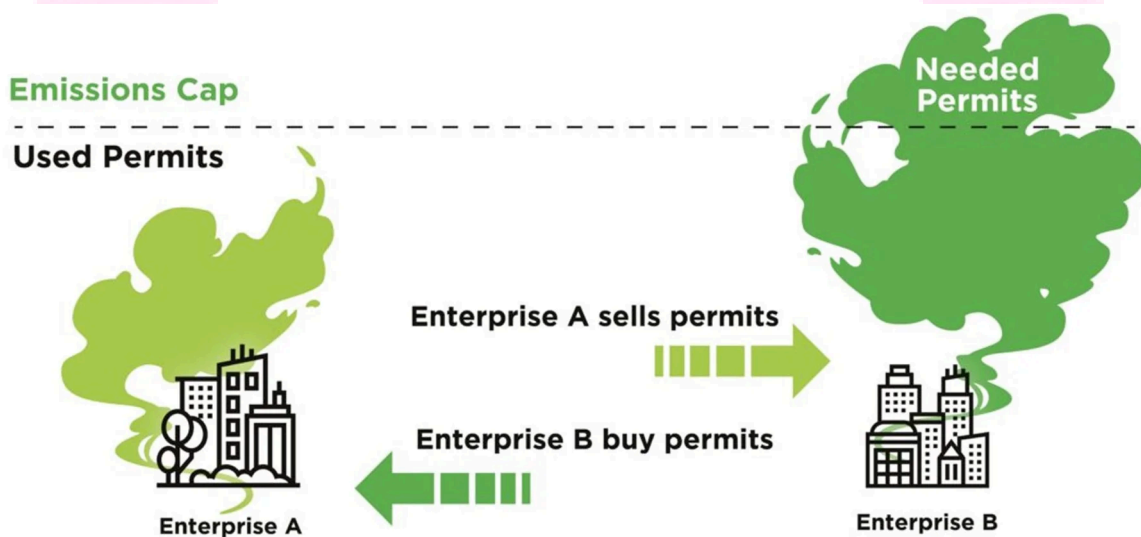
Context

India is looking to enter into a carbon trading and carbon credit adjustment mechanism with Japan. The two countries plan to sign a Memorandum of Cooperation for setting up a Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) with emission- reduction credits being shared.

New Mechanism

- **About:** In it, carbon credits will be 'allocated through a structured process' and there will be a 'registry to track these credits'.
- **Allocation:** The credits will be allocated to the respective registries of India and Japan & can subsequently be used towards the Nationally Determined Contribution of both countries.
- **Significance:** It will "boost job creation by attracting investments in low-carbon and clean technologies".

Carbon Trading



- **About:** The process of buying and selling permits and credits that allow the permit holder to emit carbon dioxide.
- **A market-based system:** It is aimed at reducing GHG that contribute to global warming, particularly CO₂ emitted by burning fossil fuels.
- **Emissions trading scheme (cap-and-trade system):** It sets a regulatory ceiling or 'cap' on greenhouse gas emissions being regulated under the scheme.

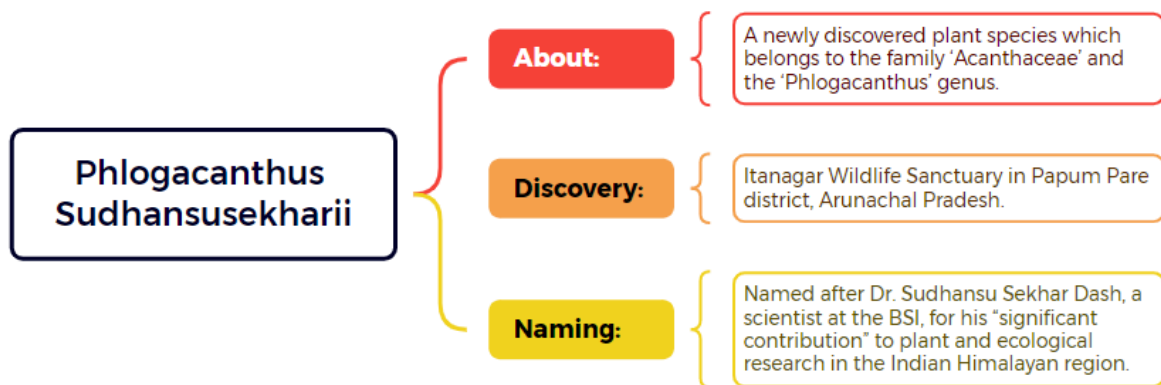
- **Right to emit a tonne of CO2:** It is often referred to as a carbon 'credit' or carbon 'allowance'.
- **2 types of carbon markets:** Compliance and Voluntary.
- **Examples:** European Union's Emissions Trading System(ETS) & the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), adopted under the Kyoto Protocol in 1997.

