



SATYADHEESH

सत्याधीश

UPSC DAILY DETAILED NOTES

Current Affairs • 9 August 2026

49

NOTES

1

STORIES MERGED

GS1 • 2

GS2 • 23

GS3 • 24

PAPER MIX

CONTENTS

Every note, grouped by paper

GS1 History • Society • Geography

2 notes

History & Culture

1

Geography

1

GS2 Polity • Governance • Social Justice • IR

23 notes

Polity & Constitution

4

Governance

3

Social Justice

9

International Relations

7

GS3 Economy • S&T • Environment • Security

24 notes

Economy

9

Agriculture

2

Science & Technology

5

Environment & Ecology

3

Internal Security

5

HOW EACH NOTE READS

Why in news → facts to remember → a Mains question with keywords. Duplicate stories are merged.

SHORT ON TIME?

The 5-page **Brief** has the stories that matter most, plus a quiz. Same day, same notes.

History & Culture

1

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL INDIA P

9 Aug · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/99429

Ancient Telugu Inscription Reveals 11th Century Land Donations for Temple Worship

WHY IN NEWS The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) deciphered an 11th-century Telugu inscription detailing land donations for temple worship, providing insights into medieval land ownership and religious practices.

BODY	ASI (Archaeological Survey of India) is the premier organization for archaeological research and protection of cultural heritage.
PLACE	The inscription was found in Yerragondapalem mandal, Andhra Pradesh.
FACT	The inscription dates back to the 11th century C.E.

MAINS Q Discuss how epigraphic evidence contributes to our understanding of the socio-economic and religious history of medieval India.

USE: epigraphy land tenure medieval history cultural heritage socio-economic history

Geography

1

GEOPHYSICAL PHENOMENA (EARTHQUAKES, CYCLONES, VOLCANOES) P

9 Aug · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/99686

Andhra Pradesh Faces 56% Rainfall Shortfall in August: Naidu Directs Water Management Measures

WHY IN NEWS Andhra Pradesh faces a significant rainfall deficit due to El Niño, prompting the state government to initiate emergency water management measures.

FACT	Andhra Pradesh rainfall shortfall: 56% projected for August due to El Niño.
FACT	Current reservoir storage: 563.05 TMC ft (compared to 825.67 TMC ft last year).
SCHEME	Jaladhara scheme: Water management project in Andhra Pradesh with a cost of ₹3,409.35 crore.

MAINS Q Discuss the impact of climate phenomena like El Niño on water security in India and suggest measures for sustainable water management in drought-prone states.

USE: El Niño water scarcity climate resilience resource management agricultural sustainability

Polity & Constitution

4

JUDICIARY & LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

P

9 Aug · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/99967](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/99967)

On August 6, the Supreme Court collegium headed by Chief Justice

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court collegium recommended the elevation of four judges to Chief Justiceships and the transfer of two judges, highlighting the judicial appointment process.

- BODY** | The Collegium system is the mechanism used by the Supreme Court of India to recommend names for judgeships.
- POST** | Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant currently heads the Supreme Court collegium.
- FACT** | The collegium recommended elevations for four High Courts: Patna, Calcutta, Bombay, and Punjab and Haryana.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of the Collegium system in ensuring judicial independence while addressing concerns regarding transparency in the appointment of judges.

USE: Judicial Independence Collegium System Judicial Appointments Transparency Separation of Powers

STATUTORY, REGULATORY & QUASI-JUDICIAL BODIES

P

9 Aug · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/99835](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/99835)

Tamil Nadu appoints Justice D. Krishnakumar as new State Law Commission Chairman

WHY IN NEWS The Tamil Nadu government reconstituted the State Law Commission and appointed Justice D. Krishnakumar as its Chairman to oversee legal reforms.

- BODY** | State Law Commission: A statutory body tasked with examining legal reforms and suggesting improvements to the state's legal framework.
- POST** | Justice D. Krishnakumar: Former Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court.
- FACT** | The term of the members of the Tamil Nadu State Law Commission is three years.

MAINS Q Discuss the role of State Law Commissions in ensuring the effective implementation of legal reforms and maintaining the rule of law at the state level.

USE: legal reform statutory body rule of law judicial oversight

JUDICIARY & LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

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9 Aug · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/99658](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/99658)

Supreme Court to Hear Waqf Fee Exemption Plea, Challenging High Court Ruling

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court is hearing a plea challenging a Gujarat High Court ruling regarding whether Waqf institutions are exempt from paying court fees before the State Waqf Tribunal.

- BODY** | State Waqf Tribunal: A quasi-judicial body established to adjudicate disputes related to Waqf properties.
- ACT / BILL** | Waqf Act: The primary legislation governing the management and properties of Waqf institutions in India.
- FACT** | The Gujarat High Court ruled in December 2025 that Waqf institutions are not exempt from court fees.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of judicial oversight in the administration of religious endowments and the balance between institutional privileges and procedural requirements.

