INDIAN PARTNERSHIP ACT, 1932

- It is a comprehensive law that **defines a partnership**, **its formation, its rights and its dissolution.**
- The Act is **based on the English Partnership Act, 1890.**
- It is applicable to the **whole of India**.
- This Act is applicable to all types of partnerships, **except for those formed for charitable purposes.**
- The Act defines partnership as the **relation between persons who have agreed to share the profits of a business** carried on by all or any of them acting for all.
- It provides for the **mutual rights and duties** of partners, **registration** of firms, **dissolution** of the firm and **settlement of disputes** among partners.
- The **partnership deed** is the most crucial document which is used to **determine the rights and obligations of partners** in the firm.
- The Act also lays down **provisions for the rights of minor partners** and their liabilities.

SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE AAPDA PRABANDHAN PURASKAR

The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2025, in the Institutional Category, for its excellent work in Disaster Management.

- It was instituted by the **Government of India** to recognise and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by **individuals and organisations** in India in the field **of disaster management.**

- It is **announced every year on January 23**, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

- **Eligibility:**
  - **Only Indian nationals** and **Indian institutions** are eligible to apply for the award.
  - Institutions, voluntary organisations, corporate entities, academic/research institutions, response/ uniformed forces or any other institution may apply as an institution for the award.
  - The candidate for the award must have **worked in the area of Disaster Management** like Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Rescue, Response, Relief, Rehabilitation, Research/ Innovations or Early Warning related work in India.

- **Award:**
  - In case the **winner being an institution**, it shall receive a certificate and a cash prize of Rs.51 lakhs. This cash prize shall be utilized by the winning institution for **Disaster Management related activities only.**
  - In case of the winner being an individual, winner shall receive a certificate and a cash prize of Rs.**00 lakhs.**

EURODRONE PROGRAMME

- **Eurodrone or Medium Altitude Long Endurance Remotely Piloted Aircraft System** (MALE RPAS) is a **twin-turboprop MALE Unmanned Aerial Vehicle** (UAV).

Features:

- It has a maximum **mission payload of 2.3 tonnes** and an endurance period, maximum time an aircraft can stay in the air using a single load of fuel, of up to **40 hours**.

- It offers **superior capabilities** compared to other existing remotely piloted aircraft systems.
- Equipped with a **twin-engine configuration**, the drone is designed for operations in diverse environments, including severe weather conditions.
- **Uses:** It is a **remotely piloted aircraft system** (RPAS) designed for long-endurance missions such as intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition, and reconnaissance (ISTAR), maritime surveillance, anti-submarine warfare and airborne early warning.
- It is the first RPAS natively designed for integration into **civil airspace.**

What is Eurodrone Programme?

- It is part of Europe's collective defence strategy, reducing reliance on US and Israeli platforms such as the **Reaper and Heron drones**, respectively.
- It is a 4-nation development programme of **Germany, France, Italy and Spain**, led by the Organisation for Joint Armament Cooperation (OCCAR).
- Airbus Defence and Space (GER) is the Industrial Prime together with Leonardo (ITA), Dassault Aviation (FRA) and Airbus Defence and Space (SPA) acting as Major Subcontractors (MSC).
- Germany takes the role of Lead Nation for the programme.

WHAT IS KAWACHAM?

- 'KaWaCHaM' stands for **Kerala Warnings Crisis and Hazards Management System**, and the word kavacham in Malayalam translates to 'shield', symbolising protection.
- It is an **advanced disaster warning system** that integrates alerts, sirens and global weather models to improve the State's early disaster preparedness and public safety.
- It is designed to **enhance rescue and rehabilitation efforts** during extreme weather events driven by climate change.

- It has been developed with funding from the **National Disaster Management Authority and the World Bank** as part of the **National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project**.

