

**SATYADHEESH**
सत्याधीश

UPSC DAILY DETAILED NOTES

Current Affairs · 21 September 2026**14**

NOTES

1

STORIES MERGED

10

MCQS

GS1 · 1

GS2 · 5

GS3 · 8

PAPER MIX

CONTENTS

Every note, grouped by paper

GS1	History · Society · Geography	1 notes
	Geography	1
GS2	Polity · Governance · Social Justice · IR	5 notes
	Polity & Constitution	3
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GS3	Economy · S&T · Environment · Security	8 notes
	Economy	4
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Practice — 10 MCQs**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.

Geography

1

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (LANDFORMS, OCEANS, CLIMATE) P

21 Sep · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/124281](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/124281)**Kerala to launch ₹93.22-crore coastal protection project in Pozhiyoor**

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala State Government announced a ₹93.22-crore coastal protection project in Thiruvananthapuram to combat erosion and safeguard local infrastructure.

PLACE	Pozhiyoor — coastal area in Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala
CONCEPT	Coastal protection — involves groynes, seawalls, and tetrapods to combat erosion
BODY	KI IDC — Kerala Irrigation Infrastructure Development Corporation, the implementing agency
SCHEME	KIIFB — Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board, the funding body
FIGURE	₹93.22 crore — total project cost for coastal protection

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of coastal infrastructure projects in mitigating the impact of climate-induced erosion on coastal communities in India.

USE: Coastal Erosion Climate Adaptation Infrastructure Development Disaster Mitigation

Polity & Constitution

3

JUDICIARY & LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

P

M

21 Sep · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/124365

Supreme Court seeks standardized law for court deposits

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court directed the Law Commission of India to examine legislation to standardize the management of litigants' deposits during pending appeals.

- BODY** | Law Commission of India — A non-statutory body that advises the government on legal reforms.
- CONCEPT** | CRIS (Court Registry Investment System) — A U.S. model where court deposits are pooled into a unified investment scheme.
- CONCEPT** | Current issue — Inconsistent rules across different courts lead to varying interest rates on deposited funds.

MAINS Q Discuss the necessity of a standardized legal framework for managing court deposits to ensure transparency and reduce post-judgment litigation in the Indian judiciary.

USE: Judicial transparency Legislative standardization Litigant protection Financial management Legal reform

JUDICIARY & LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

P

2 REPORTS MERGED

21 Sep · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/124445

Delhi High Court strength rises to 50 judges after seven new appointments

WHY IN NEWS The Delhi High Court increased its judicial strength to 50 judges following the appointment of seven new judges by the Central Government.

- PERSON** | Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya — Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court
- FIGURE** | 50 — Total judicial strength of the Delhi High Court
- CONCEPT** | Collegium System — The mechanism through which judicial appointments are recommended

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of judicial strength and the collegium system in ensuring the effective delivery of justice in High Courts.

USE: Judicial Independence Collegium System Pendency Judicial Infrastructure Executive Oversight

ELECTIONS, ECI & ELECTORAL REFORMS

P

M

21 Sep · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/124312

Election Commission deletes over 80 lakh names from draft voter roll

WHY IN NEWS The Election Commission identified over 80.62 lakh voters as shifted or absent in the draft voter roll, but received only 6.66 lakh Form-6 applications by September 19.

- BODY** | Election Commission of India (ECI) — Constitutional body responsible for conducting elections
- CONCEPT** | Form-6 — Specific application used for the inclusion of a new voter in the electoral roll
- FIGURE** | 80.62 lakh — Number of names deleted from the draft voter roll due to absence or shifting

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges faced by the Election Commission in maintaining an accurate and inclusive electoral roll in a mobile population.

USE: electoral roll voter awareness data integrity democratic participation administrative hurdles

US and China launch AI dialogue and board of trade ahead of Trump-Xi summit

WHY IN NEWS The US and China agreed to establish a formal AI dialogue and a 'board of trade' in New York to manage AI risks and trade issues ahead of the Trump-Xi summit.