USE: judicial review quasi-judicial body procedural law religious endowments statutory interpretation

Voter Mismatch: ASDDO List Matches 2024 Votes in Bengaluru Urban

WHY IN NEWS A data mismatch in Bengaluru Urban's voter list suggests that the number of voters categorized as 'Absent, Shifted, Duplicate, Dead and Others' (ASDDO) exceeds the number of votes cast in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

- FACT** | ASDDO: A category in voter list revision including Absent, Shifted, Duplicate, Dead, and Others.
- BODY** | Election Commission of India (ECI) is the constitutional body responsible for voter list maintenance.
- FACT** | The discrepancy was identified in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) data.

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of periodic and accurate voter list revisions in ensuring the integrity of the electoral process in India.

USE: electoral integrity voter list maintenance transparency democratic accountability

Governance

3

Cabinet Panel Extends Rahul Navin's Enforcement Directorate Tenure by Year Past Retirement

WHY IN NEWS The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved a one-year tenure extension for Rahul Navin as Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) beyond his retirement date.

- BODY** | Enforcement Directorate (ED): A central agency under the Ministry of Finance responsible for investigating money laundering and other financial crimes.
- POST** | Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC): A high-level committee that recommends the appointment and tenure of key officials.
- FACT** | Rahul Navin is a member of the Indian Revenue Service (IRS) and has led the ED since August 2024.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of the Enforcement Directorate in maintaining financial integrity and the role of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet in ensuring administrative continuity.

USE: Administrative Continuity Money Laundering Financial Integrity Executive Oversight

Eyeing citizen-centric governance and transparency, U.P. pushes digital application to track rural water projects

WHY IN NEWS The Uttar Pradesh government launched the Jal Sarthi app to provide real-time digital monitoring of rural water supply projects to enhance transparency.

- BODY** | Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam (Rural) is the body responsible for the app's development.
- FACT** | The app recorded over 1.2 lakh downloads within days of its launch.
- S&T** | The app utilizes geo-tagged assets for real-time monitoring of drinking water schemes.

MAINS Q How can e-governance tools like the Jal Sarthi app improve the delivery of essential public services in rural India? Discuss with examples.

USE: e-governance transparency real-time monitoring citizen-centric digital infrastructure

RERA-K Unveils Plan: Builders Face Asset Auction in Two Weeks for Non-Compliance

WHY IN NEWS RERA-K issued a circular to operationalize Section 40(2) of the RERA Act, 2016, to auction assets of non-compliant builders to improve revenue recovery.

ACT / BILL	RERA Act, 2016: Primary legislation regulating real estate projects and protecting home-buyers.
BODY	RERA: A statutory body established to ensure transparency and accountability in the real estate sector.
FACT	Only 10% of Revenue Recovery Certificates were recovered prior to the new enforcement measures.
FACT	Builders are given a two-week window to verify compliance and disclose assets before auctioning.

MAINS Q Discuss how the enforcement of the RERA Act can enhance investor confidence and ensure transparency in the Indian real estate sector.

USE: regulatory compliance transparency revenue recovery statutory enforcement investor confidence

Social Justice

9

The second phase of the Census in Ladakh, starting August 17

WHY IN NEWS The second phase of the Census in Ladakh starting August 17 includes a first-of-its-kind open-ended column for caste enumeration in India.

FACT	The census in Ladakh includes questions on 40 different parameters.
FACT	The pre-test for caste enumeration was conducted across 16 States and Union Territories.
FACT	This marks the first time since independence that India will enumerate caste in its census.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of caste enumeration in the census for inclusive policy formulation and social justice in India.

USE: Social Justice Data-driven Governance Demographic Mapping Inclusive Development

Bravery, sports, arts: PMRBP-2026 nominations extended to August 15

WHY IN NEWS The deadline for nominations for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP)-2026 has been extended to August 15 to encourage wider participation.

SCHEME	PMRBP: A central government initiative to recognize outstanding achievements by children in various fields.
FACT	Eligibility: Indian children aged between 5 and 18 years as of July 31, 2026.
BODY	National Awards Portal: The official digital platform for submitting nominations for national awards.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of recognizing child achievements in social service and environmental protection as a means to foster responsible citizenship in India.

USE: social recognition child development civic engagement incentivization

Kerala Court Orders Separate Compensation for Acid Attack Survivors, Beyond Offender's ₹40,000 Fine

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala High Court ruled that compensation under the Victim Compensation Scheme must be independent of and additional to the fines imposed on offenders in acid attack cases.

- BODY** District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) is responsible for providing legal aid and victim compensation at the district level.
- FACT** The court emphasized compensation for prolonged medical needs and rehabilitation costs for acid attack survivors.

