# Topics - MINDS MAPS included



- PM KUSUM YOJANA
- The Namdapha National Park
- -National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS)
- All About Wolbachia Bacteria
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- wMelPop Strain
- IR IN NEWS
- Palau
- Mains





# **Target Mains -2024/25 -**

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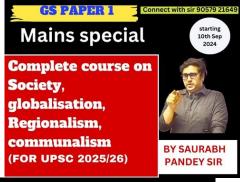


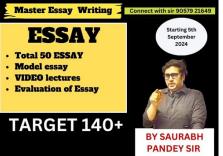






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# **Topic-PM KUSUM YOJANA**



#### **Overview**

Objective: Promote solar energy in agriculture 🌱

Target: Farmers and agricultural sector 🌾

**Components:** 

Solar pumps for irrigation 🔆

Grid-connected solar power projects  $\neq$ 

Off-grid solar water pumping systems 🚰

The PM KUSUM Yojana aims to enhance the use of solar energy in agriculture, supporting farmers with financial and technical assistance.

### **Key Benefits**

Increased efficiency: Enhanced water management

Cost reduction: Lower energy costs for farmers 💰

Sustainability: Promotes renewable energy sources 🜍

### **Implementation**



#### **Phases:**

Phase I: Installation of solar pumps

Phase II: Grid-connected solar projects

Phase III: Off-grid solar water pump systems

### **Financial Support:**

Subsidies for solar pump installation

Assistance for project development %

Technological Advancements: Innovations in solar energy solutions





## **Challenges**

Awareness: Need for better outreach to farmers §

**Utilization: Underutilization of existing resources** 



### **Recent Developments**

Scalability: Government efforts to expand the program W



**Project Allocations:** 

Gautam Solar supplying panels for the scheme Various companies winning contracts for solar projects 🏗



### **Partnerships**

Collaboration with state electricity boards and private sectors 🤝



### **Future Prospects**

Growth Potential: Increase in solar installations in agriculture 🌿



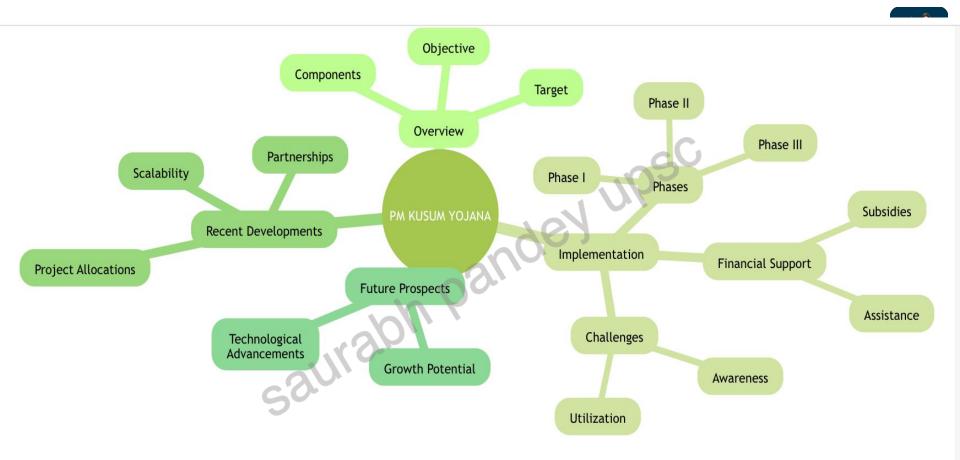


Fig 1.2: Table



- The Pradhan Mantri-Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) envisages setting up 100 GW of solar power plants in farmer-owned land, installing 14 lakh solar pumps, and solarising 35 lakh grid connected agricultural pump
- A key hurdle is the unavailability of suitable land.
- Solar power in India has grown on the back of utility-scale power projects in Gujarat and Rajasthan where vast tracts of deserts and uncultivable land are suitable for setting up power plants.
- With agricultural land, it is often a challenge to Find enough parcels of land that can be pooled together and made available to a power project developer,

## **Topic- The Namdapha National Park**



- The Namdapha National Park and Tiger Reserve, located in the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh in India, is a significant protected area known for its rich biodiversity and as a critical habitat for the Bengal tiger.
- Established in 1974, the park covers an area of approximately 2,000 square kilometers and is situated in the eastern Himalayas, bordering Myanmar.
- Namdapha is notable for its diverse ecosystems, which include tropical rainforests, sub-tropical forests, temperate broadleaf forests, coniferous forests, and alpine meadows.
- This diversity supports a wide array of flora and fauna, making it one of the richest biodiversity hotspots in the country.
- The park is home to numerous species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and plants, many of which are endemic or threatened.



