

**SATYADHEESH**
सत्याधीश

UPSC DAILY DETAILED NOTES

Current Affairs • 6 October 2026**58**

NOTES

7

STORIES MERGED

10

MCQS

GS1 • 4

GS2 • 22

GS3 • 32

PAPER MIX

CONTENTS**Every note, grouped by paper**

GS1	History • Society • Geography	4 notes
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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.

History & Culture

3

HERITAGE SITES, UNESCO & GI TAGS

P

M

6 Oct · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131614 · Report a mistake

Zehanpora Buddhist complex faces collapse by 2050 due to erosion

WHY IN NEWS A study by the University of Kashmir published in Ancient Asia warns that the 2,000-year-old Zehanpora Buddhist complex faces collapse by 2050 due to erosion.

PLACE	Zehanpora Buddhist complex — A 2,000-year-old archaeological site
FIGURE	10,122 square metres — The estimated area the complex could lose by 2050 without intervention
BODY	Centre of Central Asian Studies — Research body at the University of Kashmir
REPORT	Ancient Asia — Journal where the study was published in July 2026

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in preserving ancient heritage sites against environmental degradation and suggest measures to balance archaeological conservation with climate resilience.

USE: Heritage Conservation Environmental Degradation Archaeological Preservation Climate Resilience Site Integrity

ART, ARCHITECTURE & CULTURE

P

6 Oct · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131475 · Report a mistake

President Droupadi Murmu honors Basanth Peringode for Keralam mural paintings at Rashtrapati Bhavan

WHY IN NEWS President Droupadi Murmu honored artist Basanth Peringode for creating Keralam mural paintings for the Rashtrapati Bhavan's permanent collection.

BODY	Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit: Institution where Basanth Peringode served as a faculty member
FACT	Rashtrapati Bhavan: Site of the permanent collection featuring the new mural paintings

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of preserving and promoting traditional Indian mural arts like Keralam paintings in the context of national cultural identity.

USE: Cultural Heritage Mural Painting Artistic Patronage National Identity Traditional Arts

ART, ARCHITECTURE & CULTURE

P

6 Oct · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131444 · Report a mistake

ASI Hyderabad Circle begins ₹1 crore restoration of Dwarapala sculptures

WHY IN NEWS The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) Hyderabad Circle initiated a ₹1 crore restoration project for Dwarapala sculptures at the Thousand Pillar Temple in Hanumakonda.

BODY	Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) — responsible for the restoration project.
FIGURE	₹1 crore — the budget allocated for the restoration and landscaping.
CONCEPT	Dwarapala sculptures — the specific architectural elements being restored.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of the Thousand Pillar Temple in understanding the architectural and cultural heritage of the Kakatiya dynasty.

USE: Heritage Conservation Kakatiya Dynasty Archaeological Survey of India Cultural Preservation Dwarapala Sculptures

Provisional Population Census 2027 data to be available by March or April next year

WHY IN NEWS Chief Principal Census Officer Amit Sharma announced that provisional data for the Population Census 2027 will be available by March or April 2027.

- FACT** | Ladakh is the first region to complete the entire Census exercise ahead of the national February 2027 deadline.
- S&T** | The Census 2027 is the first digital Census in independent India.
- FACT** | The Census 2027 includes caste enumeration for the first time beyond Scheduled Castes and Tribes.
- FACT** | The Census 2027 questionnaire includes 40 questions, with 13 new fields added compared to Census 2011.
- BODY** | The Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India (RG&CCI) is the body responsible for the Census.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of transitioning to a digital census and the inclusion of caste enumeration in the 2027 Census for India's socio-economic planning.

USE: Demographic transition Digital governance Socio-economic indicators Data integrity Caste enumeration

GS2**Polity · Governance · Social Justice · IR**

22 NOTES

Polity & Constitution

Cabinet approves proposal to set up Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority

WHY IN NEWS The Union Cabinet approved the establishment of the Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority (ITLA) to oversee multi-modal transport planning and appraise large-scale infrastructure projects.

- BODY** | ITLA: Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority
- FACT** | ITLA appraisal threshold: Projects costing ₹500 crore or more
- FACT** | ITLA mandate: Oversight of roads, railways, ports, shipping, aviation, waterways, and urban mobility
- FACT** | ITLA objective: Creation of a unified transport data repository

MAINS Q Discuss how the creation of a unified transport authority like ITLA can address the challenges of multi-modal connectivity and infrastructure bottlenecks in India.