CONCEPT	AI dialogue — a formal mechanism to manage AI risks and trade tensions between the US and China.
CONCEPT	Board of trade — a body being operationalized in New York to address trade concerns.
CONCEPT	Notification mechanism — a US proposal for reporting AI-related national security incidents.
CONCEPT	Trade truce — a proposed one-year extension discussed alongside rare earth export concerns.
PLACE	New York — the location where the AI dialogue and board of trade were agreed upon.

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of the US-China AI dialogue on global technological governance and the management of dual-use AI risks.

USE: Technological Sovereignty Dual-use Technology Strategic Autonomy Trade Truce Geopolitical Competition

Pakistan airstrikes on Afghanistan: 3 killed, several injured as conflict fears grow

WHY IN NEWS Pakistan conducted an airstrike in Afghanistan's Kunar province, killing three people, leading to a warning of retaliation from Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid.

PLACE	Kunar province: A province in Afghanistan where the airstrike occurred.
FACT	Three people were killed and several others were injured in the Pakistani airstrike.
POST	Zabihullah Mujahid: Spokesperson for the Taliban.

MAINS Q Analyze the impact of cross-border military actions and proxy warfare on the stability of the Afghanistan-Pakistan relationship and regional security.

USE: cross-border escalation proxy warfare regional stability security dilemma bilateral tensions

Economy

4

INDUSTRY, INVESTMENT & MSMEs P

21 Sep · Economic Times · satyadheesh.in/news/124463

HAL hands over three aerospace platforms to IAF

WHY IN NEWS Defence Minister Rajnath Singh oversaw the handover of three aerospace platforms—Dhruv-NG, LCA FOC Trainer, and HTT-40 Basic Trainer—to the IAF and Pawan Hans

- CONCEPT** | HTT-40: A tandem-seat, fully aerobatic basic trainer powered by a Honeywell turboprop engine.
- CONCEPT** | LCA FOC Trainer: The twin-seat version of the indigenous Tejas fighter used for advanced combat flight training.
- CONCEPT** | Dhruv-NG: Next-generation civil version of HAL's Advanced Light Helicopter for offshore and passenger operations.
- FIGURE** | HAL is producing 70 HTT-40 aircraft to replace the ageing HPT-32 Deepak fleet.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of indigenous aerospace manufacturing in achieving 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and reducing India's strategic dependence on foreign defence imports.

USE: Atmanirbhar Bharat Indigenization Aerospace Manufacturing Strategic Autonomy Defence Exports

INDUSTRY, INVESTMENT & MSMEs P

21 Sep · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/124399

UP Cabinet reduces stamp duty on lease agreements to boost rental market

WHY IN NEWS The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved a revised stamp duty and registration fee structure for rent and lease agreements up to 10 years to lower costs for landlords and tenants.

- PLACE** | Uttar Pradesh — State implementing the stamp duty and registration fee reduction
- ACT** | Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Urban Premises Tenancy Act, 2021 — The governing act for urban premises
- FIGURE** | Rs 26,000 — New registration cost for a 10-year lease with annual rent up to Rs 10 lakh
- CONCEPT** | Transaction costs — Reduction aimed at boosting formalization of the rental market

MAINS Q Discuss how reducing transaction costs in the rental market can facilitate urban mobility and formalize the informal housing sector in India.

USE: transaction costs formalization urban mobility fiscal policy tenancy rights

MONETARY POLICY, RBI & BANKING P

21 Sep · Economic Times · satyadheesh.in/news/124306

NaBFID plans to raise \$1.5 billion via overseas bonds

WHY IN NEWS NaBFID plans to raise \$1.5 billion through a combination of a 10-year overseas bond and a \$1 billion MIGA-backed 15-year bond to secure long-term infrastructure funding.