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of independent victim compensation schemes in ensuring justice for survivors of gender-based violence in India.

USE: Victim Compensation Scheme rehabilitation judicial activism gender-based violence legal aid

Two-thirds of India's nurses missing from national registry after seven years

WHY IN NEWS Government data revealed that over two-thirds of India's nursing workforce remains unregistered on the Nurses Registration and Tracking System (NRTS), highlighting a significant gap in healthcare workforce management.

- BODY** NRTS: Nurses Registration and Tracking System is the national platform for nursing personnel registration.
- FACT** Only 14.24 lakh out of 46.02 lakh nursing personnel are currently registered on the NRTS.
- POST** Nursing personnel registration is a critical component of India's healthcare workforce management.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in formalizing the healthcare workforce in India and suggest measures to ensure the effective implementation of national registration systems.

USE: healthcare infrastructure workforce management digital governance data-driven policy formalization

Madras High Court directs Tamil Nadu to formulate transgender rehab scheme by July 26

WHY IN NEWS The Madras High Court directed the Tamil Nadu government to create a taluk-level rehabilitation scheme for transgender persons to ensure social inclusion.

- BODY** Madras High Court: The oldest High Court in India, established in 1862.
- FACT** The court directed the scheme to be implemented at the 'taluk' level for localized rehabilitation.
- POST** Chief Secretary: The highest-ranking civil servant in a state administration, responsible for executive implementation.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in ensuring the socio-economic inclusion of transgender persons in India and suggest measures for effective rehabilitation.

USE: social inclusion marginalized communities judicial activism rehabilitation gender identity

On May 03, over 22 lakh students took the NEET UG 2026

WHY IN NEWS The National Testing Agency (NTA) handed over a CBI investigation after a leaked PDF containing NEET UG 2026 questions was discovered, raising concerns over the integrity of national entrance exams.

- BODY** | NTA: National Testing Agency is the autonomous body responsible for conducting NEET UG.
- BODY** | CBI: Central Bureau of Investigation is the premier investigating agency of India.
- FACT** | NEET UG 2026 was conducted in 13 different languages.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in maintaining the integrity and security of large-scale national competitive examinations in India. Suggest measures to prevent paper leaks.

USE: integrity transparency meritocracy institutional accountability cybersecurity

Tamil Nadu Aims to Boost Rural Women's Workforce with Protein-Rich Foods

WHY IN NEWS Tamil Nadu government announced plans to boost rural women's workforce participation and nutrition through protein-rich foods and land ownership incentives.

- BODY** | M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) focuses on agricultural research and rural development.
- FACT** | The initiative targets rural women's workforce participation and nutrition through protein-rich foods and millets.
- POST** | P. Venkataramanan is the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies in Tamil Nadu.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of empowering rural women through land ownership and nutritional security in achieving sustainable agricultural development in India.

USE: gender mainstreaming nutritional security socio-economic empowerment rural development

Anti-snake venoms to be available in 108 ambulances in A.P.

WHY IN NEWS Andhra Pradesh Health Minister announced the inclusion of anti-snake venoms (ASV) in 108 ambulances to improve emergency response during the 'golden hour'.

- FACT** | 3,104 emergency snakebite calls received in Andhra Pradesh since June 2025
- PLACE** | Emergency Response Centre is located in Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh
- S&T** | ASV (Anti-Snake Venom) is the primary treatment for envenomation

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of the 'golden hour' in emergency medical services and suggest measures to strengthen rural healthcare infrastructure in India.

USE: Golden Hour Emergency Medical Services Public Health Rural Healthcare First Response

Proposed strike by cabbies and gig workers in Telangana called off after breakthrough in talks

WHY IN NEWS The Telangana government held talks with gig and platform workers' unions to address welfare and social security demands, leading to the postponement of a planned strike.

- FACT** | Gig workers are individuals performing work mediated by digital platforms (e.g., delivery, ride-hailing).
- BODY** | The Telangana Gig Workers Welfare Act is a state-level legislative initiative to provide social security.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in providing social security to gig and platform workers in India and evaluate the role of state-led legislative frameworks in addressing these issues.

USE: Gig Economy Social Security Platform Workers Legislative Framework Labour Welfare

U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance Calls PM Modi to Deepen India-U.S. Ties

WHY IN NEWS U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance contacted PM Modi to discuss deepening bilateral cooperation in trade, defense, and energy security.

- POST | J.D. Vance: Vice-President of the United States
- FACT | Key areas of cooperation: Trade, defense, energy security, emerging technologies, and critical minerals
- FACT | Contextual factor: Mutual defense pact between Turkiye, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of India-U.S. cooperation in critical minerals and emerging technologies in the context of shifting global geopolitical dynamics.