- The Bengal tiger is a key species in the reserve, and conservation efforts are focused on protecting this apex predator and its habitat.
- The park also supports other large mammals such as the Indian elephant, gaur, and several species of deer, as well as a variety of smaller mammals and birds.
- Namdapha National Park is also recognized for its importance in preserving tribal cultures and traditional practices of the local communities, who have





#### **Topic-National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS)**

- T he Union government launched the National Pest Surveillance System
  (NPSS) powered by artificial intelligence (AI) to help farmers to connect with
  agriculture scientists and experts by mobile phones for controlling pests.
- The NPSS will analyse latest data using AI tools to help farmers and experts in pest control and management.



- This system will help in identifying pests and controlling them. The benefit of this technology must go to farmers
- This system can help cure diseases at the proper time using technology. It will help in accurate diagnosis and accurate treatment.
- This will build confidence among farmers and production will also increase.
- This can save the soil too. It is a technological platform and needs no additional funding,

# **Topic- All About Wolbachia Bacteria**



#### Overview

Wolbachia is a genus of bacteria that infects a wide variety of arthropods, including insects and nematodes.

It is known for its role in influencing the reproductive processes of its hosts.

#### **Key Aspects of Wolbachia Bacteria**

**Infection Types:** 

Diversity: Various strains infect different species.

Supergroups: Classified into different groups (A, B, etc.).

**Effects on Hosts:** 

Male Sterility: Causes reproductive issues in male hosts.

Asexual Reproduction: Induces asexual reproduction in some insects.

Enhanced Fertility: Can increase fertility in certain insect hosts.



#### **Applications in Disease Control:**

Dengue Control: Utilized in genetically modified mosquitoes to combat dengue fever.

Zika Virus: Research shows potential in fighting Zika virus through mosquito modification.

#### **Research Studies:**

Antiviral Effects: Studies examining how Wolbachia might protect insects from viruses.

Horizontal Gene Transfer: Investigates the transfer of Wolbachia between different species.

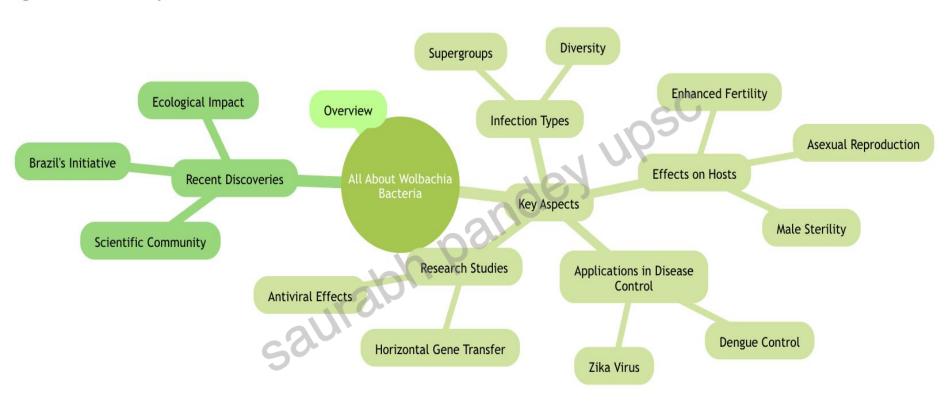


#### **Recent Discoveries and News**

- Brazil's Initiative: Using Wolbachia-infected mosquitoes to combat dengue outbreaks.
- Ecological Impact: Exploring the role of Wolbachia in mosquito populations and its effects on ecosystems.
- Scientific Community: Ongoing research to understand its full potential in controlling diseases.