USE: Multi-modal connectivity Logistics efficiency Infrastructure appraisal Data repository Inter-ministerial coordination

Supreme Court upholds socialist and secular as vital to Preamble philosophy

WHY IN NEWS A Bench led by CJI Sanjiv Khanna dismissed writ petitions challenging the 42nd Amendment, upholding 'socialist' and 'secular' as integral to the Preamble's philosophy.

- ACT** | 42nd Amendment — added the words socialist and secular to the Preamble
- CASE** | Minerva Mills v. Union of India (1980) — Supreme Court case upholding the Preamble changes
- CONCEPT** | Indian socialism — defined as a commitment to welfare and equality

MAINS Q Examine the judicial role in safeguarding the basic structure of the Preamble against legislative amendments, with reference to the 42nd Amendment.

USE: Basic Structure Judicial Review 42nd Amendment Minerva Mills Case Preamble Philosophy

Karnataka Cabinet approves splitting Bengaluru police into five commissionerates

WHY IN NEWS The Karnataka Cabinet approved reorganising the Bengaluru police into five commissionerates despite warnings from former DGP and city commissioners regarding command structure risks.

CONCEPT

Administrative decentralisation: splitting Bengaluru police into five commissionerates to mirror Greater Bengaluru Authority corporations.

PERSON

Chief Police Commissioner: the official who will oversee the five new commissionerates.

MAINS Q Discuss the administrative and operational challenges of decentralising urban policing in rapidly expanding metropolitan areas like Bengaluru.

USE:

Administrative decentralisation

Command and control

Urban governance

Jurisdictional clarity

Public safety infrastructure

Supreme Court strength reaches 37 as Chief Justice Surya Kant swears in three judges

WHY IN NEWS Chief Justice Surya Kant administered the oath of office to three new judges, bringing the Supreme Court's working strength to 37.

BODY

Supreme Court — Working strength is 37 judges after recent appointments.

FIGURE

Sanctioned strength — The Supreme Court's sanctioned strength is 38 judges.

CONCEPT

Supreme Court Collegium — Recommended the elevations on September 28.

FIGURE

Women judges — Justice Sunita Agarwal's appointment brings the total to three.

PERSON

Justice Sunita Agarwal — Served as Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court before elevation.

MAINS Q Examine the role of the Supreme Court Collegium in ensuring judicial independence and the importance of judicial diversity in the Indian higher judiciary.

USE:

Judicial Independence

Collegium System

Judicial Appointments

Gender Diversity

Sanctioned Strength

ECI holds camps in Jharkhand for Special Inclusion of Residents exercise

WHY IN NEWS The Election Commission of India (ECI) announced the organization of camps at every polling station in Jharkhand to facilitate the Special Inclusion of Residents (SIR) exercise.

CONCEPT

Special Inclusion of Residents (SIR): Initiative to include destitute women, PwDs, youths, and migrant voters in the electoral roll.

PLACE

Jharkhand: State where the polling station camps are being conducted.

PERSON

K. Ravi Kumar: Chief Electoral Officer overseeing the Jharkhand election preparations.

MAINS Q Discuss the measures taken by the Election Commission of India to ensure inclusive electoral participation for marginalized and migrant populations.

USE:

Inclusive Democracy

Electoral Roll

Marginalized Groups

Voter Outreach

Constitutional Mandate

Governance

2

Supreme Court rejects Union plea to stay Great Nicobar Island Project proceedings

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court rejected the Union government's plea to stay Calcutta High Court proceedings regarding the ₹72,000 crore Great Nicobar Island Project, which faces challenges over its impact on the Forest Rights Act

PLACE

Great Nicobar Island — site of the ₹72,000 crore infrastructure project

ACT

Forest Rights Act, 2006 — legislation whose rights are allegedly threatened by the project

FIGURE

₹72,000 crore — estimated cost of the Great Nicobar Island Project

CONCEPT

Judicial Review — the process by which the court evaluates the project's legality

MAINS Q Discuss the conflict between large-scale infrastructure development and the protection of indigenous forest rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006.

USE:

Strategic infrastructure

Forest Rights Act

Ecological sensitivity

Judicial review

Developmental trade-offs

Telangana approves guidelines for temporary and hyper-local ads in CURE

WHY IN NEWS The Telangana government approved guidelines on September 9, 2026, to regulate temporary and hyper-local advertisements in the Core Urban Region (CURE) to streamline urban aesthetics and revenue.

CONCEPT

Core Urban Region (CURE) — the specific area targeted for advertisement regulation in Telangana.

BODY

Advertisement Regulatory Committee — established to oversee ward-level Advertisement Nodal Officers.

BODY

HYDRAA — one of the authorities designated to remove unauthorized advertisements.

CONCEPT

MyCURE or Advertisement App — designated platforms for online booking of advertisements.