- BODY** | NaBFID: National Bank for Financing Infrastructure, a specialized development finance institution.
- CONCEPT** | RBI's concessional US dollar-rupee swap facility offers a 1.5% annual cost for eligible overseas borrowings.
- BODY** | MIGA: Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, part of World Bank Group, provides guarantees for infrastructure projects.
- FIGURE** | NaBFID targets \$4 billion in dollar funding by December 2024.

MAINS Q Examine the challenges faced by Indian infrastructure-focused financial institutions in accessing low-cost overseas funding amidst rising global interest rates.

USE: External Commercial Borrowings Hedging Costs Infrastructure Financing Swap Facility Yield Spreads

India identifies high-performance magnets as critical for EV and semiconductor leadership

WHY IN NEWS The Hindu highlighted the risk of India's manufacturing strategy overlooking high-performance permanent magnets, which are critical components for EV motors and semiconductor fabrication.

- CONCEPT** | High-performance permanent magnets: Essential components for EV motors and semiconductor fabrication.
- CONCEPT** | Strategic autonomy: Strengthening critical mineral and component supply chains to achieve global manufacturing leadership.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of critical mineral and component supply chains in achieving India's goal of becoming a global manufacturing hub.

USE: Supply chain resilience Manufacturing leadership Critical components Technological advancement Strategic autonomy

Agriculture

1

Kerala to hold state-level conclave to address human-wildlife conflict

WHY IN NEWS Kerala's Agriculture Minister T. Siddique announced a State-level conclave at Thiruvambady to develop strategies against wildlife attacks on farmers in hilly regions.

- PLACE** | Thiruvambady — Site of the state-level conclave in Kerala.
- CONCEPT** | Bio-fencing and AI — Technological solutions being explored to mitigate human-wildlife conflict.
- FIGURE** | 25% increase — The amount by which the Kerala government has increased compensation for wildlife attacks.

MAINS Q Discuss the impact of climate change on human-wildlife conflict in hilly regions and evaluate the efficacy of technological interventions like bio-fencing in mitigating these risks.

USE: Human-wildlife conflict Bio-fencing Climate change impact Preventive measures Agricultural security

Science & Technology

1

ESA and JAXA's BepiColombo mission begins final descent to Mercury

WHY IN NEWS The BepiColombo spacecraft, a joint mission by ESA and JAXA, began its descent to Mercury on September 3 after overcoming propulsion issues.

- CONCEPT** | BepiColombo: A joint space mission by the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
- MISSION** | Mercury Planetary Orbiter (MPO) and Mercury Magnetospheric Orbiter (Mio) are the two spacecraft involved
- CONCEPT** | Gravity assist: The mission used nine maneuvers to travel approximately 6 billion miles
- DATE** | April 2027: Scheduled start for observations of Mercury's surface, magnetic field, and atmosphere

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of international cooperation in deep-space exploration and the scientific importance of studying planetary magnetospheres.

USE: Deep-space exploration Inter-agency cooperation Planetary science Orbital mechanics Magnetospheric study

SPECIES, PROTECTED AREAS & WETLANDS

M

21 Sep · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/124346](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/124346)

Kerala seeks to restrict Western Ghats Ecologically Sensitive Area

WHY IN NEWS The State of Kerala is seeking to restrict the Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) in its Western Ghats region to 98 villages and 8,590.69 sq km by September 24, 2026.

PLACE	Western Ghats: A mountain range in South India and a biodiversity hotspot supporting water resources for six states.
FIGURE	8,590.69 sq km: The specific area Kerala proposes for the Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA).
CONCEPT	Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA): A classification seeking to balance conservation with local livelihoods.

MAINS Q Discuss the conflict between ecological conservation and developmental needs in the Western Ghats, highlighting the challenges of defining Ecologically Sensitive Areas.

USE: [Ecologically Sensitive Area](#) [Biodiversity Conservation](#) [Sustainable Development](#) [Western Ghats](#) [Land Use Policy](#)

SPECIES, PROTECTED AREAS & WETLANDS

P

21 Sep · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/124288](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/124288)

NHAI and Forest Department plant 75,000 mangroves in Pichavaram

WHY IN NEWS The NHAI and Forest Department collaborated to plant over 75,000 mangrove saplings in Pichavaram to offset ecological damage caused by highway expansion.

