



DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 01-11-2025

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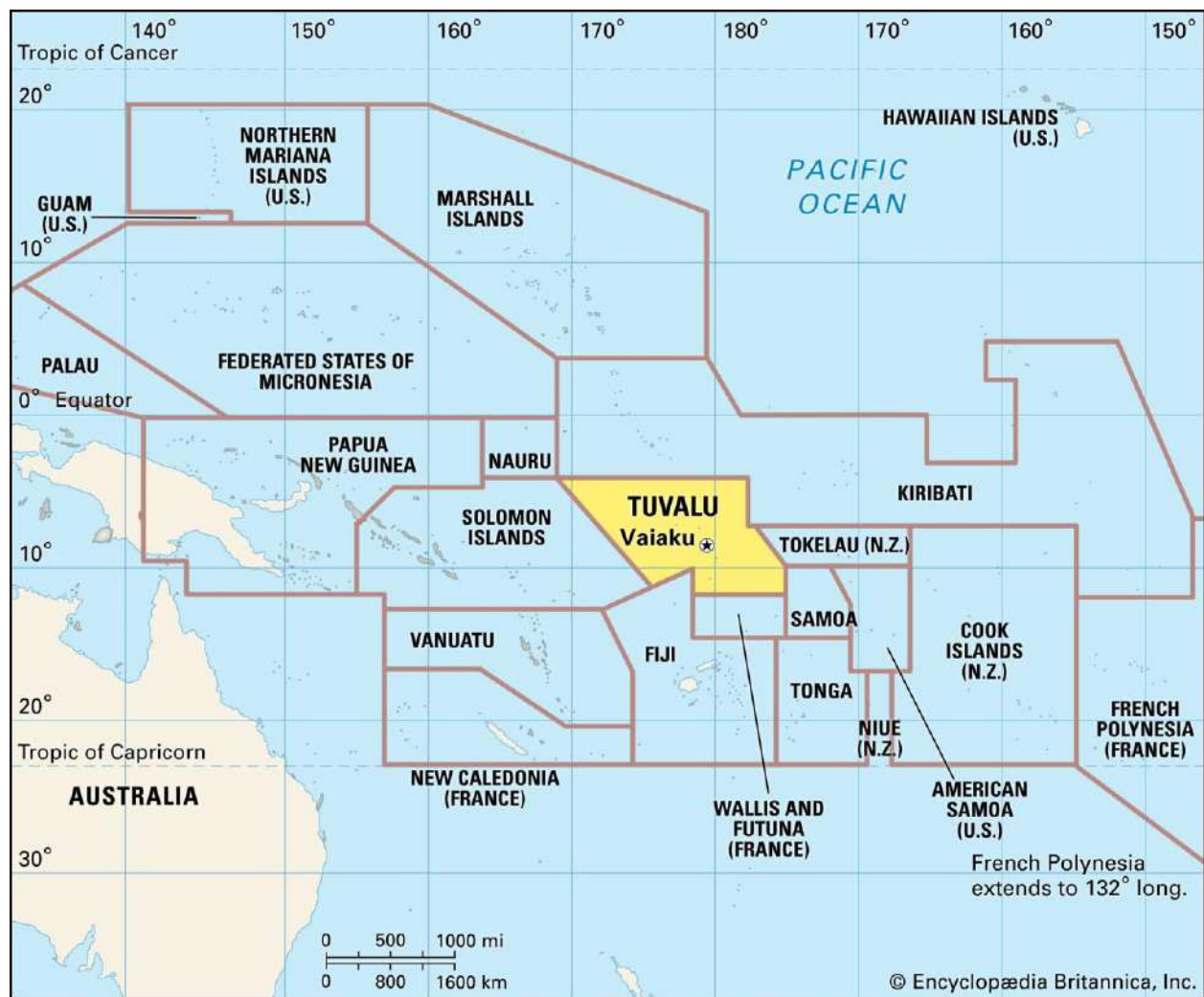
Tuvalu

Syllabus: GS-1; Geography- Mapping, GS-3; International Institutions

Context

- The **Government of Tuvalu** has officially joined the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**, becoming its **90th State Member**.

About Tuvalu



Location & Geography:

- Situated in the **west-central Pacific Ocean**, roughly halfway between **Australia** and **Hawaii**.
- **Neighbouring countries:** *Kiribati (north)* and *Fiji (south)*.

- Comprises **small islands and coral atolls**, mostly of volcanic origin.
- **Total area:** only **26 sq.km**, making it the **4th smallest country in the world**.
- **Highest point:** merely **4.5 metres above sea level** — making it extremely vulnerable to **sea-level rise**.
- **No rivers;** the climate is **hot and rainy**.