Key features:

- It includes **hazard assessment, alert issuance** and action planning according to threat levels.
- It aims to install **126 sirens** and **strobe lights** on tall towers, government buildings and schools.
- Each **siren has three colours—red, yellow and orange**—in the strobe light and is equipped with eight loudspeakers.
- These sirens can broadcast warnings up to **1,200 metres away** and provide essential information about emergency camps and safety precautions.
- The system will include **pre-recorded voice messages and audio alerts** to provide various warnings.
- Under the project, the **State integrates all early warning systems** into a framework that disseminates knowledge, issues warnings, monitors developing crises and ensures responses.

Working:

- KaWaCHaM **collects data from various sources,** including weather networks such as India Meteorological Department, INCOIS and CWC, private and public agencies, social media networks and the Internet.
- The warnings will cover sea attacks, heavy rainfall, strong winds and extreme heat.
- It is headed by the state emergency operation centre, will operate at the taluk (subdistrict) level and cover all vulnerable areas.

INDIA – INDONESIA BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto arrived in India ahead of the 76th Republic Day celebrations in New Delhi, where he will be the chief guest.

India – Indonesia Bilateral Relationship:

- **Historical and Cultural Bonds:**
  - India and Indonesia share a relationship that spans over two millennia, rooted in deep cultural and historical ties.
  - Hinduism, Buddhism, and later Islam travelled to Indonesia from India, shaping its cultural and religious landscape.
  - The epics **Ramayana** and **Mahabharata** continue to influence Indonesian art and folklore, creating a unique cultural connection.
  - Post-independence, both nations shared aspirations for political sovereignty, economic self-sufficiency, and independent foreign policies, becoming significant voices in the **Non-Aligned Movement**.

- **Defense and Security Cooperation:** India and Indonesia have a long-standing defense relationship, formalized in 1951 and further strengthened by in 2001 and 2018.
  - **Joint Military Exercises**: Exercises like **Garuda Shakti** (Army), **Samudra Shakti** (Navy), and coordinated patrols (**IND-INDO CORPAT**).
  - **Defense Industry Collaboration**: The inaugural India-Indonesia Defense Industry Exhibition in 2024 showcased opportunities for cooperation in defense technology and manufacturing.

- **Economic and Trade Relations:**
  - **Bilateral Trade: Indonesia is India's second-largest trading partner in ASEAN**. Trade between the two nations was **$29.4 billion in 2023-24**, driven by:
    - **Indian Imports**: Coal, crude palm oil, and rubber.
    - **Indian Exports**: Refined petroleum, telecommunication equipment, and agricultural products.

- o **Investment and Connectivity:**
    - **Indian Investments**: Indian businesses have invested over $1.56 billion in sectors like mining, textiles, and infrastructure.
    - **Connectivity Boost**: Direct flights between major cities like Mumbai-Jakarta and Delhi-Bali have strengthened people-to-people ties and boosted tourism.

- **Cultural and Educational Collaboration:**
    - o **Cultural Engagement:** India operates two cultural centres in Jakarta and Bali, promoting yoga, classical dance, and music.
    - o **Educational Cooperation:** Indonesia is a key recipient of Indian scholarships under programs like ITEC and ICCR. Discussions on higher education MoUs aim to deepen collaboration in knowledge sharing.

- **Multilateral Cooperation:**
    - o India and Indonesia are active participants in multilateral forums like the **G20**, **ASEAN**, and **IORA**. Their partnership extends to maritime security, sustainable development, and regional stability.

- **Future Prospects:**
    - o India and Indonesia commemorate 75 years of diplomatic relations in 2024, with numerous initiatives celebrating their shared history and future aspirations.
    - o Strengthening trade, defense, and cultural cooperation remains central to their relationship, ensuring mutual growth and stability in the Indo-Pacific.

Conclusion:

- The India-Indonesia bilateral relationship exemplifies a blend of historical camaraderie and strategic collaboration.
- As two vibrant democracies and emerging economies, their partnership is pivotal in shaping the regional and global landscape.
- With shared values and mutual respect, India and Indonesia continue to deepen their ties, fostering a prosperous and peaceful future.

