DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 10-12-2025

GS-1

1. **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay**
2. **Sudden Stratospheric Warming (SSW) Event**

GS-2

3. **Monroe Doctrine**
4. **INS Gharial**

GS-3

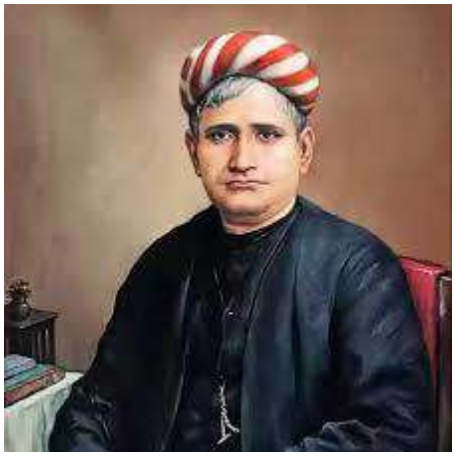
5. **National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)**

Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay

Syllabus: GS-1; Modern History

Context

- The family of Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, the composer of *Vande Mataram*, recently praised the Prime Minister for marking 150 years of India's national song.



About Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay

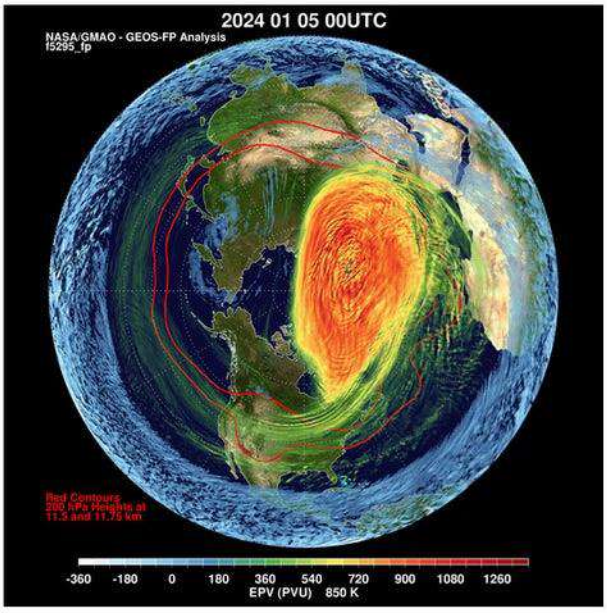
- One of India's greatest novelists and poets; also known as *Bankim Chandra Chatterjee*.
- Author of **Vande Mataram**, India's national song.
- Born: **27 June 1838**, Kantalpara (24 Parganas, Bengal).
- One of the first graduates of the University of Calcutta; later earned a law degree.
- Began as a poet; later turned to fiction.
- First Bengali romance: **Durgeshnandini (1865)**.
- Other notable novels: **Kapalkundala**, **Mrinalini**, **Vishbriksha**, **Chandrasekhar**, **Rajani**, **Rajsimha**, **Devi Chaudhurani**.
- Most famous work: **Anand Math (1882)** – set during the Sannyasi Rebellion.
- *Vande Mataram* (in Sanskrit) is part of this novel.
- Rabindranath Tagore first sang it in the 1896 INC Session (Kolkata).
- Adopted as **national song** on **24 January 1950**.
- Died on **8 April 1894**.
- Regarded as *Sahitya Samrat*; influenced modern Bengali prose & nationalism.

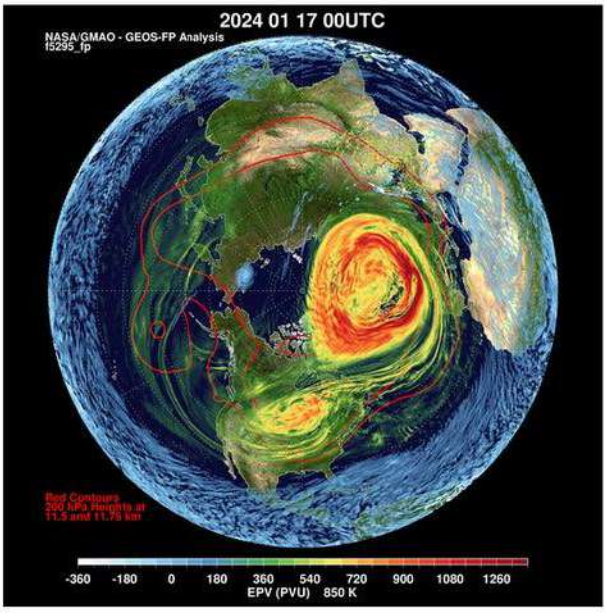
Sudden Stratospheric Warming (SSW) Event

Syllabus: GS-1; Geography

Context

- Meteorologists have warned of another SSW event likely to bring colder-than-average temperatures in parts of the U.S.





