

**Current Affairs • 26 September 2026****16 min**

READING TIME

8

KEY STORIES

8

IN BRIEF

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MCQS + MAINS

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PAPER MIX

01 — TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip**1 U.S. aims to become primary energy source for India via new sanctions**

Why it matters: Energy security and strategic autonomy: a GS2 International Relations and GS3 Economy case study.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

M

2 Jaishankar meets Iranian and Russian Foreign Ministers at 81st UNGA

Why it matters: Strategic autonomy and multi-alignment: a key GS2 theme on navigating sanctions and BRICS cooperation.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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3 Trump confirms Ukraine to receive Patriot missile production licenses

Why it matters: Defense technology transfer and its geopolitical implications: a GS2 International Relations case study.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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4 India and Liberia establish Group of Friends for maritime security

Why it matters: Maritime security and blue economy: a GS2 International Relations and GS3 trade security case study.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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5 Mandeep Bhandari appointed as Chairperson of CBSE

Why it matters: Governance and Public Administration: Role of civil servants in leading autonomous educational bodies.

GS2 • SOCIAL JUSTICE

P

CONNECT TO STATIC**Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026**

allows tariffs up to 100% on countries purchasing Russian oil and gas *In the news: U.S. aims to become primary energy source for India via new sanctions.*

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 16 notes · picked for exam value

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P M

U.S. aims to become primary energy source for India via new sanctions

Why in news: A senior U.S. State Department official stated that the U.S. aims to become a major energy supplier for India as India diversifies its energy sources.

REMEMBER

- Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026 — allows tariffs up to 100% on countries purchasing Russian oil and gas
- U.S. State Department — primary agency overseeing diplomatic and energy-related shifts
- Energy Diversification — India is identified as a key country influenced by these U.S. sanctions

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how the shift in global energy trade dynamics and U.S. sanctions on Russian energy impact India's energy security and strategic autonomy.

USE : Energy Security Strategic Autonomy Trade Sanctions
Energy Diversification

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/126301

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

Trump confirms Ukraine to receive Patriot missile production licenses

Why in news: US President Donald Trump confirmed that Ukraine will receive licenses to produce Patriot missiles to counter Russian drone and missile attacks.

REMEMBER

- Patriot Missile System — a mobile surface-to-air missile (SAM) system designed to intercept short, medium, and long-range targets.
- Production timeline — establishing production capacity for Patriot missiles in Ukraine is expected to take over one year.

MAINS ANGLE Analyze the significance of technology transfer and defense licenses in modern geopolitical conflicts and their implications for regional security architectures.

USE : Defense technology Strategic autonomy
Technology transfer Air defense

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/126169

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

Jaishankar meets Iranian and Russian Foreign Ministers at 81st UNGA

Why in news: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met the Foreign Ministers of Iran and Russia on the sidelines of the 81st UN General Assembly to discuss BRICS cooperation and the Gulf conflict following new U.S.

REMEMBER

- BRICS — An intergovernmental organization comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa plus new members.
- UNGA — The United Nations General Assembly is the main deliberative body of the UN.
- New York — Host city of the United Nations headquarters.

MAINS ANGLE Analyze the implications of U.S. sanctions on energy trade for India's strategic autonomy and its deepening cooperation with the BRICS bloc.

USE : Strategic Autonomy Energy Security Multilateralism
Sanctions Regime

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/126294

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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India and Liberia establish Group of Friends for maritime security

Why in news: India and Liberia established a 'group of friends' at the 81st UN General Assembly to address maritime security and seafarer safety amid rising attacks in the Gulf and Red Sea.

REMEMBER

- Group of Friends — initiative by India and Liberia to address maritime security and seafarer safety.
- Strait of Hormuz, Bab-el-Mandeb, and Gulf of Aden — key maritime chokepoints identified as high-risk regions.
- Shipping Registry — Liberia is recognized as the world's largest shipping registry.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of maritime security in ensuring global trade stability and the role of multilateral cooperation in protecting seafarers from non-traditional threats.

USE : Maritime Security Seafarer Safety Blue Economy
Multilateralism

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/126138

Mandeep Bhandari appointed as Chairperson of CBSE

Why in news: The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet appointed Mandeep Bhandari, a 2001-batch IAS officer, as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

REMEMBER

- Mandeep Bhandari — 2001-batch IAS officer from the AGMUT cadre
- AGMUT — Cadre covering Delhi, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep
- Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) — Body responsible for appointing high-level officials

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the role of administrative expertise in the governance of national educational boards like CBSE to ensure uniform standards of secondary education in India.

USE : Administrative leadership Educational governance

Policy implementation AGMUT cadre

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/126258

ECI announces special voter enrolment camps in Delhi

Why in news: The Election Commission of India (ECI) announced special voter enrolment camps in Delhi to include eligible citizens omitted from the draft electoral roll.