Demographics & Language:

- **Population:** One of the world's smallest (after Vatican City).
- **Languages:** *Tuvaluan* (official) and *English* (widely used).
- **Capital:** *Funafuti*.
- **Currency:** *Tuvalu dollar*, pegged to the *Australian dollar*.

Economy:

- Predominantly **subsistence farming** and **fishing**.
- **Remittances** from citizens working overseas form a major income source.
- **Exports:** *Copra* (dried coconut meat).
- **Other income:** Sale of *postage stamps* and *foreign fishing fees*.

Significance of IUCN Membership:

- Enables Tuvalu to access global networks for **environmental protection, climate resilience, and biodiversity conservation**.
- Strengthens its voice in **international environmental policymaking**, especially concerning **climate-induced displacement** and **marine ecosystem protection**.

Doctrine of Lis Pendens

Syllabus: GS-2; Polity

Context

- The **Delhi High Court** recently ruled that **courts can exempt certain properties from the application of the Doctrine of Lis Pendens** to protect **genuine owners** from **vexatious (malicious or frivolous) litigation**.
- This marks an important clarification in property law, balancing the rights of bona fide purchasers and the need to prevent abuse of judicial process.

About the Doctrine of Lis Pendens

- **Meaning:** The term *Lis Pendens* comes from Latin and means “**pending litigation.**” It is a **legal doctrine governing immovable property transfers** during the pendency of a legal dispute.
- **Legal Basis:** Governed by **Section 52 of the Transfer of Property Act (TPA), 1882).**
- **Core Principle:** Any **transfer of an immovable property** during the pendency of litigation **does not affect** the rights of the parties to that litigation. The **final judgment** in the case will **bind the transferee**, even if they purchased the property while the case was ongoing.
- **Objective:** To **prevent the subject matter of a dispute from being transferred** to a third party, thereby ensuring that judicial decisions are not rendered ineffective.
- **Effect:** The rule **does not invalidate** the transfer but **makes it subject to** the final outcome of the litigation.

Conditions for Applicability

1. There must be a **pending suit or proceeding.**
2. The **court must have competent jurisdiction** over the matter.
3. The **right to title or interest in an immovable property** must be directly involved.
4. The **litigation must directly affect** the rights to that property.
5. There must be a **transfer of the property by either party.**
6. The **suit must not be collusive** (i.e., based on fraud or deceit).

When Doctrine Does Not Apply

- Sale made by a **mortgager under power given by deed.**
- When **only the transferor is affected** and not the transferee.
- **Collusive suits** (fraudulent or fake cases).
- When the **property description is vague** or unidentifiable.
- When **property rights are not directly in question** and **alienation is permitted.**

Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme – Rabi 2025-26

Syllabus: GS-3: Indian Agriculture – Fertilisers & Subsidy.

Context:

- The **Union Cabinet**, chaired by **PM Narendra Modi**, approved **NBS rates** for **Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers** for **Rabi 2025-26** (Oct 1, 2025 – Mar 31, 2026).
- Aim: Ensure **affordable fertilizer availability** while aligning with **global fertilizer input price trends**.

About Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme

Background

- **Launched in:** 2010
- **Implemented by:** Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- **Type:** Central Sector Scheme

Objective

To ensure **availability of P&K fertilizers** at affordable rates and promote **balanced nutrient application** for **sustainable agriculture**.

Key Features

| Feature | Details |
|--------------------------|---|
| Coverage | 28 grades of P&K fertilizers (incl. DAP, NPKS grades) |
| Subsidy Mechanism | Fixed subsidy per kg of nutrient — Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potash (K), Sulphur (S) — revised annually/bi-annually |
| Beneficiaries | Manufacturers and importers (subsidy based on nutrient content) |
| Special Support | Additional subsidy during global price volatility (e.g., DAP) |
| Decontrol | P&K fertilizers decontrolled — companies can set MRPs, monitored by Govt |
| Urea Exclusion | Urea not under NBS; MRP fixed at ₹242 per 45-kg bag (since 2018) |

Significance of the Scheme

- Ensures **steady supply** of essential fertilizers at affordable prices.
- Promotes **balanced nutrient use**, reducing nitrogen overuse.
- Improves **transparency** and **fiscal discipline** in subsidy management.

- Supports **soil health management** and **sustainable agriculture**.
- Encourages **efficiency** in fertilizer production and distribution.