USE: Strategic PartnershipCritical MineralsEnergy SecurityGeopolitical Alignment

Turkish FM: New Mecca Pact Mirrors NATO’s Article 5, Aims to Counter Aggression

WHY IN NEWS Turkish FM Hakan Fidan announced the 'Mecca Joint Defence Agreement' between Turkey, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia, modeled after NATO's Article 5.

- INTL. ORG | NATO Article 5: The principle of collective defense where an attack against one member is considered an attack against all.
- FACT | The Mecca Joint Defence Agreement was under development for approximately 32 months (two years and eight months).
- PLACE | Saudi Arabia: Host country for the alliance's general secretariat.

MAINS Q Analyze the implications of emerging regional collective security pacts in the Middle East and South Asia on the existing global security architecture.

USE: Collective SecurityGeopolitical AlignmentRegional HegemonyDefense Cooperation

Indian Navy and U.S. Navy kick off five-day explosive ordnance disposal exercise in Kochi

WHY IN NEWS The Indian and U.S. Navies are conducting the 8th edition of a specialized explosive ordnance disposal exercise in Kochi to enhance maritime interoperability.

- FACT | The exercise is the 8th edition of this specialized bilateral training.
- PLACE | The exercise is being conducted at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi, Kerala.
- FACT | The exercise duration is five days (August 10-14, 2026).

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of maritime security cooperation between India and the United States in ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

USE: interoperabilitymaritime securitybilateral cooperationstrategic partnershipexplosive ordnance disposal

Russia Proposes Rail Link via Iran to Dodge Strait of Hormuz Risks

WHY IN NEWS Russian Deputy PM Marat Khusnullin proposed a multi-country rail corridor (Russia-Turkmenistan-Iran-Afghanistan-Pakistan) to bypass maritime risks in the Strait of Hormuz.

- PLACE** | Strait of Hormuz: A strategic chokepoint connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea.
- PLACE** | Bosphorus: A Turkish strait connecting the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara.
- S&T** | IRGC: The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps is a branch of the Iranian Armed Forces.
- FACT** | The proposed rail link involves five countries: Russia, Turkmenistan, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

MAINS Q Analyze the significance of multi-modal transport corridors in diversifying trade routes and ensuring energy security amidst geopolitical tensions in maritime chokepoints.

USE: [Geopolitics](#) [Maritime Chokepoints](#) [Multimodal Transport](#) [Trade Diversification](#) [Strategic Autonomy](#)

Canada Deports 3,323 Indian Nationals in First Half of 2026, Setting Record

WHY IN NEWS Canada deported a record 3,323 Indian nationals in the first half of 2026, highlighting a significant shift in bilateral immigration enforcement and policy.

- FACT** | 3,323 Indian nationals deported by Canada in H1 2026
- FACT** | Indians have overtaken Mexicans as the leading nationality for deportations in Canada
- FACT** | Deportation orders are enforced based on non-compliance, visa overstays, and fraud

MAINS Q Discuss the impact of tightening immigration policies on bilateral relations and the diaspora experience between India and Western nations.

USE: [immigration policy](#) [bilateral relations](#) [visa overstay](#) [asylum claims](#) [deportation orders](#)

India-Japan Panel Eyes "G-Minus-Two" to Counter Major Powers Through Tech, Trade

WHY IN NEWS A panel discussion by IJCCI and University of Madras highlighted the 'G-Minus-Two' concept to strengthen India-Japan ties in tech and trade to counterbalance major powers.

- BODY** | IJCCI: Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- S&T** | Semiconductors and AI are identified as core pillars for India-Japan technological collaboration
- FACT** | The 'G-Minus-Two' concept refers to a strategic economic and technological alignment between India and Japan

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of India-Japan strategic partnership in ensuring Indo-Pacific stability and countering the influence of major powers through technological cooperation.

USE: [Strategic autonomy](#) [Supply chain resilience](#) [Multilateral cooperation](#) [Technological sovereignty](#) [Counterbalancing](#)

CM urges PM to expedite Godavari-Cauvery-Gundar river link project

WHY IN NEWS Tamil Nadu CM requested 'National Project' status for the Godavari-Cauvery-Gundar river linking and sought intervention in the arrest of Indian fishermen by Sri Lanka.

- BODY** | NWDA: National Water Development Agency is the nodal agency for river linking projects in India.
- PLACE** | Godavari, Cauvery, and Gundar are major river systems in Southern India.
- FACT** | 11 Indian fishermen were reportedly arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of river linking projects in addressing water scarcity in India and the challenges associated with inter-state and international water sharing.

USE: [Inter-state cooperation](#) [Water security](#) [Bilateral diplomacy](#) [Special Purpose Vehicle](#) [Hydro-politics](#)

Economy

9

MONETARY POLICY, RBI & BANKING

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9 Aug · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/99818

Indian government clarifies: UPI person-to-person transactions will remain free

WHY IN NEWS The Indian government clarified that person-to-person UPI transactions will remain free to ensure the sustainability of the digital payment ecosystem.