REMEMBER

- Election Commission of India (ECI): Constitutional body responsible for administering elections to Parliament and State Legislatures.
- Form-6: The specific application form used for new voter registration.
- November 4, 2026: Scheduled date for the publication of the final electoral roll.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of ensuring an inclusive and updated electoral roll in strengthening the democratic fabric of India.

USE : Universal Adult Franchise Electoral Roll

Constitutional Mandate Democratic Participation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/126321

Maharashtra activates Trigger-1 relief for 265 drought-affected talukas

Why in news: The Maharashtra government declared 265 talukas as drought-affected, activating 'Trigger-1' relief measures due to a rainfall deficit exceeding 25 percent.

REMEMBER

- Trigger-1 — activated when rainfall deficit exceeds 25%
- Employment Guarantee Scheme — provides food grains to farmers in drought-hit areas
- Maharashtra — 265 out of 358 talukas declared drought-affected

MAINS ANGLE Examine the effectiveness of state-led drought management frameworks in mitigating the socio-economic impact on agrarian communities in Maharashtra.

USE : rainfall deficit agrarian distress fiscal relief

drought management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/126325

Supreme Court rules non-recovery of train ticket cannot defeat compensation claim

Why in news: The Supreme Court restored a ₹8 lakh compensation award to the parents of a deceased passenger, ruling that the non-recovery of a physical train ticket cannot defeat a valid compensation claim.

REMEMBER

- Supreme Court of India — The highest judicial forum in India
- ₹8 lakh plus interest — Compensation awarded to the parents of the deceased passenger
- Gujarat — State where the passenger died after falling from a train in 2017

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the judicial principles governing the liability of public transport providers towards passengers and the evidentiary standards required to establish 'bona fide' status in compensation claims.

USE : Bona fide passenger Judicial review Liability

Compensation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/126286

Everything else, one line each

8 more notes · full versions online

GS1 · HISTORY · SOCIETY · GEOGRAPHY

UCC Committee: Maharashtra government appointed a retired IAS officer to a committee headed by Ranjana Desai to draft a UCC framework.

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

ECI SIR: Two Election Commissioners raised 14 objections over voter deletions and ERONet centralization during Special Intensive Revision.

UN Representation: India's Permanent Mission criticized Pakistan's stance on terrorism and legislative immunity at the UN General Assembly.

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

E20 fuel: E20 ethanol-blended petrol has been used in 4 crore four-wheelers and 20 million two-wheelers since 2022.

PMS framework: SEBI's PRIM framework allows inclusion of ETFs, index funds, and SIFs with a lowered entry point of ₹25 lakh.

Sugarcane productivity: Uttar Pradesh to use AI, remote sensing, and mechanization to boost yields and reduce costs.

Pedestrian Safety Rules: Odisha drafts 2026 rules to mandate paths on new roads and penalize faulty designs under the Motor Vehicles Act.

AI data breaches: OpenAI is investigating dozens of breaches where AI agents improperly accessed sensitive data from governments and universities.

MAP WORK

Places in news

New York Host city of the United Nations headquarters.

Strait of Hormuz, Bab-el-Mandeb, and Gulf of Aden key maritime chokepoints identified as high-risk regions.

Maharashtra 265 out of 358 talukas declared drought-affected

Gujarat State where the passenger died after falling from a train in 2017

Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) a disputed territory

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

- 1** Which legislation allows for tariffs up to 100% on countries purchasing Russian oil and gas?
- (a) Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026 (b) Strategic Autonomy Trade Act
- (c) Energy Security Act of 2025 (d) Global Energy Diversification Bill
-
- 2** With reference to the 81st UN General Assembly (UNGA) meeting, consider the following statements:
1. The UNGA is the executive body of the United Nations.
 2. The meeting took place in New York to discuss BRICS cooperation and the Gulf conflict.
 3. The discussions occurred amidst new U.S. sanctions on oil and gas purchases from Russia and Iran.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
- (c) 3 only (d) 2 and 3 only
-
- 3** The Patriot Missile System is primarily designed to intercept which types of targets?
- (a) Only long-range ballistic missiles (b) Short, medium, and long-range targets
- (c) Only short-range drone targets (d) Only low-altitude surface targets
-
- 4** With reference to maritime security and shipping registries, consider the following statements:
1. The Group of Friends was established to address maritime security and seafarer safety.
 2. The initiative was launched during the 80th UN General Assembly.
 3. Liberia is recognized as the world's largest shipping registry.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 2 only (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
-
- 5** With reference to the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) and the CBSE, consider the following statements:
1. The AGMUT cadre covers the Union Territories of Kerala and Goa.
 2. CBSE is a national-level board of education in India.
 3. The ACC is the body responsible for appointing high-level officials.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 3 only
-

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Discuss how the shift in global energy trade dynamics and U.S. sanctions on Russian energy impact India's energy security and strategic autonomy.

USE : Energy Security Strategic Autonomy Trade Sanctions Energy Diversification Geopolitical Realignment

(d) 5 (c) 4 (b) 3 (d) 2 (a) 1 • ANSWERS



TELEGRAM



WEBSITE

Get it every morning on **Telegram**

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