FIGURE

Temporary ad costs — range from ₹1,000 to ₹4,000 daily in CURE.

MAINS Q

Discuss how the regulation of urban aesthetics and hyper-local advertising can contribute to organized urban governance and revenue generation in rapidly expanding Indian cities.

USE:

Urban Governance

Revenue Generation

Digital Public Infrastructure

Regulatory Framework

Public Order

Social Justice

4

Kerala introduces new anti-ragging guidelines with dismissal and admission ban

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala government informed the Kerala High Court of the establishment of new Anti-Ragging and Student Welfare Guidelines to penalize convicted students with dismissal and a three-year admission ban.

CONCEPT

Anti-Ragging and Student Welfare Guidelines — New rules in Kerala mandating dismissal and a three-year admission ban for convicted students.

BODY

Kerala State Legal Services Authority — Suggested wording changes regarding student spaces in the guidelines.

CONCEPT

Reporting Protocol — Verified complaints must be handed to the police within 24 hours.

MAINS Q

Discuss the institutional mechanisms required to ensure a ragging-free campus environment and the role of legal frameworks in safeguarding student welfare.

USE:

Student Welfare

Institutional Framework

Legal Redressal

Campus Safety

Regulatory Guidelines

Kerala launches WOMN scheme providing three sanitary napkins per packet for ₹10

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala government launched the WOMN scheme to provide affordable sanitary napkins and waste management infrastructure at state transport terminals.

SCHEME

WOMN: A Kerala government initiative providing sanitary napkins at ₹10 per packet of three.

BODY

HLL Lifecare: The partner agency for the implementation of the WOMN scheme.

FACT

The scheme initially targets 14 KSRTC terminals for vending machines and incinerators.

PLACE

Thampanoor: The location of the KSRTC bus terminal where the scheme was inaugurated.

MAINS Q

Discuss how targeted public-private partnerships in menstrual hygiene management can address gender-based health disparities in rural and semi-urban India.

USE:

Menstrual Hygiene Management

Public-Private Partnership

Gender Equality

Last-mile Delivery

Waste Management

Keralam government plans new Bill to make private health care more affordable

WHY IN NEWS The Keralam government plans a new Bill to regulate private healthcare costs following the Kerala High Court's upholding of the Kerala Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulations) Act 2018.

ACT / BILL	Kerala Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulations) Act 2018: mandates mandatory registration and transparent rate displays for private healthcare.
BODY	KPHA: Kerala Private Hospitals' Association; IMA: Indian Medical Association.
PLACE	Kerala High Court: upheld the 2018 Act regarding healthcare regulations.

MAINS Q Discuss the constitutional and ethical implications of state-led price regulation in private healthcare to ensure the right to health.

USE: Right to Health Price Regulation Public Interest Litigation Regulatory Framework Affordability

VULNERABLE SECTIONS (SC/ST, MINORITIES, DISABLED, ELDERLY, CHILDREN)

P

6 Oct · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131247 · Report a mistake

Tamil Nadu allocates ₹812 crore for Annan Seer scheme to provide gold and silk sarees

WHY IN NEWS The Tamil Nadu government allocated ₹812 crore for the first phase of the Annan Seer scheme to provide gold and silk sarees to eligible brides from low-income families.

SCHEME	Annan Seer: A Tamil Nadu government scheme providing gold and silk sarees to eligible brides.
FIGURE	₹2.5 lakh: The maximum annual income limit for families to be eligible for the scheme.
ACT	Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1996: Legislation governing the procurement process for the scheme.
CONCEPT	IBJA: The body whose rates are used to fix gold prices for the scheme.

MAINS Q Discuss the role of state-sponsored welfare schemes in promoting social equity and economic empowerment for women in rural and semi-urban India.

USE: Social Welfare Gender Empowerment Asset Distribution Public Procurement Economic Inclusion

International Relations

11

INDIA'S BILATERAL RELATIONS

P

2 REPORTS MERGED

6 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131769 · Report a mistake

Bhutan and Adani Power sign agreement for 770 MW Chamkharchhu-I Hydropower Project

WHY IN NEWS Bhutan's Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay attended the signing of a Shareholders Agreement between Druk Green Power Corporation Limited (DGPC) and Adani Power Limited for the 770 MW Chamkharchhu-I Hydropower Project.

CONCEPT	BOOT model — the operational framework for the Chamkharchhu-I and Wangchhu projects.
FIGURE	770 MW — the capacity of the Chamkharchhu-I Hydropower Project.
FIGURE	570 MW — the capacity of the Wangchhu Hydroelectric Project.
FIGURE	49:51 — the equity partnership ratio between DGPC and Adani Power.
FIGURE	2,471 MW — the current installed capacity of Druk Green Power Corporation Limited.

