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DAILY GK BYTES- 05/7/2025

1. PM Modi hails 35 million diaspora as India's pride:-

Context:

- PM Modi addressed a gathering of Indian-origin people in Trinidad and Tobago.
- Occasion marked as a major outreach to the Girmitiya community.

» Key Highlights:

Indian Diaspora:-

- Over 35 million Indians live abroad.
- PM called them "Rashtradoot" – ambassadors of India's culture and values.

OCI Card Announcement:

- 6th generation Indian-origin citizens of Trinidad & Tobago will now be eligible for OCI (Overseas Citizen of India) cards.
- This is a first-time move by India for a Caribbean nation.
- Comes ahead of 180th anniversary of the arrival of Girmityas (2025).

Cultural Ties & Girmitiya Community:

- Girmityas = Indian indentured labourers taken to colonies like Trinidad, Mauritius, Fiji, South Africa during British rule.
- Most came from Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh (Bhojpuri belt).
- India working to map their history, create a database, and preserve their legacy.
- Plan to organise regular World Girmitiya Conferences.

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- Trinidad and Tobago became the first Caribbean nation to adopt India's UPI (Unified Payments Interface) system.
- Will help in faster and easier financial transactions between the two nations.

2. Govt. has 'no position' on Dalai Lama succession, - insists

MEA; China warns against interference:-

Context:

- The Dalai Lama announced that his successor (reincarnation) would be chosen by his own trust (Gaden Phodrang) and religious leaders.
- The matter has drawn strong reactions from China, while India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) clarified the government's stance.

» Key Highlights:

Dalai Lama's Statement:

- He turns 90 on July 6, 2025.
- Said that his reincarnation would be decided by his trust, not by any foreign government.
- Reiterated religious autonomy in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition.

India's Official Stand (MEA):

- India "does not take any position" on religious matters, including the Dalai Lama's succession.
- Emphasized India's commitment to religious freedom and the right to belief for all communities.

Kiren Rijiju's Remarks:

- Initially supported the Dalai Lama's right to choose his successor.
- Clarified later that he spoke in his personal capacity as a Buddhist devotee.
- Reaffirmed that only the Dalai Lama and Tibetan traditions should decide.

China's Reaction:

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- Asserted that the succession must be approved by Beijing, based on the Qing dynasty's "Golden Urn" process.
- Warned India not to “interfere in China’s domestic affairs”.
- Claimed such actions may affect India-China ties.

Background:

- The Dalai Lama fled Tibet in 1959 and lives in Dharamshala, India.
- China considers Tibet a part of its territory and claims the right to control religious affairs there.
- The succession of the Dalai Lama is a sensitive political and religious issue, especially between India and China.

3. Russia becomes first nation - to recognise Taliban regime:-

Context:

- Since the Taliban took over Afghanistan in August 2021, no country had officially recognised its government until now.

» Key Highlights:

Russia’s Move:

- Russia formally recognised the Taliban-led government in Afghanistan.
- It removed the Taliban from its list of outlawed organisations.
- Received official credentials from Taliban-appointed Ambassador Gul Hassan Hassan.
- Russia said the step would promote “productive bilateral cooperation.”

Afghanistan's Reaction:

- Called it a “historic step”.
- Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi welcomed the move as a positive example for other countries.

China’s Response:

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- China welcomed Russia's decision.
- While China has not officially recognised the Taliban govt, it hosts a Taliban ambassador in Beijing.
- Chinese Foreign Ministry said Afghanistan should not be excluded from the international community.

Background:

- Taliban seized control of Afghanistan in August 2021 after US withdrawal.
- Most countries refused to recognise the regime due to human rights concerns, especially women's rights.
- The Taliban calls its regime the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan.

4. Manipur govt. sets December target to wind up relief camps:-

Context:

- Ongoing ethnic violence between Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities in Manipur since May 3, 2023 led to mass displacement.
- Over 62,000 people were forced to take shelter in relief camps.

» Key Highlights:

Target Deadline:

- The Manipur government aims to close all relief camps by December 2025.
- A three-phase resettlement plan has been launched, in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Current Status:

- 57,000 displaced people remain (down from 62,000).
- Some families have started returning under Phase 1.
- Phase 2: More returns by October.
- Phase 3: Final returns by December.

Compensation & Housing Support:

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- ₹3.03 lakh will be given to 7,000–8,000 families whose homes were destroyed.
- Around 7,000 people have homes that became unlivable due to neglect.
- For those unable to return even after December (approx. 8,000–10,000 people), the govt will provide pre-fabricated houses (1,000 units).