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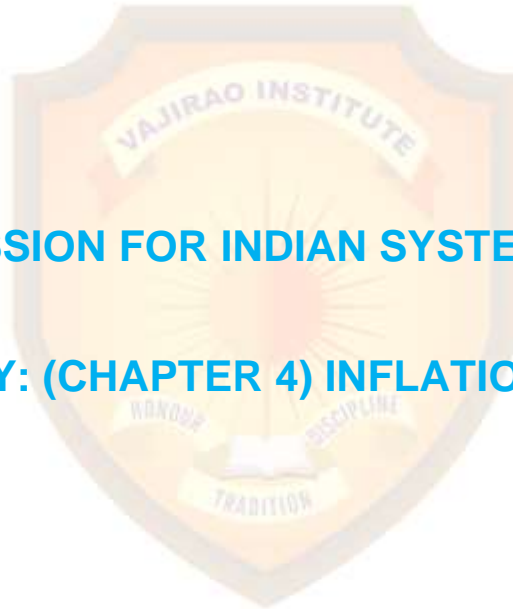


TODAY'S ANALYSIS

(01 March 2025)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- **TAMAL WARSHIP**
- **NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR INDIAN SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE**
- **ECONOMIC SURVEY: (CHAPTER 4) INFLATION DYNAMICS**
- **MCQs**



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TAMAL WARSHIP



- India's **last imported warship**, **Tamal**, is expected to be commissioned into the Indian Navy by **early June 2025**.
- The ship, a **stealth frigate** under construction in **Russia**, marks a significant milestone as it will be the final warship commissioned from outside India.
- India has since moved to design and build its own warships.

KEY DETAILS

- **Location:** The crew for **Tamal** arrived in **St. Petersburg** (Russia) around 10 days ago for **training** in preparation for the ship's commissioning.

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- **Training and Trials:** After training, the crew will move to **Kaliningrad** to supervise a series of trials, which include **State Committee Trials** and **delivery acceptance trials** at sea and in harbor, lasting around **45 to 50 days**.
- **Significance:** Tamal will be the **last imported warship**, as India now focuses on designing and constructing its own naval ships.

BACKGROUND

- **Inter-Governmental Agreement (2016):** Tamal is part of a deal for four **follow-on stealth frigates** signed in October 2016 between India and Russia. This agreement includes:
 - **Two ships imported** from Russia.
 - **Two ships built in India** by **Goa Shipyard Ltd. (GSL)** under a **technology transfer** agreement.
- **\$1 Billion Deal:** A separate \$1 billion deal was signed for the **imported frigates** under direct purchase.

CURRENT STATUS

- **Manufacturer Trials:** Tamal has successfully completed its **manufacturer trials** and is now undergoing **State Committee Trials**.

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- **Weapon Testing:** The ship's **weapons will be tested** before it is officially commissioned.

TIMELINE & PROGRESS OF OTHER FRIGATES

- **INS Tushil:** The first ship, **INS Tushil**, which was manufactured in Russia, was commissioned on **December 9, 2024**. It arrived at its home port in **Karwar** on **February 14, 2025** after a journey of over **12,500 nautical miles**, visiting eight countries.
- **Two Frigates in India:**
 - In **2018**, GSL signed a **\$500 million deal** with **Rosoboronexport** of Russia to manufacture the next two frigates in India.
 - The first frigate was **launched into water** in 2024, and the second is set to be launched soon.
 - The first of these Indian-built frigates is expected to be delivered in **2026**, with the second one expected to follow in **2027**.

INDIA'S NAVAL PROGRESS

- India's **Directorate of Naval Design** has been operational since **1970**.

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- The country is now capable of building over **60 warships** at **Indian shipyards**, marking its transition into a **self-reliant naval power**.

Conclusion:

Tamal, India's last imported warship, is set to be commissioned in June 2025, marking the end of an era for imported naval vessels. With India now focused on constructing its own warships, this event underscores the country's growing capabilities in naval design and manufacturing. The ongoing construction of the next set of warships at **Goa Shipyard Ltd.** further solidifies India's transition to becoming a **builder's navy**.