INDIA'S WINDING ROAD TO '#ENDTB'

- **Tuberculosis (TB),** a disease long considered curable, **remains one of the deadliest infectious diseases worldwide.**

- Despite **India's ambitious pledge in 2018 to achieve the "End TB" targets by 2025**, five years ahead of the global timeline, **the challenges are profound.**

- **While ambitious policies and initiatives are rolled out** from the national level, **the ground reality in India needs to be better understood** to translate them into effective interventions.

The Current Situation of TB in India, the Vulnerabilities of High-Risk Groups and Breakdowns in Treatment and Supply Chains

- **The Current Situation of TB in India**

  - In 2024, **TB reclaimed its position as the leading infectious disease killer globally, with India contributing 26% of the global TB burden**, including drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) cases and TB-related deaths.

  - **The COVID-19 pandemic**, logistical issues, and gaps in healthcare infrastructure **have further complicated efforts to combat the disease effectively.**

  - Addressing the vulnerabilities of affected populations, improving diagnosis and treatment, and ensuring better program implementation are crucial to overcoming these hurdles.

- **The Vulnerabilities of High-Risk Groups**

  - India's **National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP)** identifies high-risk groups prone to TB, including individuals exposed to factors like silicosis, undernutrition, overcrowding, and uncontrolled co-morbidities such as diabetes.

  - **Migrant workers are particularly vulnerable** due to poor access to healthcare.

Necessary Measures to Address the Challenges

- **Strengthening Diagnostic Infrastructure**
  - Expanding the **availability of molecular diagnostic tools like CBNAAT and Truenat** to primary and community health centres is essential.
  - **Ensuring a consistent supply of cartridges and reagents**, coupled with the deployment of trained technicians, can reduce delays in diagnosis.

- **Training Healthcare Providers**
  - **Regular training programs for general practitioners, nurses**, and frontline workers can enhance their ability to suspect and diagnose EP-TB early.
  - **Emphasising simple diagnostic techniques** and clinical history-taking can help bridge the gap where advanced tools are unavailable.

- **Integrating EP-TB into Screening Algorithms**
  - **Incorporating EP-TB into routine TB screening protocols**, particularly in high-burden areas, can ensure that cases are identified early.
  - **Training frontline workers to recognise the diverse presentations of EP-TB** can improve detection rates.

- **Community Awareness Campaigns**
  - **Raising awareness among the general public about EP-TB symptoms** can encourage early healthcare-seeking behaviour.
  - **Community outreach programs should focus on dispelling myths** about TB and highlighting the availability of free diagnostic and treatment services under the NTEP.

- **Public-Private Collaboration**
  - **Engaging private practitioners through training,** incentives, and monitoring mechanisms can improve notification rates and **ensure that cases are appropriately diagnosed and managed.**

DHANAURI WETLAND

The principal bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) recently directed the Uttar Pradesh government to place on record in four weeks the status of notifying the Dhanauri water body as a wetland.

- It is located in **Greater Noida**, Gautam Buddha Nagar district, **Uttar Pradesh**, close to the Okhla bird sanctuary and Surajpur wetland.
- It is nestled **within the floodplains of the Yamuna Basin,** within 15 kms of the River Yamuna.
- The wetland, which is mostly **composed of marshes**, is a **significant site for** the vulnerable **Sarus Crane** (Antigone antigone).
- Besides the Sarus Crane, some of the bird species reported in the Dhanauri wetland are Common teal, Mallard, Northern-Pintail, Greylag geese, Bar-headed geese, Woolly-necked Stork, Black-necked stork, Painted Stork, and Eurasian marsh harrier among others.
- It is classified as an **Important Bird Area** by **BirdLife International**.

About Sarus Crane:
- It is the **world's tallest flying bird**.
- There are **three subspecies** of Sarus Crane in the world, namely, the Indian Sarus Crane, the Eastern Sarus Crane and the Australian Sarus Crane.
- The **Indian Sarus Crane is the heaviest and tallest** among the three subspecies of Sarus Crane.
- It is classified as '**Vulnerable' under the IUCN Red List.**