MAINS Q Examine the significance of hydropower cooperation between India and Bhutan in ensuring regional energy security and promoting carbon-negative economic models.

USE: Energy Security Hydropower Carbon-negative BOOT Model Renewable Energy

India and UAE armies begin Exercise Mountain Guardian 2026 in Uttarakhand

WHY IN NEWS The Indian Army and UAE Army commenced Exercise Mountain Guardian 2026 in Uttarakhand to enhance mountain warfare proficiency and inter-operability.

PLACE	Chaubatia, Uttarakhand — Site of the Foreign Training Node and Exercise Mountain Guardian 2026
CONCEPT	Mountain warfare — Focus of the exercise to enhance tactical proficiency and inter-operability
FIGURE	92 personnel — Total participants from the Bhairav Battalion and a Mountain Infantry Battalion

MAINS Q Discuss how bilateral military exercises like Exercise Mountain Guardian contribute to India's strategic objectives and regional security architecture.

USE: inter-operability tactical proficiency bilateral cooperation mountain warfare strategic synergy

India offers ISRO and coastal research expertise to Pacific partners

WHY IN NEWS Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav offered ISRO and coastal research expertise to Pacific partners during UNFCCC Pre-COP31 meetings in Fiji and Tuvalu.

CONCEPT	CBDR-RC: Common But Differentiated Responsibilities principle advocated by India.
PLACE	Antalya, Türkiye: Venue for the scheduled COP31 summit.
BODY	ISRO: Indian Space Research Organisation providing expertise for climate research.
BODY	NCSCM: National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management.
BODY	NCCR: National Centre for Coastal Research.

MAINS Q How can India leverage its space and coastal research capabilities to strengthen South-South cooperation in addressing climate change impacts in the Pacific region?

USE: South-South Cooperation CBDR-RC Climate Diplomacy Scientific Cooperation Coastal Management

Former NRCC Chairman calls 1996 India-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty flawed

WHY IN NEWS Former NRCC Chairman Manjur A. Chowdhury criticized the 1996 India-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty for lacking climate change guarantees and suggested a trilateral approach involving Nepal.

CONCEPT	Trilateral cooperation: Proposed inclusion of Nepal in water sharing agreements.
CONCEPT	Climate resilience: The need for climate change guarantees in transboundary water treaties.
EVENT	1996 India-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty: Current governing agreement for water sharing.

MAINS Q Analyze the limitations of the 1996 Ganga Water Treaty in the context of climate change and suggest a framework for trilateral water management in the Ganges basin.

USE: Hydro-diplomacy Climate adaptation Trilateral cooperation Water security Transboundary water management

India among seven countries bidding for 2036 Olympics

WHY IN NEWS The International Olympic Committee (IOC) revealed that India is among seven countries currently bidding to host the 2036 Olympics.

BODY	IOC: International Olympic Committee is the governing body for the Olympic Games.
CONCEPT	Host selection criteria: funding, political support, public support, and athlete experience.
PLACE	Ahmedabad, Gujarat: Proposed center for India's Olympic bid and host of 2030 Commonwealth Games.
EVENT	2036 Olympics: India, Qatar, South Africa, Türkiye, Germany, Hungary, and South Korea are current bidders.

MAINS Q Examine the logistical, economic, and geopolitical challenges India faces in bidding for the Olympics, considering the requirements for infrastructure and public support.

USE: Soft Power Infrastructure Development Global Governance Sports Diplomacy Urban Planning

MEA condemns shipping attacks in Black Sea and Strait of Hormuz

WHY IN NEWS The Ministry of External Affairs condemned attacks on commercial shipping in the Black Sea and the Strait of Hormuz that resulted in the deaths of two foreign seafarers and injuries to several Indian nationals.

PLACE | Strait of Hormuz — Strategic waterway where the MT On Peace was hit by a projectile

PLACE | Khasab — Location in Oman where injured Indian crew members were evacuated

CONCEPT | Freedom of Navigation — Key diplomatic concern regarding maritime insecurity and global trade

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of increasing maritime insecurity in international waterways on global trade and the safety of merchant seafarers.

USE: Maritime Security Blue Economy Diplomatic Advocacy Global Commerce Strait of Hormuz

S. Jaishankar visits Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Ethiopia to boost ties

WHY IN NEWS External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar began a five-day visit to Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ethiopia to discuss trade, investment, and infrastructure to strengthen ties and Global South solidarity.