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NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE (NCISM)

- The **National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM)** recently marked the completion of the 1st phase of the **Desh Ka Prakriti Parikshan Abhiyaan**, achieving **5 Guinness World Records**.
- This event shows the growing importance of the **Indian System of Medicine (ISM)** in healthcare.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Most pledges received for a health campaign in one week (**6,004,912**).
2. Most pledges received for a health campaign in one month (**13,892,976**).
3. Most pledges received overall (**13,892,976**).
4. Largest online photo album with **62,525 photos**.
5. Largest online video album with 12,798 videos.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The **Ministry of Ayush** emphasized its commitment to Ayurveda and healthcare development.

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- **Maharashtra** pledged to integrate Ayurveda into mainstream public health.
- **Smt. Droupadi Murmu** (President of India) was the first to undergo the **Prakriti assessment**, inspiring national participation.
- Over **1.29 crore** individuals participated, surpassing the 1 crore target, supported by **181,667 volunteers**.

Impact: The campaign highlighted India's leadership in **personalized healthcare** and **preventive Ayurveda**, with data contributing to bridging Ayurveda with modern medicine for further growth in the healthcare sector.

ABOUT NCISM

- **Formation and Legal Framework:** The **NCISM** is a statutory body established under the **NCISM Act, 2020**.
- This Act aims to create a robust **medical education system** that improves access to **quality and affordable medical education**.
- It ensures the availability of highly qualified professionals in the **Indian System of Medicine (ISM)** across the country.

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Composition of NCISM

- The **NCISM** is composed of **29 members**, all appointed by the **Central Government**.
- A **search committee** is responsible for recommending names for key positions, including the **Chairperson**, **part-time members**, and the **presidents** of the four autonomous boards under NCISM.

FUNCTIONS OF NCISM

The **National Commission for Indian System of Medicine** plays a vital role in the regulation and development of ISM. Its main functions include:

- **Policy Framing:** The NCISM is responsible for framing policies to regulate **medical institutions** and **medical professionals** in the field of **Indian System of Medicine**.
- **Assessing Human Resources and Infrastructure Needs:** It evaluates the need for healthcare professionals and the required infrastructure for the growth of ISM across the country.
- **Ensuring Compliance:** The NCISM ensures that **State Medical Councils** of ISM follow the regulations outlined in the NCISM Act.
- **Coordination Among Autonomous Boards:** It ensures smooth coordination between the four autonomous boards under NCISM, which oversee specific aspects of ISM.

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ECONOMIC SURVEY:(CHAPTER 4)

INFLATION DYNAMICS

Domestic Inflation:

India's inflation is shaped by both domestic and global factors. While global inflation has moderated, India faces unique challenges in managing its own inflation. Core inflation and food inflation are the main contributors to the overall inflation rate.

Softening Core Inflation and its Impact on Headline Inflation

India's headline inflation, measured by the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**, has decreased in **FY25 (April-December)** compared to the previous year. This is mainly due to a reduction in core inflation, which excludes food and fuel prices.

KEY DRIVERS OF CORE INFLATION REDUCTION

- **Core Services Inflation:** Lower inflation in core services like housing, transport, and education.
- **Fuel Price Inflation:** A decrease in fuel prices has reduced household costs.

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- **Wholesale Price Inflation (WPI):** A reduction in WPI suggests lower input prices for businesses, easing pressure on retail prices.

FOOD INFLATION: CONCENTRATED PRESSURE FROM FEW ITEMS

While core inflation has softened, food inflation remains a challenge, driven mainly by a few specific food items.

Factors Contributing to Food Inflation:

- **Supply Chain Disruptions:** Problems in the supply chain, worsened by extreme weather events.
- **Reduced Harvests:** Poor harvests of key food items have worsened inflationary pressures.

Key Contributors to Food Inflation:

- **Vegetables and Pulses:** These categories have been the primary drivers of food inflation in FY25.

UNEVEN MONSOON & SUPPLY DISRUPTIONS

The monsoon season plays a critical role in food production, especially for vegetables.

Uneven rainfall across different regions has led to significant price pressures.