BODY	NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) is the body responsible for overseeing UPI operations.
ACT / BILL	Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 is the primary legislation governing electronic payment systems in India.
FACT	MDR (Merchant Discount Rate) is the fee paid by a merchant to a bank or payment processor for processing a transaction.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in promoting financial inclusion and the challenges of ensuring its long-term fiscal sustainability.

USE: Financial Inclusion Digital Public Infrastructure Merchant Discount Rate Sustainable Ecosystem Payment Systems

GROWTH, INFLATION & MACRO INDICATORS

P

9 Aug · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/99816

At EEMAGINE, Samit Garg, president of the Events and Entertainment Management Association

WHY IN NEWS The Events and Entertainment Management Association (EEMA) released a report predicting significant growth in India's entertainment sector by 2030, highlighting the need for regulatory reforms.

FACT	Current valuation of Indian entertainment sector: \$32.2 billion
FACT	Projected valuation of Indian entertainment sector by 2030: \$59.2 billion
FACT	Projected annual growth rate for the sector: 16% to 26%
BODY	EEMA: Events and Entertainment Management Association

MAINS Q Discuss the role of the events and entertainment industry in driving India's economic growth and suggest measures to streamline regulatory hurdles for the sector.

USE: economic growth regulatory clearance infrastructure development socio-economic impact sectoral growth

INDUSTRY, INVESTMENT & MSMES

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9 Aug · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/99795

J&K locals own 90% of 2,279 new industrial units since 2019, creating 75,848 jobs

WHY IN NEWS A Parliamentary Standing Committee report highlighted the success of local entrepreneurship and industrial growth in J&K since 2019 under the NCSS-2021.

BODY	Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs: A committee of the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha.
SCHEME	New Central Sector Scheme-2021 (NCSS-2021): A central initiative for industrial development.
FACT	J&K Total Fertility Rate (TFR): 1.5 (below the national average).
FACT	Investment in J&K industrial units: ₹16,598.97 crore since 2019.

MAINS Q Discuss how promoting local entrepreneurship and industrial investment can contribute to regional economic development and demographic transitions in Jammu and Kashmir.

USE: Local Entrepreneurship Industrial Investment Demographic Transition Economic Inclusion Regional Development

FPIs Invest Rs 20,200-Crore in Indian Equities, Reversing Four Months of Heavy Selling

WHY IN NEWS FPIs recorded a significant inflow of Rs 20,200 crore in Indian equities in July, marking a reversal of a four-month selling trend.

- FACT** | FPIs invested Rs 20,200 crore in Indian equities in July.
- FACT** | FPIs withdrew a total of Rs 2.41 lakh crore in 2026.
- FACT** | FPIs invested Rs 622 crore in debt through the general route in July.
- FACT** | Key sectors attracting FPI buying include automobiles and healthcare.

MAINS Q Analyze the factors influencing Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) flows into the Indian capital markets and their impact on domestic economic stability.

USE: Capital Flows Market Sentiment Portfolio Investment Monetary Policy Liquidity

Karnataka forms Urban Mobility Mission Committee to tackle Bengaluru's traffic woes

WHY IN NEWS The Karnataka government formed the Urban Mobility Mission Committee for Bengaluru (UMMCB) to create a multi-stakeholder platform for sustainable urban transport.

- BODY** | UMMCB: A committee formed by the Karnataka government to address Bengaluru's traffic issues.
- POST** | Priyank Kharge: Current Home Minister of Karnataka and Chairman of UMMCB.
- FACT** | The committee includes Additional Chief Secretaries and senior officers from urban mobility departments.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges of urban mobility in rapidly expanding Indian cities and the role of multi-stakeholder committees in achieving sustainable transport goals.

USE: multi-stakeholder platform urban mobility sustainable infrastructure inter-agency coordination technology-driven

Singareni Collieries signs 199.13 sq.km gold, copper exploration deal in Karnataka

WHY IN NEWS Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) signed a deal with the Karnataka Department of Mines & Geology to explore gold and copper in the Devadurga Block.

- PLACE** | Devadurga Block is located in the Raichur and Yadgir districts of Karnataka.
- FACT** | The exploration area covers a total of 199.13 sq.km.
- BODY** | SCCL (Singareni Collieries Company Limited) is a major mining company and a Telangana State Public Sector Undertaking.
- FACT** | The exploration agreement is valid for a period of five years.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of mineral auctions and public-private partnerships in enhancing India's mineral exploration and industrial growth.