PLACE | Addis Ababa — Capital of Ethiopia and host of the Regional Heads of Mission Conference

CONCEPT | Global South solidarity — India's strategy to foster cooperation with African nations

MAINS Q Discuss India's strategy of fostering 'Global South solidarity' through bilateral engagements with African nations to enhance its position in the global order.

USE: Global South Strategic Autonomy South-South Cooperation Developmental Diplomacy Trade and Investment

Russian drone strike on MV ROYAD MAMMADOV kills captain and one crew member

WHY IN NEWS A Russian drone strike on the Turkish-owned cargo vessel MV ROYAD MAMMADOV in the Black Sea killed two crew members, including the captain, and injured three Indian nationals.

PLACE | Black Sea: Location of the drone strike on MV ROYAD MAMMADOV

FACT | MV ROYAD MAMMADOV: A Turkish-owned cargo vessel

PLACE | Constanta County Hospital: Facility in Romania providing treatment to injured Indian nationals

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of maritime security threats in the Black Sea region on global trade routes and international maritime law.

USE: Maritime Security Geopolitical Conflict Freedom of Navigation Diplomatic Protest International Maritime Law

Bangladesh PM Tarique Rahman may visit India via bilateral framework

WHY IN NEWS Bangladesh State Minister for Foreign Affairs Humaiun Kobir stated that PM Tarique Rahman has not ruled out a visit to India through a bilateral framework to address regional stability.

PERSON | Humaiun Kobir — State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh

CONCEPT | Bilateral framework — proposed mechanism for PM Tarique Rahman's visit to India

CONCEPT | Cross-border security — Bangladesh calls for trust and direct engagement to prevent regional destabilization

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of bilateral frameworks in managing cross-border security and maintaining regional stability between India and Bangladesh.

USE: bilateral framework regional stability cross-border security direct engagement sovereignty

Nepal suspends search operations after Bhotekoshi-Trishuli floods

WHY IN NEWS Nepal's National Council for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management suspended search operations 40 days after the Bhotekoshi-Trishuli floods killed 1,455 people.

PLACE	Bhotekoshi-Trishuli — River systems in Nepal affected by the floods.
FIGURE	1,455 deaths — Total fatalities including 189 Indians, 65 Americans, and 55 Malaysians.
FIGURE	Rs 35,000 crore — Reconstruction budget (Nepalese Rs 559 billion) for 504 programmes.
CONCEPT	Disaster Risk Reduction — Focus on infrastructure resilience and transboundary cooperation in the Himalayan region.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in disaster management and infrastructure resilience in the Himalayan region, highlighting the need for transboundary cooperation in flood mitigation.

USE: Disaster Risk Reduction Transboundary Cooperation Climate Resilience Infrastructure Reconstruction

U.S. Ambassador hosts Admiral Paparo to discuss Major Defence Partnership

WHY IN NEWS U.S. Ambassador Sergio Gor hosted Admiral Samuel J. Paparo and Indian military leadership to discuss the U.S.-India Major Defence Partnership and economic foundations.

PERSON	Admiral Samuel J. Paparo — Commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command
CONCEPT	U.S.-India Major Defence Partnership — A framework for defense cooperation and economic foundations
PLACE	Roosevelt House — Venue for the meeting in New Delhi

MAINS Q Analyze the strategic significance of the U.S.-India Major Defence Partnership in shaping the security architecture of the Indo-Pacific region.

USE: Strategic autonomy Indo-Pacific architecture Defense cooperation Maritime security Geopolitical alignment

GS3
Economy · S&T · Environment · Security

32 NOTES

Economy

19

Rajnath Singh proposes ₹5,000 crore investment for AMCA propulsion at HAL Koraput

WHY IN NEWS Defence Minister Rajnath Singh proposed a ₹5,000 crore investment for AMCA propulsion at HAL Koraput to bolster indigenous aero-engine manufacturing.

FIGURE	₹5,000 crore — Proposed investment for AMCA propulsion
FIGURE	₹335 crore — HAL investment for AL-31FP production
FIGURE	₹218 crore — HAL investment for a second Shakti engine line
DATE	2028-29 — Target year for the second Shakti engine line
CONCEPT	MIDHANI — Partnering with HAL for AMCA propulsion

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative in the aerospace and defence manufacturing sector to reduce import dependency.

USE: Atmanirbhar Bharat Aerospace manufacturing Propulsion systems Defence indigenization Capital expenditure

World Bank raises India's FY27 GDP growth forecast to 7.1 per cent

WHY IN NEWS The World Bank upgraded India's FY27 GDP growth forecast to 7.1 per cent from 6.6 per cent in its latest India Development Update.