About SSW

- Rapid warming (10–30 km altitude) of the **stratosphere** that weakens/distorts the polar vortex.
- Caused when **Rossby waves** break over the polar vortex → winds reverse.
- Results in:
  - Polar vortex splitting or displacement,
  - Cold air intrusion into mid-latitudes.

Polar Vortex

- Large low-pressure cold-air system over the poles.
- Exists year-round; strongest in winter.
- Influences jet streams and cold waves across N. America, Europe, Asia.

Monroe Doctrine

Syllabus: GS-2; Polity

Context

- The U.S. National Security Strategy described Trump's approach as "flexible realism" and suggested reviving the **Monroe Doctrine** to reaffirm the U.S. zone of influence in the Western Hemisphere.

About Monroe Doctrine

- Announced by U.S. President **James Monroe in 1823**.
- Prevented European interference in the Americas.
- Drafted mainly by **John Quincy Adams**.
- Asserted U.S. neutrality in European conflicts.
- Triggered by fears of:
  - Russian expansion in Alaska,
  - Spanish colonial resurgence,
  - British influence in Americas.
- Invoked to justify U.S. dominance in the Western Hemisphere.
- Gained real power post **Spanish-American War (1898)**.
- Guided U.S. isolationism through the 19th century.

INS Gharial

Syllabus: GS-2; International Relations, GS-3; Defence and Security

Context

- INS Gharial deployed for **Operation Sagar Bandhu** to aid cyclone-hit Sri Lanka.

About INS Gharial

- Magar-class amphibious warfare vessel.
- Second indigenously built Landing Ship Tank (Large).
- Built by Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. & GRSE.
- Commissioned: **14 Feb 1997**.
- Part of **Eastern Fleet**.
- Capacity:
    - 2 helicopters,
    - 10 Vijayanta tanks,
    - 4 Landing Craft Assault.
- Armed for beach assault support.

National Mission on Edible Oils (NMEO)

Syllabus: GS-3 – Agriculture, Food Security, Government Schemes

Context

NMEO advancing India's **Atmanirbhar Bharat** vision by boosting domestic edible oil production and reducing import dependence (currently ~55–60%).

About NMEO

Objective: Achieve **self-sufficiency in edible oils** through area expansion, improved productivity, and enhanced processing capacity.

Targets (2030–31):

- **Cultivation Area:** Increase from **29 to 33 million ha**
- **Oilseed Production:** Increase from **39 to 69.7 million tonnes**

- **Yield:** Raise to **2,112 kg/ha**
- **Domestic Edible Oil Production: 25.45 million tonnes**
- **Import Reduction:** Aim to significantly reduce India's edible oil import bill (₹1.3–1.5 lakh crore annually)

Key Features

- Focus on **mustard, groundnut, soybean, sunflower, sesame, safflower, niger**.
- Includes support for **research, seed hubs, processing units, storage**, and **value chain strengthening**.
- Emphasis on **climate-resilient** and **high-oil-content** varieties.
- Encourages **Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)** for better market access.

Two Components

1. NMEO – Oil Palm (2021)

Aimed at boosting **oil palm cultivation** and domestic production of **Crude Palm Oil (CPO)**.

Targets:

- **6.5 lakh ha** oil palm area by **2025–26**
- **28 lakh tonnes** CPO production by **2029–30**

Additional Points:

- Special focus on **North-East** and **Andaman & Nicobar Islands** (high rainfall, suitable climate).
- Assured **Viability Price (VP)** mechanism to protect farmers from price volatility.
- Support for **nurseries, drip irrigation, processing mills**, and **replanting** of old palms.

2. NMEO – Oilseeds (2024–31)

Focuses on self-reliance in **traditional oilseeds**.

Key Interventions

- Quality seed production & distribution (seed minikits).
- Promotion of **hybrids**, **high-yielding** and **disease-resistant** varieties.
- Expansion in **rice-fallow areas** and **intercropping** models.

- Strengthening **value chains**, **processing infrastructure**, and **market linkages**.
- Support for **bio-inputs, micronutrients**, and **mechanisation**.

Funding Pattern

- **Central:State = 60:40** (General States)
- **90:10** (NE & Himalayan States)
- **100%** (Union Territories)