Challenges with NBS

- **Imbalanced Fertilizer Use:**
 - Urea's exclusion and low price → excessive nitrogen use → poor N:P:K ratio (often 6.7:2.4:1 vs. ideal 4:2:1).
 - Leads to **soil degradation** and **reduced productivity**.
- **Rising Fertilizer Prices:**
 - Global price volatility raises non-urea fertilizer costs.
 - Increases **input burden** on farmers and discourages balanced use.
- **Fiscal Burden:**
 - Fertilizer subsidy = **second-largest** after food.
 - Global price surges strain subsidy budget and affect other rural schemes.
- **Import Dependence:**
 - India imports **25% urea, 90% phosphates, 100% potash**.
 - Exposes India to **global supply shocks** and currency fluctuations.
- **Environmental Impact:**
 - Overuse of nitrogen → **groundwater pollution, GHG emissions, and loss of soil organic carbon**.

Reforms Needed

| Reform Area | Recommended Action |
|--|--|
| 1. Bring Urea under NBS | Include urea to ensure uniform subsidy treatment; recommended by CACP. |
| 2. Link Subsidy to Soil Health | Use Soil Health Card data for region-specific fertilizer mixes. |
| 3. Rationalize Subsidy Use | Cap number of subsidized fertilizer bags per farmer; strengthen DBT & Aadhaar linkage. |
| 4. Encourage Organic & Bio-fertilizers | Incentivize organic, bio, and nano fertilizers to improve soil quality. |
| 5. Farmer Awareness | Promote training on balanced nutrient application via KVKs |

| Reform Area | Recommended Action |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| | & agri-extension services. |

Way Forward / Conclusion

- The NBS Scheme is a **crucial reform** in fertilizer subsidy policy — moving from product-based to **nutrient-based support**.
- Integrating **urea under NBS**, **linking with soil health**, and **targeted subsidy delivery** can ensure **nutrient balance**, **fiscal sustainability**, and **environmental protection**.
- A **reformed NBS framework** can make Indian agriculture more **resilient, efficient, and eco-friendly**.

Puliyankudi Lime

Syllabus: GS-3; Biodiversity

Context:

The **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** facilitated the **first-ever air shipment** of **GI-tagged Indi Lime (Karnataka)** and **Puliyankudi Lime (Tamil Nadu)** to the **United Kingdom**, marking a milestone in India's GI-based agricultural exports.

About Geographical Indication (GI) Tag

- **Definition:** A **Geographical Indication (GI)** is a form of **Intellectual Property Right (IPR)** that identifies a product as originating from a specific region, where its **quality, reputation, or characteristics** are essentially linked to its geographical origin.
- **Legal Basis:**
 - Governed under the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**.
 - **Issued by:** Geographical Indication Registry, **Chennai**, under **DPIIT**, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **Objective:**
 - Protect and promote **regional products** and their authenticity.
 - Prevent **unauthorised use** or imitation of registered names.
 - Enhance **market value** and **export potential**.

- Ensure **economic benefits** to local producers and farming communities.

About Indi Lime (Karnataka)

- **Region:** Cultivated mainly in **Vijayapura district**, Karnataka.
- **Distinct Features:**
 - **High juice yield, zesty aroma, and balanced acidity.**
 - Known for its **culinary versatility** and **traditional medicinal value**.
- **Cultural Significance:** Reflects Karnataka's **agrarian heritage** and **local cultivation traditions**.

About Puliyanakudi Lime (Tamil Nadu)

- **Region:** Grown in **Tenkasi district**, also called the “**Lemon City of Tamil Nadu**.”
- **Variety:** The **Kadayam Lime** is particularly prized.
- **Distinct Features:**
 - **Thin peel, strong acidity, and high juice content (~55%).**
 - **High Vitamin C** (34.3 mg/100g) and **antioxidant-rich**, supporting immunity and digestion.
- **Recognition:**
 - Received **GI tag in April 2025**, acknowledging its **regional uniqueness and superior quality**.



Significance of the First Export

- Promotes **India's GI-based agri exports** and **brand identity** in global markets.
- Encourages **farmers to adopt quality standards** and **value addition practices**.

- Supports **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and **Vocal for Local** initiatives.
- Enhances **export diversification** and boosts **rural income** in lime-growing regions.

APEDA's Role

- Facilitates **export promotion** of GI-tagged and value-added agri products.
- Provides **quality certification, logistics support, and market linkage**.
- Works under the **Ministry of Commerce & Industry** to expand India's **agri export footprint**.

UNEP Adaptation Gap Report 2025

Syllabus: GS-3: Environment – Climate Change related Reports

Context:

- The **UNEP released its annual Adaptation Gap Report 2025**, titled *“Running on Empty”*, warning that the **global finance gap for climate adaptation** in developing countries has widened drastically.
- Released ahead of **COP30 (Belém, Brazil, 2025)** to influence climate finance negotiations.

About the Report

- **Published by:** UNEP–Copenhagen Climate Centre
- **Frequency:** Annual flagship publication
- **Purpose:**
 - Tracks **progress in climate adaptation**—planning, implementation, and finance.
 - Assesses the **adaptation finance gap** between needs and actual flows.
 - Supports global climate negotiations under the **UNFCCC**.