USE: mineral exploration public sector undertaking resource mobilization industrial investment

India's Forex Reserves Surge by \$10.512 Billion in a Week

WHY IN NEWS The RBI reported a significant surge in India's forex reserves to \$692.866 billion, driven by measures like the FCNR(B) scheme to attract foreign exchange.

FACT | India's total forex reserves reached \$692.866 billion as of July 31, 2026.

BODY | RBI (Reserve Bank of India) is the primary body managing India's forex reserves.

SCHEME | FCNR(B) scheme is used to attract foreign exchange flows from non-resident Indians.

FACT | SDRs (Special Drawing Rights) are part of India's reserve position with the IMF.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of maintaining robust foreign exchange reserves in ensuring macroeconomic stability and managing external shocks for an emerging economy like India.

USE: [monetary stability](#) [capital flows](#) [macroeconomic buffer](#) [forex reserves](#) [liquidity management](#)

Startup India Seed Fund to Help Entrepreneurs Get Bank Loans Without Collateral

WHY IN NEWS The Startup India Seed Fund Scheme was highlighted as a mechanism to provide collateral-free bank loans to young entrepreneurs to foster startup growth.

SCHEME | Startup India Seed Fund Scheme: Provides financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototyping, and market entry.

FACT | The scheme focuses on providing collateral-free loans to early-stage startups.

BODY | Confederation of Indian Industries (CII): A peak business association in India.

MAINS Q Discuss how the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme contributes to fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem and addressing the credit gap for early-stage startups in India.

USE: [Collateral-free credit](#) [Entrepreneurial ecosystem](#) [Human capital](#) [Seed funding](#) [Startup India](#)

Andhra Pradesh Set to Procure 1,600 MW Coal Power Through Tariff-Based Bidding

WHY IN NEWS Andhra Pradesh is initiating a tariff-based competitive bidding process to procure 1,600 MW of coal-based thermal power to ensure energy security.

FACT | Andhra Pradesh aims to procure 1,600 MW of coal-based thermal power through tariff-based bidding.

BODY | The Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (APERC) is the state body responsible for regulating electricity tariffs and power procurement.

BODY | The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) provides the Resource Adequacy Plan for power requirements.

FACT | The state's long-term goal is to add 5,588 MW of power capacity by 2035-36.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges and necessity of balancing coal-based power procurement with India's commitment to renewable energy targets for long-term energy security.

USE: [Energy Security](#) [Tariff-based Bidding](#) [Resource Adequacy](#) [Power Procurement](#) [Grid Stability](#)

Tamil Nadu Budget 2026-27 Proposes ₹38.17 Crore for Horticulture Initiatives

WHY IN NEWS The Tamil Nadu government proposed a revised Agri Budget for 2026–27 focusing on horticulture infrastructure and the establishment of a new processing corporation.

- FACT** | ₹38.17 crore total allocation for horticulture initiatives in Tamil Nadu's 2026–27 budget.
- BODY** | Tamil Nadu Coconut Processing Corporation: A new body to support post-harvest infrastructure and exports.
- PLACE** | Krishnagiri and Tiruppur: Key western districts targeted for horticulture cluster development.
- FACT** | ₹1.87 crore allocated for high-value fruit cultivation (blueberries and rambutan) on 930 acres.

MAINS Q Discuss how infrastructure development and cluster-based approaches can enhance the competitiveness of the horticulture sector in India.

USE: Value addition Cluster development Post-harvest management Infrastructure support Export promotion

Parliament panel demands permanent fertilizer command to fix shortages, boost supply coordination

WHY IN NEWS The Parliament Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers recommended a permanent joint fertilizer command to resolve supply chain bottlenecks and distribution inefficiencies.

- BODY** | Parliament Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers: Oversees the chemical and fertilizer sector's policy and implementation.
- ACT / BILL** | Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973: Regulation governing the movement and distribution of fertilizers in India.
- PLACE** | Strait of Hormuz: A critical maritime chokepoint for global oil and fertilizer trade.
- FACT** | The committee recommended a 'permanent joint fertilizer command' for last-mile delivery coordination.

MAINS Q Discuss the logistical challenges in India's fertilizer distribution system and suggest measures to ensure supply chain resilience against global geopolitical disruptions.

USE: supply chain resilience last-mile delivery strategic buffer stocks logistics coordination geopolitical risk

Science & Technology

India Unveils First Privately Built 800 kN FFSC Rocket Engine, Joining Elite Global Club

WHY IN NEWS Astrobase Space Technologies unveiled India's first privately built 800 kN FFSC rocket engine, making India the fourth nation to possess this technology.

- S&T** | FFSC: Full-Flow Staged Combustion is a high-efficiency rocket engine cycle.
- FACT** | India is the 4th nation to possess FFSC technology, joining Russia, USA, and China.
- S&T** | The EVEREST engine utilizes LOX (Liquid Oxygen) and Methane as propellants.
- PLACE** | Astrobase Space Technologies is headquartered in Bengaluru.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of private sector participation in India's space exploration and its role in achieving self-reliance in high-end aerospace technologies.