FACT	World Bank FY27 GDP growth forecast for India: 7.1 per cent
FACT	India's FY26 GDP growth: 7.8 per cent
FACT	Q1 FY27 infrastructure goods growth: 7.2 per cent
FACT	Q1 FY27 electricity expansion: 9.3 per cent

MAINS Q Analyze the factors driving India's sustained GDP growth despite global trade tensions and monsoon deficits.

USE: GDP growth private consumption infrastructure investment monsoon deficit fiscal policy

RBI expected to raise benchmark repurchase rate to 5.50 per cent

WHY IN NEWS The Reserve Bank of India is expected to raise the benchmark repurchase rate to 5.50 per cent to combat inflation nearing 5 per cent and high oil prices.

CONCEPT	Benchmark repurchase rate — Expected to be raised to 5.50 per cent
CONCEPT	Inflation — Nearing 5 per cent
FIGURE	Oil prices — Exceeding \$100 a barrel

MAINS Q Discuss the role of the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy tools in managing headline inflation amidst volatile global commodity prices.

USE: Monetary Policy Repo Rate Inflation Targeting Liquidity Management Macroeconomic Stability

Sonowal flags off DLB Patkai carrying 540 metric tons of methanol to Bangladesh

WHY IN NEWS Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off the vessel DLB Patkai carrying 540 metric tons of methanol from Assam to Bangladesh via National Waterway-2.

FACT	DLB Patkai carried 540 metric tons of methanol.
PLACE	Bogibeel Terminal is located in Dibrugarh, Assam.
PLACE	Pangaon Port is located in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
BODY	Assam Petro-Chemicals Ltd. (APCL) is the producer of the methanol.
FACT	The route covers 1,300 kms via National Waterway-2 and IBPR.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of developing inland waterways and regional trade corridors in enhancing India's trade connectivity with its neighbours.

USE: Inland Waterways Trade Connectivity Regional Integration Logistics Efficiency Bilateral Trade

Gulf oil exports recover to over 81 percent of pre-war levels

WHY IN NEWS Kpler reported that Gulf oil exports recovered to over 81 percent of pre-war levels in September despite escalating maritime attacks in the Strait of Hormuz.

CONCEPT	Strait of Hormuz: Accounts for approximately 20 percent of global crude and LNG supplies.
FIGURE	Gulf oil exports: Recovered to over 81 percent of pre-war levels in September.
PLACE	Strait of Hormuz: Typically handles 125 large commercial vessels daily.
CONCEPT	East-West pipeline: Utilized by Saudi Arabia for ship-to-ship transfers to bypass the Strait of Hormuz.

MAINS Q Analyze the geopolitical and economic implications of maritime security threats in the Strait of Hormuz on global energy supply chains.

USE: Energy Security Supply Chain Maritime Trade Geopolitics Trade Barriers

Kerala proposes industrial status for tourism sector by October 2026

WHY IN NEWS Kerala Tourism Minister P.C. Vishnunadh announced a draft policy to accord industrial status to the tourism sector by October 6, 2026, to boost economic growth.

CONCEPT	Industrial status: Proposed for the tourism sector to facilitate investment and growth.
PLACE	Vythiri Village Resort: Location for the launch of Brand Wayanad and Life Experience Trails.
CONCEPT	Brand Wayanad: Initiative featuring the Wayanad-Thirunelli Trail and Coffee Trail.
FIGURE	Target: The initiative aims to double the size of the tourism sector through regional collaborations.

MAINS Q Discuss the economic implications of granting industrial status to the tourism sector in India and its potential to foster regional development.

USE: Industrial status Economic diversification Regional synergy Tourism infrastructure Investment incentives

NSO survey reveals higher monthly commuting costs for urban workers

WHY IN NEWS The National Statistics Office (NSO) released the first National Household Travel Survey, highlighting a significant disparity in monthly commuting costs between urban and rural workers.

REPORT	National Household Travel Survey — first survey released by the National Statistics Office (NSO)
FIGURE	₹1,044 — monthly commuting expenditure for urban workers
FIGURE	₹612 — monthly commuting expenditure for rural workers
CONCEPT	Two-wheelers — account for 42.6% of work commutes
CONCEPT	Overnight journeys — 55.8% by bus and 17.7% by railways

MAINS Q Discuss how the disparity in commuting costs and infrastructure between rural and urban areas impacts the socio-economic mobility of the Indian workforce.

USE: Socio-economic mobility Commuting costs Infrastructure disparity Labor migration Disposable income

Ministry of Defence signs ₹661.50 crore contract with BAPL for Navy ships

WHY IN NEWS The Ministry of Defence signed a ₹661.50 crore contract with BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited (BAPL) to procure fire control systems and launchers for Indian Navy ships.

