



# BENEVOLENT IAS ACADEMY

# 1626 – A, Sri Vinayaga Complex,  
Hope College, Peelamedu (PO),  
Coimbatore – 641 004.

Cell: +91-9787731607, 9787701067.

Web: [www.benevolentacademy.com](http://www.benevolentacademy.com), E-Mail: [benevolentacademy@gmail.com](mailto:benevolentacademy@gmail.com)

## **TODAY'S IMPORTANT CURRENT AFFAIRS**

### **UPSC PRELIMS**

**Date: 09.07.2025**

**Source: The Hindu**

#### **TODAY'S DROPS OF NEWS:**

<b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>	<b><u>IN NEWS</u></b>
<b>POLITY</b>	<b>Public Accounts Committee tells DGCA to hold a complete safety audit of all aircraft.</b>
<b>ECONOMY</b>	---
<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>	---
<b>HISTORY AND ART &amp; CULTURE</b>	---
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	---
<b>SCIENCE &amp; TECH</b>	<b>Auto-part industry seeks national strategy on critical materials.</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	---

#### **POLITY**

**In news:** Public Accounts Committee tells DGCA to hold a complete safety audit of all aircraft.

- **The Public Accounts Committee (PAC)** is a parliamentary committee that examines all associated financial records, including reports given by the Auditor-General, to hold government institutions accountable for the use of public monies and resources.

### **Membership:**

- 22 members (15 from Lok Sabha, 7 from Rajya Sabha).
- Chairperson: A Lok Sabha MP, traditionally from the Opposition.
- Term: One year.
- Ministers cannot be members of the PAC.

### **APPOINTMENT:**

- The Chairman of the Committee is **appointed by the Speaker of Lok Sabha**.
- It is to be noted that the Committee, not being an executive body, can only make decisions that are advisory by nature.

### **FUNCTION:**

- The Committee investigates several areas of the government's tax administration while evaluating the C&AG Reports on Revenue Receipts.
- Parliamentary committees draw their authority from **Article 105** (on privileges of Parliament members) and **Article 118** (on Parliament's authority to make rules for regulating its procedure and conduct of business).
- It is a powerful watchdog that holds the executive branch accountable for its financial transactions.

## **SCIENCE & TECH**

**In news:** Auto-part industry seeks national strategy on critical materials.

### **Critical minerals:**

- Critical minerals are those that are essential for modern technologies and national security, but have supply chain risks due to their limited availability or

geographical concentration.

- Their 'criticality' changes over time depending on technological demand and supply dynamics.
- 30 critical minerals were identified by a Ministry of Mines committee in 2022.
- List of India's 30 Critical Minerals: Antimony, Beryllium, Bismuth, Cobalt, Copper, Gallium, Germanium, Graphite, Hafnium, Indium, Lithium, Molybdenum, Niobium, Nickel, PGE, Phosphorous, Potash, REE, Rhenium, Silicon, Strontium, Tantalum, Tellurium, Tin, Titanium, Tungsten, Vanadium, Zirconium, Selenium, and Cadmium.
- KABIL (Khanij Bidesh India Ltd) signed agreements with:
  - CAMYEN SE (Argentina) for lithium exploration over 15,703 hectares.
  - Critical Minerals Office, Australia for lithium and cobalt projects.
- About the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM)
  - The National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) is a strategic initiative by the Ministry of Mines aimed at ensuring long-term availability, security, and processing of critical minerals that are vital for clean energy technologies, economic development, and national security.
  - It aligns with India's commitments to net-zero emissions by 2070 and reducing the emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030 (from 2005 levels).

### **Applications of Critical Minerals:**

**Solar Panels:** Use silicon, tellurium, indium, and gallium.

**Wind Turbines:** Use rare earth elements like neodymium, dysprosium.

**Electric Vehicles (EVs):** Rely on lithium, cobalt, nickel for batteries.

**Energy Storage Systems:** Use lithium-ion batteries.

Also used in electronics, defence, aerospace, and medical technologies.

**MENTOR**

**MR. V. GOKULA KRISHNAN**

**ACADEMIC ADVISOR**

**Mrs. D. Rajakali Thomas**