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Monsoon-Induced Disruptions:

- Inconsistent rainfall has caused supply shortages, particularly in vegetables like tomatoes, onions, and potatoes (TOP).
- **Exclusion of TOP:** Excluding these vegetables from the CPI basket helps lower the overall food inflation rate.

EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS & THEIR IMPACT ON VEGETABLE PRICES

Extreme weather events, including unseasonal rainfall and heatwaves, have a significant effect on vegetable production and prices.

Vegetable Production and Supply Chain Disruptions:

- **Uneven Rainfall and Heatwaves:** These weather patterns disrupt vegetable production, causing shortages and price increases.
- **Storage and Transportation Challenges:** Extreme weather also affects the ability to store and transport vegetables, further raising prices and contributing to market volatility.

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Correlation Between Weather Events and Inflation:

- Studies show a positive correlation between the **increase in extreme weather events and higher vegetable prices.**
- **Long-Term Effects:** The effects of such events can last up to three months, keeping vegetable prices high for a longer period.

GOVERNMENT MEASURES

Government Measures to Address Food Inflation

The Indian government has implemented several measures to manage food inflation, focusing on essential commodities like tur dal, onions, and tomatoes.

- **Stock Limits and Monitoring:** Imposing stock limits and active monitoring to prevent hoarding and ensure transparency.
- **Imports to Meet Demand:** Importing **7.7 lakh tonnes of tur dal in FY24** to bridge the **domestic supply gap** and ease inflationary pressures.
- **Buffer Stocks and Price Stabilisation:** Procuring **buffer stocks of onions (4.7 lakh MT)** and imposing a **20% export duty** on onions since September 2024 to mitigate price spikes.

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- **Subsidised Sales:** Implementing subsidised sales of essential vegetables (**onions at ₹35/kg, tomatoes at ₹65/kg**) to ease the burden on consumers.

INFLATION OUTLOOK & PROJECTIONS

The outlook for inflation in India suggests a gradual return to the inflation target set by the RBI and IMF.

- **RBI and IMF Projections:** Inflation is expected to soften further, reaching **4.2% in FY26**.
- **Commodity Prices Outlook:** Commodity prices are projected to decline **by 5.1% in 2025 and 1.7% in 2026**, contributing to a more stable domestic inflation.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION & INFLATIONARY PRESSURES

The 2024-25 agricultural production outlook suggests a potential softening of food inflation pressures due to favorable climatic conditions and improved crop production.

- **Impact of the Monsoon:** A normal southwest monsoon has improved water levels in reservoirs, ensuring adequate irrigation for rabi crops.
- **Growth in Kharif Food Grains:** Increased production of **rice (up by 5.9%) and tur dal (up by 2.5%)** could contribute to easing food inflation.

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- **Challenges and Risks:** The rise in international vegetable oil prices presents an upside risk to food inflation.

GOVT. STRATEGY FOR LONG TERM PRICE STABILITY

To ensure long-term price stability, the government needs to implement strategic measures focusing on enhancing agricultural resilience and improving production systems for essential food items.

- **Focus on Pulses and Oilseeds:** Developing climate-resilient crop varieties to increase yield and reduce crop damage.
- **Promoting Agricultural Extension Activities:** Training farmers in best practices for high-yield crops to improve productivity.
- **Data-Driven Decision-Making:** Strengthening data collection and analysis systems to monitor prices, stocks, and storage conditions.
- **Price Monitoring:** Implementing high-frequency price monitoring to identify price build-up and ensure timely intervention.

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MCQs

1. From which country is India importing Tamal Warship?

- (A) France
- (B) Israel
- (C) USA
- (D) Russia

Ans. (D)

2. Consider the following statements wrt National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and mark the correct one:

1. The NCISM is a statutory body.
2. All the members of NCISM are appointed by the Central Government.

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Both 1 & 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (C)

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3. Which of the following correctly defines Core Inflation?

- (A) The food & fuel inflation.
- (B) The overall inflation.
- (C) The Non food Non Fuel inflation.
- (D) None of the above

Ans. (C)

4. Which of these factors have contributed to food inflation in India?

- 1. Supply Chain Disruptions.
- 2. Low crop yields

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Both 1 & 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (C)

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