CONCEPT	Buy (Indian-IDDMM) — A project initiative for indigenous defence procurement.
FIGURE	68% — The level of indigenous content in the BAPL contract.
BODY	BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited (BAPL) — The entity providing fire control systems and launchers.
FIGURE	₹661.50 crore — The total value of the contract signed by the Ministry of Defence.

MAINS Q Discuss how the 'Buy (Indian-IDDMM)' initiative contributes to the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' vision in the defence sector and its impact on maritime security.

USE: Atmanirbhar Bharat Indigenization Maritime Security IDDM Defence Procurement

India to produce first indigenous civilian aircraft within two years

WHY IN NEWS Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu announced India's goal to produce its first indigenous civilian aircraft within two years through a joint venture.

CONCEPT	Atmanirbhar Bharat: Goal to produce first indigenous civilian aircraft within two years
FIGURE	1,600 aircraft: Total number of aircraft on order with a value of \$100 billion
PERSON	K. Rammohan Naidu: Civil Aviation Minister of India

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of developing an indigenous civil aviation manufacturing ecosystem for India's economic growth and strategic autonomy.

USE: Atmanirbhar Bharat Aerospace manufacturing Strategic autonomy Sustainable Aviation Fuel Joint Venture

Yogi Adityanath gifts ₹1,340 crore development projects to support local craftsmanship in UP

WHY IN NEWS Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced 112 development projects worth ₹1,340 crore to support local craftsmanship in specific Uttar Pradesh constituencies.

- FACT** | Uttar Pradesh exports crossed ₹2 lakh crore over a 10-year period.
- PLACE** | Bhadohi, Aurai, and Gyanpur are identified as key constituencies for craftsmanship development projects.
- FACT** | Total investment for the 112 development projects is over ₹1,340 crore.

MAINS Q Discuss the role of state-led infrastructure and investment in promoting traditional crafts and enhancing the export potential of regional economies in India.

USE: Export-led growth Cluster development MSME promotion Infrastructure investment Craftsmanship

Sensex and Nifty record longest losing streak as foreign investors withdraw \$40bn

WHY IN NEWS The Sensex and Nifty indices recorded their longest losing streak in 25 years as foreign institutional investors withdrew \$40bn over two years despite India's 7% GDP growth.

- REPORT** | Bernstein Research — reported a \$40bn withdrawal by foreign institutional investors over two years.
- FIGURE** | Domestic mutual fund assets — reached approximately \$900bn in 2026.
- CONCEPT** | GDP Growth — India's economy is growing at a rate of over 7%.
- FIGURE** | Individual Investors — number of Indians investing in stocks and mutual funds tripled to 150 million.

MAINS Q Analyze the factors contributing to the divergence between India's robust GDP growth and the recent volatility in its capital markets.

USE: Capital Flight Market Correction Foreign Institutional Investors Asset Under Management Macroeconomic Divergence

Kerala to use Smart Model for 15th Five-Year Plan to tackle unemployment

WHY IN NEWS The Keralam State Planning Board announced a 'Smart Model' for the 15th Five-Year Plan (2027-2032) to tackle unemployment and drive investment-focused growth.

- CONCEPT** | Smart Model — a strategy to address unemployment and drive investment-focused growth in Kerala.
- DATE** | 15th Five-Year Plan — covers the period from 2027 to 2032.
- PERSON** | K.M. Chandrasekhar — Vice-Chairperson of the Keralam State Planning Board.
- BODY** | IIM-Kozhikode — appointed as the lead consultant for the 15th Five-Year Plan.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges of balancing fiscal consolidation with investment-led growth in states facing high unemployment rates.

USE: Fiscal Strain Resource Mobilization Investment-led Growth Employment Generation State Planning

NBFCs dominate retail lending with 82% of loans under Rs 2 lakh

WHY IN NEWS TransUnion CIBIL and FIDC reported that 82% of Indian loans were below Rs 2 lakh as of June 2026, highlighting the dominance of small-ticket credit and NBFCs in the retail lending market.

- CONCEPT** | Small-ticket loans: 82% of Indian loans are under Rs 2 lakh as of June 2026.
- BODY** | NBFCs: Accounted for 47% of loan originations under Rs 2 lakh.
- CONCEPT** | Cure rate: 52% for credit-monitoring borrowers vs 48% for non-monitoring borrowers.
- FIGURE** | NBFC relationships: 11 crore borrowers held active relationships as of June 2026.

MAINS Q Discuss the role of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in promoting financial inclusion through small-ticket credit in India.

