

CORE THEME: INDIAN PM'S VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS - WATER MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

The Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, along with the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, H.E. **Rob Jetten**, visited the iconic Dutch water management structure, the **Afsluitdijk Dam**.

EXAM-ORIENTED KEY POINTS

1. AFSLUITDIJK DAM

- **Location & Specifications:** A **32-kilometer-long** dam and causeway located in the **Netherlands**.
- **Significance:** It is a global benchmark in flood control and land reclamation. It protects large parts of the Netherlands from the **North Sea** while enabling freshwater storage.

2. KALPASAR PROJECT (INDIA)

- **Location:** Proposed to be built across the **Gulf of Khambhat** in the state of **Gujarat**, India.
- **Objective:** To create a massive **freshwater reservoir**.
- **Multipurpose Benefits:** The project integrates **tidal power generation**, irrigation, and transportation infrastructure.
- **Parallel:** The technical framework of India's Kalpasar project shares strong structural and functional parallels with the Dutch Afsluitdijk Dam.

3. BILATERAL AGREEMENT (LETTER OF INTENT)

- **Signatory Ministries:** **Ministry of Jal Shakti** (India) and the **Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management** (Netherlands).
- **Purpose:** Signed a **Letter of Intent (LoI)** for technical cooperation specifically on the **Kalpasar project**.
- **Strategic Framework:** This visit reinforces the '**India-Netherlands Strategic Partnership on Water**', focusing on hydraulic engineering expertise, climate resilience, and sustainable infrastructure.

EXPECTED QUESTIONS FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS

- **The ambitious 'Kalpasar Project', which was recently in the news, is located in which Indian state?** (Answer: Gujarat)
- **The iconic 'Afsluitdijk Dam', a global benchmark in flood control and land reclamation, is located in which country?** (Answer: The Netherlands)
- **India has signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) for technical cooperation on the Kalpasar project with which country?** (Answer: The Netherlands)
- **Across which geographical feature is the Kalpasar freshwater reservoir project planned to be integrated?** (Answer: Gulf of Khambhat)

CORE THEME: INDIA-NETHERLANDS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP ROADMAP (2026-2030)

During their meeting at The Hague in May 2026, the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, and the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, **Mr. Rob Jetten**, agreed to elevate their bilateral relationship to a '**Strategic Partnership**'. To guide this transition, both nations officially adopted the **Roadmap of India-Netherlands Strategic Partnership for the next 5 years (2026-2030)**.

EXAM-ORIENTED KEY POINTS

1. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION

- **Foreign Ministers' Mechanism:** A new institutional mechanism at the Foreign Ministers' level has been established to hold **annual meetings** to track the Roadmap's progress and provide strategic guidance.
- **Critical Raw Materials:** Under an existing MoU on critical minerals, both countries will scope a bilateral strategic joint partnership across the **Critical Raw Materials value chain** to ensure supply chain diversification, ESG compliance, and circularity.
- **Fast Track Mechanism:** The bilateral Fast Track Mechanism will be periodically reviewed to facilitate smoother investments and resolve business issues.

2. WATER, AGRICULTURE, AND HEALTH

- **Strategic Partnership on Water:** The landmark water partnership (originally signed in March 2022) has been extended and reviewed to run until **March 2027**. Focus areas include flood resilience and sustainable water management in the **Ganga Basin**.
- **Urban River Management:** Collaborative development of Urban River Management Plans in India, integrating the '**Water as Leverage**' approach and leveraging India's **CDRI** (Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure) for disaster-resilient urban infrastructure.
- **Health & Digital Cooperation:** A Letter of Intent (LoI) was signed between the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (**RIVM**) and the Indian Council of Medical Research (**ICMR**) focusing on One Health, vector-borne diseases, and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).
- **Food Safety Certification:** An MoU was operationalized between **NVWA** (Netherlands) and **FSSAI** (India) to exchange electronic certification systems and align with international food safety standards.

3. EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION, AND EDUCATION

- **Semiconductor Integration:** The Dutch Semicon Competence Centre will be directly connected to the **Indian Semiconductor Mission (ISM)** to boost industry ecosystems, startups, and SMEs.
- **The 'Brain Bridge' Initiative:** A major Memorandum of Cooperation was highlighted between two premier Dutch universities (Eindhoven University of Technology and University of Twente) and **six leading Indian Technical Institutes (IISc Bangalore, IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Gandhinagar, IIT Guwahati, and IIT Madras)** for academic and talent bridging in semiconductors, backed by industrial giants like ASML, NXP, TATA, and CG Semi.
- **Space Technology:** Utilizing space-based applications to collaboratively address societal challenges like climate change, food security, and air quality.

4. ENERGY TRANSITION AND MARITIME DEVELOPMENT

- **Green and Digital Sea Corridor:** Both nations are drafting an action plan to establish an environmentally sustainable maritime corridor. This corridor is highly strategic as it aims to **integrate India's domestic production capacities to export Green Hydrogen to European markets** via the Netherlands.
- **Global Alliances:** Strengthening clean energy cooperation through multilateral frameworks like the **Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA)** and the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**.

5. DEFENCE AND SECURITY COOPERATION

- **Defence Industrial Roadmap:** Jointly institutionalized between the respective ministries to promote R&D through the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (**SIDM**) and the Netherlands Industry for Defence and Security (**NIDV**).
- **Indo-Pacific Alignment:** Increased Dutch engagement in the Indo-Pacific region through frameworks like the **Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)** and the **Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)**.
- **Legal Treaties:** Ongoing fast-tracked negotiations to conclude a **Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT)** and a new **Extradition Treaty** to combat transnational crimes and terrorism.

EXPECTED QUESTIONS FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS

- **India recently adopted a 5-year Strategic Partnership Roadmap (2026-2030) to elevate bilateral ties with which European nation?** (Answer: The Netherlands)
- **The 'Brain Bridge' initiative, a semiconductor research and talent-sharing collaboration involving six premier Indian IITs/institutes, is partnered with universities from which country?** (Answer: The Netherlands)
- **The proposed 'Green and Digital Sea Corridor' between India and the Netherlands is primarily aimed at facilitating the export of which domestic resource to European markets?** (Answer: Green Hydrogen)
- **With reference to bilateral defence industrial cooperation, the organizations SIDM and NIDV belong to which countries respectively?** (Answer: SIDM - India, NIDV - The Netherlands)

CORE THEME: INAUGURATION OF MADHUR DAIRY'S NEW PLANT - WHITE REVOLUTION 2.0

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister, Shri Amit Shah, inaugurated the state-of-the-art automated milk processing and packaging plant of **Madhur Dairy Unit-2** at **Dashela** in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. This initiative aligns with the Ministry of Cooperation's vision of "**Sahkar Se Samridhi**" (Prosperity through Cooperatives).

EXAM-ORIENTED KEY POINTS

1. MADHUR DAIRY PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

- **Location & Cost:** Built over 15 acres at Dashela (Gandhinagar, Gujarat) with an investment of **₹128 crore**.
- **Capacity Expansion:** The current milk processing capacity stands at 2.5 lakh litres per day, which is scheduled to scale up to **5 lakh litres per day** in the future.

- **Evolution of the Cooperative:** Established in 1971 with a collection of just 6,000 litres and a turnover of ₹7,000, Madhur Dairy has grown into a successful cooperative model with an annual turnover of **₹628 crore**.

2. WHITE REVOLUTION 2.0 (WHITE REVOLUTION 2.0)

- **Target:** Launched under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, White Revolution 2.0 strategically aims to **triple India's milk production over the next 10 years** (one decade).

3. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT & RURAL ECONOMY

- **Scale of Participation:** Approximately **36 lakh women** are actively driving the dairy cooperative network in Gujarat.
- **Economic Impact:** These women handle 3 crore litres of milk daily, generating a massive business worth **₹200 crore every single day**, which is transferred directly into their bank accounts via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

4. TECHNOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS (AI IN DAIRY)

- **AI Digital Assistant "Sarlaben":** Developed by Amul, "Sarlaben" is an AI-powered digital assistant launched to provide real-time technological empowerment, livestock guidance, and accessibility solutions directly to rural women and livestock farmers.

5. APPLICATION OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- **Income Optimization:** The deployment of **Circular Economy principles** (such as waste-to-energy and bio-gas integration) within the dairy value chain is projected to increase dairy sector incomes by up to **20 percent**.

EXPECTED QUESTIONS FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS

- **The state-of-the-art automated milk processing plant 'Madhur Dairy Unit-2' was recently inaugurated at which place?** (Answer: Dashela, Gandhinagar, Gujarat)
- **What is the primary decade-long target set under India's newly initiated 'White Revolution 2.0'?** (Answer: To triple India's milk production over the next 10 years)
- **Which dairy major developed the AI Digital Assistant named "Sarlaben" to technologically empower rural livestock farmers?** (Answer: Amul)
- **According to the Ministry of Cooperation, the adoption of Circular Economy principles in the dairy sector is expected to boost dairy incomes by what percentage?** (Answer: Up to 20 percent)
- **The "Sahkar Se Samridhhi" mantra is an initiative of which Union Ministry?** (Answer: Ministry of Cooperation)

CORE THEME: INDIAN NAVY INAUGURATES NAVAL SAILING NODE AT BHOPAL

The Indian Navy officially inaugurated its premier **Naval Sailing Node** at the Upper Lake, widely known as **Bhojtal**, in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

EXAM-ORIENTED KEY POINTS

1. INAUGURATION & LEADERSHIP

- **Presided By:** The inauguration ceremony was led by the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), **Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi**.
- **Commemorative Display:** Over 30 naval personnel from **INWTC (Indian Navy Watermanship Training Centre) Visakhapatnam**, alongside the Navy's rowing, kayaking, and canoeing teams, presented a spectacular 'Sail Parade'.

2. CORE OBJECTIVE & SIGNIFICANCE

- **Watermanship Training:** Watermanship training is an integral part of the development process for naval personnel to build camaraderie, discipline, and a competitive spirit within their primary domain of maritime operations.
- **Utilization:** This state-of-the-art facility will be extensively utilized for professional training by the Indian Navy Sailing Team, the Navy Rowing, Canoeing, and Kayaking Teams, as well as National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets.

3. STATE REPRESENTATION & YOUTH MOBILIZATION

- **Madhya Pradesh Connection:** Out of the total 34 personnel currently on the Navy Sailing Team, **17 members hail from the state of Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Talent Motivation:** The node aims to act as a catalyst to motivate the youth of Madhya Pradesh to embrace competitive water sports and inspire them to join the Indian Armed Forces.

4. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL SPORTS OBJECTIVES

- **Global Sporting Talent:** The initiative is a significant step toward realizing the Prime Minister's vision of building world-class sporting talent capable of securing medals at the Olympics and Asian Games.
- **Policy Integration:** This establishment directly aligns with the objectives of the **National Sports Policy**, which focuses on promoting excellence and expanding the talent pool in competitive sports across India.

EXPECTED QUESTIONS FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS

- **The Indian Navy recently inaugurated its premier 'Naval Sailing Node' at which water body?** (Answer: Upper Lake / Bhojtal, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh)
- **Who is the current Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) of the Indian Navy?** (Answer: Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi)
- **By what historical name is the Upper Lake of Bhopal officially known?** (Answer: Bhojtal)
- **Personnel from which Indian Navy Watermanship Training Centre (INWTC) led the commemorative Sail Parade during the inauguration?** (Answer: INWTC Visakhapatnam)

- **The establishment of the Naval Sailing Node aligns with the talent expansion objectives of which national policy framework? (Answer: National Sports Policy)**