Key Findings

Adaptation Finance Gap

- Developing nations need **US\$310–365 billion per year by 2035**.
- Current adaptation finance (2023): **US\$26 billion → 12–14 times lower than required**.

- Down from **US\$28 billion (2022)** → Glasgow Climate Pact's target (to double by 2025) likely to be **missed**.

Debt-Driven Finance

- **58% of adaptation finance is loan-based**, much of it non-concessional.
- Risk: "**Adaptation debt trap**" for vulnerable economies.

Uneven Planning Progress

- **172 countries** have at least one **National Adaptation Plan (NAP)**, but **36 are outdated**.
- Implementation remains **weak and fragmented**.

Private Sector Underperformance

- Current private investment: **~US\$5 billion/year**.
- Potential: **Up to US\$50 billion/year** with policy and de-risking mechanisms.

Implementation Gaps

- **1,600 adaptation actions** globally (mainly in agriculture, water, biodiversity, and infrastructure).
- Few have **measurable outcomes** or evaluation frameworks.

Global Initiatives

- **Baku–Belém Roadmap (2024):**
 - Envisions **US\$1.3 trillion/year by 2035** in total climate finance.
 - Calls for **grants and non-debt instruments**.

India's Relevance

National Alignment

- India's **NAPCC** (National Action Plan on Climate Change) and **State Action Plans (SAPCCs)** align with UNEP's recommendations.
- Adaptation integrated into **agriculture, water, and infrastructure sectors**.

Vulnerabilities

- Recurrent **heatwaves, floods, glacial melts, and cyclones** highlight adaptation urgency.

Global Leadership

- India's role via **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, **LiFE Mission**, and **G20 Presidency (2023)** positions it as a **climate adaptation leader** in the Global South.

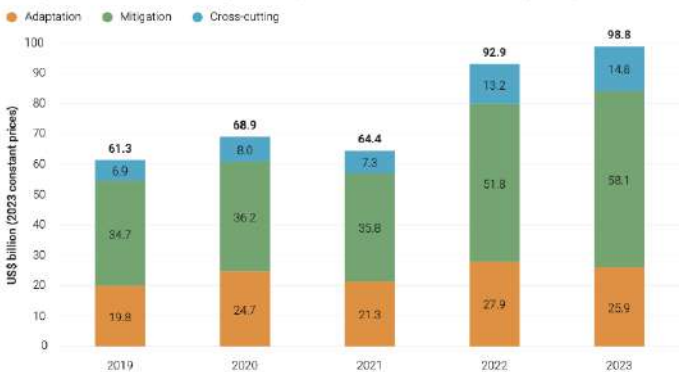
Challenges

- **Funding shortfalls** and dependence on **international concessional finance**.
- Need for **stronger global partnerships** for adaptation support.

Successes So Far

- **Near-universal policy recognition:** 172 countries with NAPs.
- **Climate Funds Expansion:** GCF, GEF, and Adaptation Fund disbursed **US\$920 million (2024) → 86% rise** over the five-year average.
- **Mainstreaming adaptation:** Especially in **LDCs** and **SIDS**, integrating it with poverty reduction and sustainable development.

International public climate finance commitments from developed countries towards developing countries per year for the period 2019-2023, disaggregated into adaptation, mitigation and cross-cutting finance (US\$ billions, constant 2023 prices)



Note: These values do not include the private flows mobilized from international public finance or export credits

Major Limitations

- **Severe financial shortfall:** Only **1/12th** of adaptation needs met.
- **Debt-based mechanisms:** Over half of funds via loans.
- **Low private participation:** High-risk perception and absence of **blended finance**.
- **Weak MEL frameworks:** Poor tracking and evaluation of adaptation effectiveness.
- **Risk of maladaptation:** Poorly designed policies may worsen vulnerabilities.

Recommendations / Way Forward

- **Expand Grant-based Finance:** Shift from loans to **grants/concessional finance** for equitable access.
- **Mobilise Private Sector:** Create **blended-finance models**, guarantees, and PPPs to unlock **US\$50 billion/year**.
- **Integrate Resilience Metrics:** Introduce climate resilience in **financial and insurance systems**.

- **Update Adaptation Plans:** Regular revisions based on **scientific evidence and local realities**.
- **Strengthen Regional Cooperation:** Boost **South-South collaboration** via **ISA, CDRI**, and technology sharing.

Conclusion

The UNEP Adaptation Gap Report 2025 underscores a harsh truth — **climate resilience cannot thrive on empty promises**.

Bridging the **finance and policy divide** is not an act of charity but a **strategic global investment**.

Only through **equitable funding, innovation, and solidarity** can the world prevent adaptation from lagging behind the pace of climate risk.