PLACE	Pichavaram, Tamil Nadu
FIGURE	75,000 mangrove saplings planted
FIGURE	₹1.97 crore project cost
FIGURE	18,135 man-days of work created for tribal communities
CONCEPT	Compensatory afforestation to reduce mangrove destruction impact

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of compensatory afforestation and ecological restoration in balancing infrastructure development with biodiversity conservation in coastal ecosystems.

USE: [Compensatory Afforestation](#) [Biodiversity Conservation](#) [Ecological Restoration](#) [Sustainable Infrastructure](#) [Livelihood Generation](#)

10 questions, 10 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

-
- 1** Which U.S. model was suggested for study to manage court deposits through a unified investment scheme?
- ☐ a CRIS ☐ b REIT
☐ c SIPC ☐ d FIDC
-
- 2** Which body provides the recommendations for judicial appointments in India as mentioned in the note?
- ☐ a National Judicial Commission ☐ b Parliamentary Standing Committee
☐ c Supreme Court Collegium ☐ d Law Commission of India
-
- 3** Which engine powers the HTT-40 basic trainer aircraft?
- ☐ a Pratt & Whitney diesel ☐ b Rolls-Royce jet
☐ c Honeywell turboprop ☐ d General Electric turbofan
-
- 4** With reference to the BepiColombo mission, consider the following statements:
1. The mission is a joint venture between the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).
 2. The mission traveled approximately 3 billion miles using nine gravity assist maneuvers.
 3. The mission involves two spacecraft named the Mercury Planetary Orbiter and the Mercury Magnetospheric Orbiter.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- ☐ a 1 only ☐ b 3 only
☐ c 1 and 2 only ☐ d 1 and 3 only
-
- 5** In which city was the agreement to operationalize a 'board of trade' between the US and China established?
- ☐ a Washington D.C. ☐ b Beijing
☐ c New York ☐ d Geneva
-
- 6** Under which Act does the state of Uttar Pradesh regulate urban premises tenancy?
- ☐ a Maharashtra Rent Control Act, 1999 ☐ b Karnataka Rent Control Act, 1999
☐ c Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Urban Premises Tenancy Act, 2021 ☐ d Delhi Rent Control Act, 1997
-
- 7** With reference to the Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) in the Western Ghats, consider the following statements:
1. The Kerala government seeks to include all human habitations within the ESA classification.
 2. The proposed area for the ESA by Kerala is 8,590.69 sq km.
 3. The Kerala government proposes restricting the ESA to 98 villages.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- ☐ a 1 only ☐ b 1 and 2 only
☐ c 1 and 3 only ☐ d 2 and 3 only
-
- 8** Which technological solution is being explored by the Kerala government to address human-wildlife conflict?
- ☐ a Geo-fencing ☐ b Bio-fencing
☐ c Aero-fencing ☐ d Hydro-fencing
-

9 With reference to the maintenance of electoral rolls in India, consider the following statements:

1. Form-6 is the application used for the inclusion of a new voter in the electoral roll.
2. Over 66 lakh names were deleted from the draft voter roll due to absence or shifting.
3. The Election Commission of India is a statutory body responsible for conducting elections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

10 With reference to NaBFID and its funding plans, consider the following statements:

1. The RBI's concessional US dollar-rupee swap facility offers a 5% annual cost for eligible overseas borrowings.
2. NaBFID plans to raise \$1.5 billion through overseas bonds to fund long-gestation infrastructure projects.
3. MIGA is a part of the World Bank Group and provides guarantees for infrastructure projects.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) 3 only (d) 2 and 3 only

ANSWERS • 1 (a) 2 (c) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5 (c) 6 (c) 7 (d) 8 (b) 9 (a) 10 (d)



TELEGRAM



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