



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

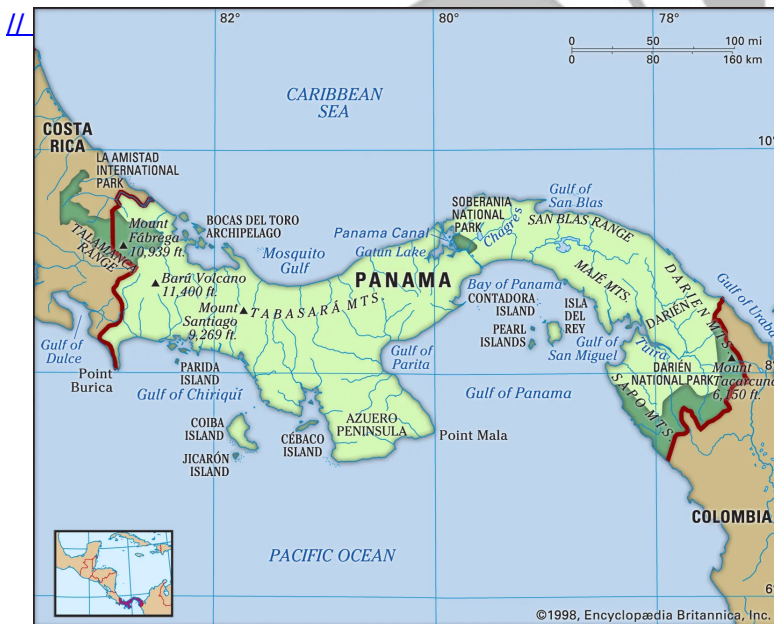
Data Sharing Mechanism for Gati Shakti Infrastructure Platform

Government of India plans data sharing mechanism for [PM Gati Shakti infrastructure](#) platform, facilitating information exchange of **geospatial data** on multi-modal connectivity and infrastructure with industry and investors. Under the **Network Planning Group (NPG)** of the platform, a total of **85 large central infrastructure projects, worth approximately ₹5.4 lakh crore**, have been evaluated and facilitated thus far. PM Gati Shakti's data **accelerates road and rail project report preparation**, improving infrastructure development efficiency.

PM Gati Shakti is a **digital platform designed to coordinate and monitor infrastructure** projects across 16 ministries, focusing on **multi-modal connectivity**. Its objective is to enhance India's economic growth, competitiveness, and ease of doing business by reducing logistics costs and travel time.

Read more: [PM Gatishakti National Master Plan](#)

India and Panama signs MoU on Electoral Cooperation



The [Election Commission of India \(ECI\)](#) and **Panama's Electoral Tribunal (ET)** have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** to establish a framework for ongoing cooperation in **election management and administration**.

The discussions focused on the use of **technology and social media** in elections. Having signed MoUs with **Mexico, Brazil and Chile in the past years**, this is the **fourth MoU signed by ECI with an Election Management Bodies (EMBs) in the Latin American region**, with an **overall 31 MoUs with EMBs and international organisations** across the world. Both ECI and ET are members of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB), which facilitates global collaboration among EMBs.

A-WEB is the **world's largest international organization** in the **field of election management**. It currently comprises **119 EMBs from 110 countries**. It was established in **2013 in South Korea** with the aim of promoting **free, fair, transparent, and participative elections worldwide**.

Read more: [Election Commission of India](#), [General Assembly of the Association of World Election Bodies](#)

IRDAI and Obligatory Cession

The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI)** has maintained the status quo on obligatory cession of business for FY 23-24 at 4%. The govt had notified the move recently saying that the entire **Obligatory Cession** is to be placed with **General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re) only**.

Obligatory cession refers to the part of the business that general insurance companies have to mandatorily cede to the **national reinsurer** GIC Re. The private general insurers are against this as it hinders their freedom of doing the reinsurance business.

IRDAI is a regulatory body created with the aim of protecting the interests of insurance customers. It was **established under the IRDA Act 1999 and functions under the Ministry of Finance**.

Read More: [IRDAI](#)

Findings from Sangam Age Excavated in Tamil Nadu

A **gold stud, a bone point and a carnelian bead** have been unearthed by archaeologists at **Porpanaikottai** in Pudukottai district of TN. A **Sangam-age** fort is believed to have existed at the site.

The **stud is believed to be used as a nose ornament** whereas the **bone point was probably used for weaving** in the Sangam Age. The discovery of the **red round-shaped carnelian bead is a pointer to domestic trade**; they were usually sourced from Gujarat.

Studies carried out at the site using **Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR)**, a remote sensing method, have also indicated that a fort had existed at Porpanaikottai.



Read More: [Sangam Age](#), [LiDAR Technology](#)