USE: SpaceTech FFSC technology Self-reliance Private participation Aerospace innovation

India's Defence Committee Demands Roadmap for Sixth-Generation Fighter Aircraft

WHY IN NEWS The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence requested a roadmap from the MoD for developing sixth-generation fighter aircraft to ensure India's technological edge.

BODY	Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence: A committee of the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha to oversee defense expenditures and policies.
FACT	Sixth-generation aircraft: Next-generation combat aircraft featuring advanced AI, stealth, and multi-domain capabilities.
POST	Ministry of Defence (MoD): The central ministry responsible for the country's defense capabilities and procurement.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of indigenous development of sixth-generation fighter aircraft in ensuring India's strategic autonomy and technological leadership in defense.

USE: Strategic Autonomy Indigenization Technological Edge Defense Procurement Future Combat Air System

Flood-hit Assam Gets 100 Water Purifiers, Producing 2,500 Litres Hourly Without Power

WHY IN NEWS CSIR-NEERI scientists began distributing 100 NEERI-ZAR water purification units in flood-hit Assam to provide electricity-free purified water and reduce plastic waste.

BODY	CSIR-NEERI: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Environmental Engineering Research Institute
S&T	NEERI-ZAR: Water purification technology capable of producing 2,500 litres/hour without electricity
FACT	100 units distributed in eastern Assam (25 community, 75 household)

MAINS Q Discuss how indigenous technological innovations can mitigate the dual challenges of water-borne diseases and plastic pollution during climate-induced disasters.

USE: climate-resilient technological innovation sustainable development disaster management

Meta Assures India It Will Tackle Deepfakes, Child Abuse Content in Compliance Talks

WHY IN NEWS The Indian government held compliance talks with Meta to ensure its recommendation systems and content promotion align with the IT Act regarding deepfakes and child abuse material.

S&T	Deepfakes: Synthetic media in which a person in an existing image or video is replaced with someone else's likeness.
ACT / BILL	Information Technology (IT) Act: The primary law in India dealing with cybercrime and electronic commerce.
FACT	Meta's status as an 'intermediary' subjects it to specific liabilities regarding third-party content hosted on its platform.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges posed by synthetic media and deepfakes in the digital era. How can India balance the protection of individual rights with the need for robust regulatory oversight of social media intermediaries?

USE: Intermediary liability Synthetic media Digital governance Algorithmic accountability Cybersecurity

Kerala's AI Farmguard Achieves Near-100% Success in Repelling Wild Animals

WHY IN NEWS Kerala successfully deployed 'Farmguard', an AI-driven acoustic defense system to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in high-risk forest zones.

- S&T** | Farmguard: An AI-driven digital sentry system using multi-frequency acoustic defense.
- FACT** | The system utilizes over 100 different audio patterns to repel wildlife.
- PLACE** | Pilot zones include Mankala, Kollam, Thrissur, and Palakkad in Kerala.

MAINS Q Discuss how the integration of Artificial Intelligence and IoT can effectively mitigate human-wildlife conflicts in biodiversity-rich states like Kerala.

USE: human-wildlife conflict AI-driven solutions acoustic defense biodiversity conservation technological intervention

Environment & Ecology

3

Bengaluru Activists Form Human Chain to Stop ₹17,770 Crore Tunnel Road Project Threatening Lalbagh

WHY IN NEWS Activists and citizens in Bengaluru formed a human chain to protest a ₹17,770 crore tunnel road project that threatens the ecological integrity of Lalbagh Botanical Garden.

- PLACE** | Lalbagh: A prominent botanical garden and heritage site located in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- FACT** | The estimated cost of the proposed tunnel road project is ₹17,770 crore.
- FACT** | Lalbagh Rock is cited as a significant geological feature with an age of approximately 3,300 years.

MAINS Q Discuss the conflict between large-scale infrastructure development and the preservation of urban green spaces and heritage sites in rapidly growing Indian cities.

USE: Urban Ecology Sustainable Development Public Interest Litigation Environmental Impact Assessment

GBA bans Plaster of Paris and non-biodegradable Ganesh idols in Bengaluru

WHY IN NEWS The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) banned Plaster of Paris (PoP) and non-biodegradable Ganesh idols to curb water pollution during the festival.

- ACT / BILL** | Environment (Protection) Act: Primary legislation for environmental conservation in India.
- FACT** | Plaster of Paris (PoP): A synthetic gypsum material that is non-biodegradable and contributes to water pollution.
- PLACE** | Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA): The civic body responsible for enforcing environmental regulations in Bengaluru.