8. Phlogacanthus Sudhansusekharii - The Hindu

Context

Researchers from the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) have discovered a new plant species from a wildlife sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh, officials said. 'Phlogacanthus Sudhansusekharii', is the plant species recently discovered from Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary in Papum Pare district.

Phlogacanthus Sudhansusekharii



Itanagar Wildlife Sanctuary



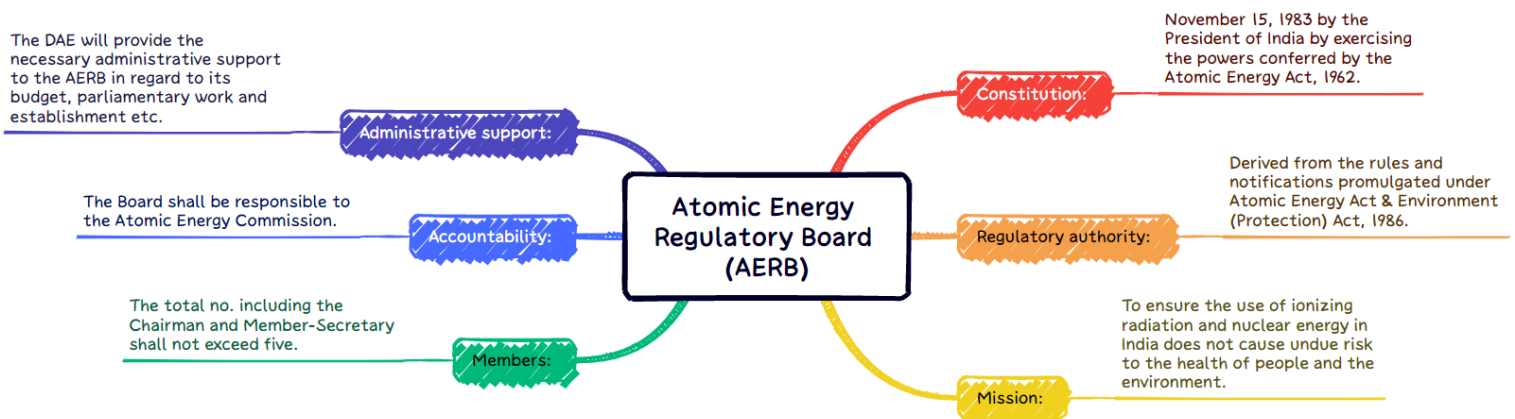
Miscellaneous

9. 60 mcg/litre uranium in drinking water safe: Study - Indian Express

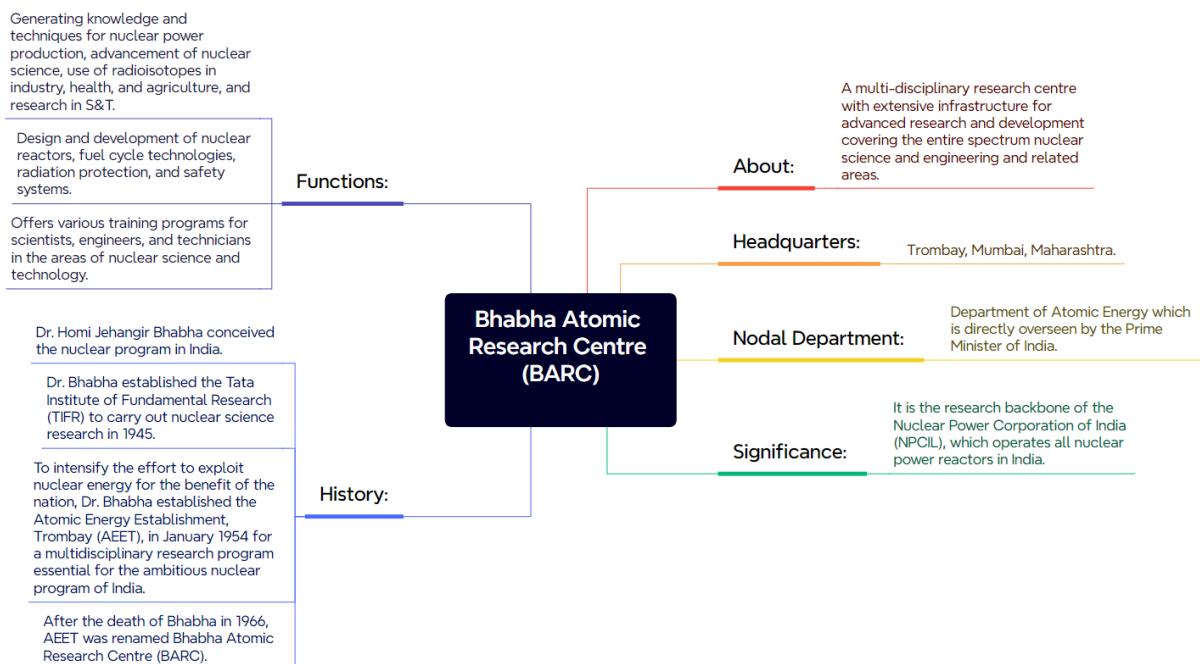
Context

A new study by scientists from the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has concluded that concentration of uranium, a radioactive substance, up to 60 micrograms per litre (millionth of a gram per litre or $\mu\text{g/l}$) in drinking water was entirely safe, suggesting that the recently formulated “more stringent” national standard of 30 $\mu\text{g/l}$ could be counterproductive. For years, the acceptable level of uranium concentration in drinking water in India was 60 $\mu\text{g/l}$ — set by the country’s nuclear safety watchdog, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)



Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)



10. National Archives of India - Indian Express

Public records, private papers, oriental records, cartographic records, and microfilms, which constitute an invaluable source of information for scholars, administrators and users of archives.

Has many records:

About:

The custodian of the records of enduring value of the Government of India.

Establishment:

March 11, 1891, at Calcutta (Kolkata) as the Imperial Record Department. It was transferred to New Delhi in 1911.

Significance:

The biggest archival repository in South Asia.

An attached office of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Ministry:

National Archives of India

11. Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) Program - PIB

Context

As the Paris Olympics draws near, the Government's ambitious Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) program is set to get a fresh boost under the leadership of the Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports and Labour & Employment. The first phase of KIRTI was launched in Chandigarh on March 12 this year.

Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) Program

Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) Program

Target group:

School children between nine and 18 years age group.

Major objectives:

To hunt talent from every nook and corner of the country

To use sports as a tool to curb addiction towards drugs and other gadgetry distractions.

Aim:

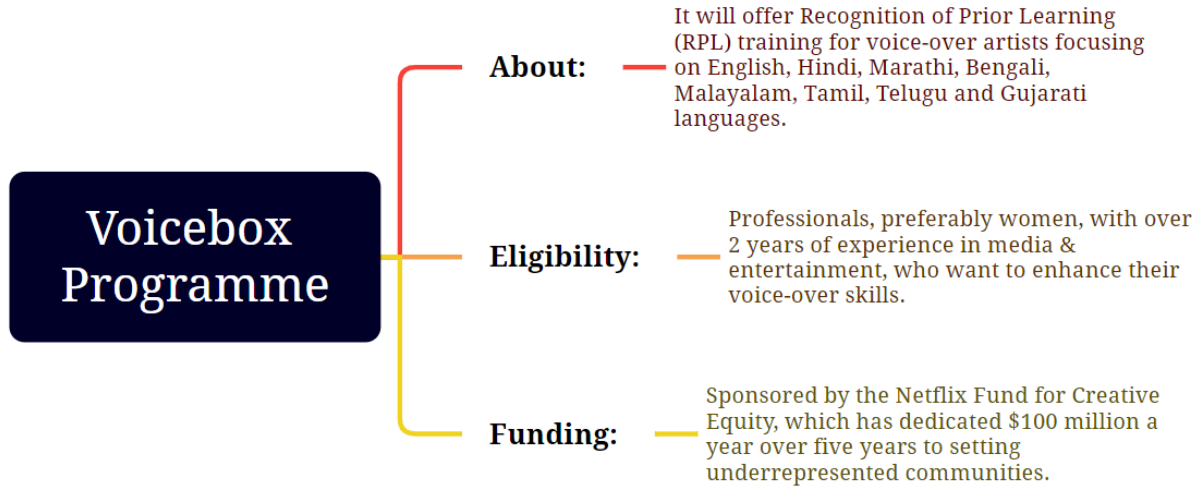
To conduct 20 lakh assessments across the country throughout the FY 2024-25 to identify talent through notified Talent Assessment Centres.

12. NFDC and Netflix Partner to Launch “The Voicebox” - an Upskilling Program for Voice-over Artists in India - PIB

Context

National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), a public sector enterprise under the aegis of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MoIB), have joined hands with Netflix India to launch an upskilling program for voice-over artists in India called “The Voicebox”.

Voicebox Programme



National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)