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# One of the most significant impacts of Wolbachia is its ability to spread through populations of its hosts by manipulating their reproduction in various ways:

- Cytoplasmic Incompatibility (CI): This is the most common effect of Wolbachia infection. It
  results in the inability of uninfected females to produce viable offspring when mated with
  Wolbachia-infected males. However, Wolbachia-infected females can reproduce with both
  infected and uninfected males, giving them a reproductive advantage. This leads to the rapid
  spread of Wolbachia through insect populations.
- Feminization: In some species, Wolbachia can convert genetically male embryos into phenotypic females, leading to a population with a high proportion of females, which can be beneficial for the spread of Wolbachia.



Parthenogenesis Induction: Certain Wolbachia strains can induce parthenogenesis (reproduction without fertilization) in their hosts, allowing infected females to reproduce asexually, which can lead to uninfected males becoming rare in the population.

Male Killing: In some cases, Wolbachia can cause the death of male hosts during embryonic development, resulting in a population with a high proportion of females.

For example, Wolbachia-infected Aedes aegypti mosquitoes have been released in some areas to reduce the transmission of dengue fever and other diseases, as Wolbachia can interfere with the ability of these mosquitoes to transmit viruses.

# **Topic-** Overview of wMelPop Strain



**Definition:** A strain of *Wolbachia* bacteria

Primary Hosts: Mosquitoes, particularly Aedes aegypti

Significance: Used for controlling mosquito-borne diseases like dengue and

Zika

#### **Mechanisms of Action**

# **Cytoplasmic Incompatibility:**

Affects reproduction between infected and uninfected mosquitoes

## **Virus Inhibition:**

Reduces transmission rates of viruses (e.g., dengue, Zika)

#### **Parasite Reduction:**

Lowers parasite levels in mosquitoes



### **Applications**

#### **Disease Control:**

Integrated pest management strategies
Release of wMelPop-infected mosquitoes to reduce disease transmission



## IR IN NEWS

- Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said on August 14 he would step down as leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) next month, bringing his premiership to an early end. Since coming to office in October 2021, Kishida has struggled to overcome dire approval ratings.
- The party has been dogged by revelations of ties to the Korean-based Unification Church in the wake of the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in July 2022, as well as a political fundraising scandal



# IR IN NEWS (Palau)

The President of Palau has accused China of "weaponising tourism" in a bid to get his Pacific nation to break ties with Taiwan.

Palau is one of just 12 states worldwide that diplomatically recognise self-ruled Taiwan, which China considers part of its territory.

Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Nauru have all switched allegiance from Taiwan to China in recent years, and Palau President Surangel Whipps said China had put pressure on his tiny Pacific archipelago of 18,000 people to follow suit



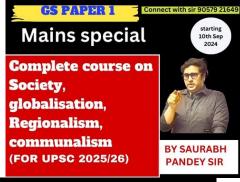


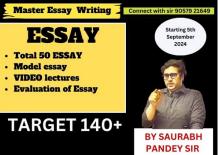


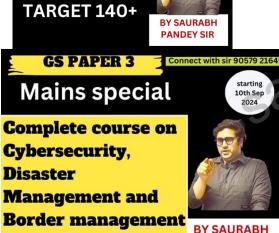
- It is part of the larger island group known as Micronesia. Palau consists of approximately 340 islands, with a total land area of around 459 square kilometers.
   The country's capital is Ngerulmud, and its largest city is Koror.
- Palau gained its independence from the United States in 1994, making it one of the youngest nations in the world. Before that, it was administered by the United Nations as a Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, with the U.S. as the administering authority.
- The country is known for its rich marine biodiversity and stunning landscapes, including its famous Rock Islands Southern Lagoon, which was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2012. Palau's clear waters, coral reefs, and marine life make it a popular destination for scuba diving and snorkeling.



- Palau has a population of around 21,000 people, with the majority being native Palauans.
- The official languages are Palauan and English.
- The country has a presidential system of government and is a member of various international organizations, including the United Nations.
- Due to its small size and remote location, Palau faces various challenges, including economic development, environmental preservation, and adapting to the impacts of climate change, particularly rising sea levels.







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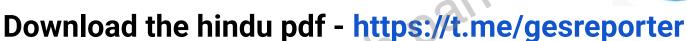
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