MAINS Q Discuss the environmental impact of religious festivals on urban water bodies and evaluate the effectiveness of legislative measures in curbing such pollution.

USE: biodegradability heavy metal toxicity urban pollution regulatory enforcement sustainable celebration

Floods Kill 98 in Assam; Chief Minister Seeks 'National Solution'

WHY IN NEWS Severe flooding in Assam caused by a cloudburst and river breach led to 98 deaths, highlighting the need for a national-level disaster management strategy.

PLACE | Dikhow River: A major river in Assam prone to flooding.

FACT | Assam floods caused over ₹1,000 crore in annual asset damage.

ENVIRONMENT | Cloudbursts: Intense rainfall caused by sudden condensation of moisture in mountainous/hilly regions.

MAINS Q Discuss the impact of environmental degradation and upstream activities on the increasing frequency of floods in Northeast India. Suggest measures for a coordinated national response.

USE: [environmental degradation](#) [disaster management](#) [inter-state cooperation](#) [climate resilience](#) [ecological imbalance](#)

Internal Security

5

Dedicated team fast-tracks military theatre commands as CDS Raja Subramani takes charge

WHY IN NEWS The government has formed a dedicated team to fast-track the operationalisation of military theatre commands to create an integrated war-fighting structure.

POST | Chief of Defence Staff (CDS): A tri-service position responsible for providing military advice to the government.

BODY | Standing Committee on Defence: A parliamentary committee tasked with examining the ministry's expenditures and policies.

FACT | Theatre Commands: A structural shift to unify the Army, Navy, and Air Force under a single operational command for specific geographical areas.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of theatre commands in enhancing India's jointmanship and integrated war-fighting capabilities in a contemporary security landscape.

USE: [Jointmanship](#) [Theatre Commands](#) [Operational Integration](#) [Tri-service synergy](#) [Strategic Autonomy](#)

J&K Police Raids 26 Jamaat-e-Islami Sites in Sopore Amid Terror Alerts

WHY IN NEWS J&K Police conducted raids on 26 Jamaat-e-Islami sites in Sopore under UAPA following a surge in terror activities in the region.

ACT / BILL | UAPA: Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act provides the legal framework for the crackdown on terror-linked organizations.

FACT | Jamaat-e-Islami (Jel) ban extension: Extended for five years in February 2024.

BODY | CRPF: Central Reserve Police Force assists state police in counter-terrorism and internal security operations.

PLACE | Sopore: Located in North Kashmir, a key area for security operations.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges faced by internal security forces in neutralizing radicalization and terror-linked organizations in Jammu and Kashmir.

USE: [Internal Security](#) [Counter-terrorism](#) [Radicalization](#) [UAPA](#) [Intelligence-led policing](#)

Manipur government announces reopening of highways after ethnic blockades

WHY IN NEWS The Manipur government announced the reopening of National Highways after prolonged ethnic blockades, highlighting the ongoing internal security and communal challenges in the state.

- PLACE** | Manipur: A North-Eastern state of India facing ethnic conflict and highway blockades.
- FACT** | Blockades in Manipur have persisted since May 2023.
- POST** | Yumnam Khemchand Singh: Chief Minister of Manipur.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges of maintaining internal security and communal harmony in Northeast India amidst ethnic conflicts and infrastructure blockades.

USE: Internal Security Communal Harmony Ethnic Conflict Infrastructure Connectivity Inclusive Development

Maharashtra bans 114 extremist items linked to ISIS, Al Qaeda

WHY IN NEWS The Maharashtra government banned 114 extremist items linked to ISIS and Al Qaeda to curb the promotion of violent extremism and protect internal security.

- BODY** | ATS: State Anti-Terrorism Squad is the primary agency for investigating terror-related crimes in Maharashtra.
- FACT** | 114 items including magazines and books were banned by the Maharashtra government.
- FACT** | The ban targets literature linked to ISIS and Al Qaeda.

MAINS Q Discuss the role of state-level security agencies in countering the influence of global terrorist ideologies and radicalization in India.

USE: violent extremism internal security radicalization sovereignty counter-terrorism

Delhi Police and NSG Simulate Blasts, Hijackings in Independence Day Drill

WHY IN NEWS Delhi Police and NSG conducted 'Sudarshan Shakti-V', a counter-terrorism exercise to assess security preparedness for Independence Day.

- BODY** | NSG: National Security Guard is a counter-terrorism unit under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- BODY** | NDRF: National Disaster Response Force is a specialized force for disaster management.
- FACT** | CBRNE refers to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive threats.
- BODY** | CISF: Central Industrial Security Force is primarily responsible for guarding critical infrastructure.

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of multi-agency coordination and joint exercises in strengthening India's internal security against unconventional threats like CBRNE and hijacking.

USE: counter-terrorism inter-agency synergy CBRNE threats internal security preparedness



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