USE: Financial Inclusion NBFC Small-ticket credit Cure rate Credit monitoring

Five HFCs seek more funding from NHB and Finance Ministry to reduce bank reliance

WHY IN NEWS Five Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) including LIC Housing Finance and Bajaj Housing Finance requested increased funding from NHB and the Finance Ministry to reduce heavy reliance on bank borrowing.

BODY	National Housing Bank (NHB) — A state-owned development financial institution (DFI).
FIGURE	18.6% — The share of the home loan market held by HFCs as of July 2026.
FIGURE	7.65% and 4.25% — The approximate NHB refinance rates for regular and affordable housing funds respectively.
FIGURE	₹5,791 crore — The amount of affordable housing funds accounted for in NHB refinance by June 2025.

MAINS Q Examine the role of development financial institutions in diversifying funding sources for Housing Finance Companies to ensure credit flow in the real estate sector.

USE: Development Financial Institution Refinance Credit Exposure Liquidity Risk Affordable Housing

Outstanding CDs fell by ₹1.306 lakh crore as year-on-year growth slowed to 11.5%

WHY IN NEWS RBI data revealed a significant decline in outstanding Certificates of Deposit (CDs) to ₹5.60 lakh crore by September 15, reflecting a slowdown in year-on-year growth.

FACT	Outstanding CDs reached ₹5.60 lakh crore as of September 15
FACT	Year-on-year growth of outstanding CDs slowed to 11.5%
FACT	System liquidity peaked at ₹11.2 lakh crore in early September

MAINS Q Analyze how fluctuations in Certificate of Deposit (CD) markets and system liquidity influence the transmission of monetary policy and bank funding costs in India.

USE: Liquidity Management Monetary Policy Transmission Certificate of Deposit Systemic Liquidity Funding Costs

APCPDCL to host Seva Sethu Abhiyan camps for PM Surya Ghar—Muft Bijli Yojana

WHY IN NEWS APCPDCL announced the 'Seva Sethu Abhiyan' camps to facilitate rooftop solar installations under the PM Surya Ghar—Muft Bijli Yojana.

SCHEME	PM Surya Ghar—Muft Bijli Yojana: Central government scheme for rooftop solar systems.
FIGURE	Subsidy amounts: ₹30,000 for 1 kW, ₹60,000 for 2 kW, and ₹78,000 for 3 kW or higher.

MAINS Q Discuss how the PM Surya Ghar—Muft Bijli Yojana contributes to India's energy transition and decentralized power generation goals.

USE: Renewable Energy Decentralized Power Energy Transition Fiscal Subsidy Sustainable Development

Former RBI Governor urges GST Council to exempt 0.4% MDR fees on UPI

WHY IN NEWS Former RBI Governor C. Rangarajan urged the GST Council to exempt the 0.4% Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) fees on UPI transactions above ₹2,000 from tax to ensure the sustainability of digital public infrastructure.

CONCEPT	Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) — a 0.4% fee for person-to-merchant UPI transactions exceeding ₹2,000.
BODY	National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) — the body that manages the UPI system.
FIGURE	75% — the current percentage of UPI transactions that fall below the ₹2,000 threshold.

MAINS Q Discuss the trade-offs between making digital payment infrastructure self-sustaining and ensuring financial inclusion for marginalized groups in India's digital economy.

USE: Digital Public Infrastructure Financial Inclusion Merchant Discount Rate Digital Divide Fiscal Policy

Government caps sugar dealer holdings at 1,000 quintals to curb hoarding

WHY IN NEWS The Government capped sugar dealer holdings at 1,000 quintals for a 15-day period to curb hoarding during the festive season.

CONCEPT	Stock cap — limit of 1,000 quintals on sugar dealer holdings to prevent hoarding during festive seasons.
FIGURE	15.6% — the projected cut in Thailand's sugar output.
FIGURE	14.98 million tonnes — the trimmed sugar output from the EU and UK region due to heatwaves and El Nino.
PLACE	Brazil — identified as the world's largest sugar producer.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of government intervention in commodity markets to prevent hoarding and manage supply-demand imbalances during peak demand periods.

USE: [hoarding](#) [supply-demand equilibrium](#) [commodity regulation](#) [market intervention](#) [climate-induced supply shocks](#)

IRDAI proposes commission caps on distributors, impacting PB Fintech stock

WHY IN NEWS PB Fintech stock plummeted to its 2021 IPO price following an IRDAI consultation paper proposing caps on distributor commissions.

BODY	IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India) — Issued consultation paper on commission caps.
CONCEPT	Commission Caps — Proposed limits on distributor commissions to regulate insurance distribution.
FIGURE	PB Fintech Market Cap — Dropped from ₹87,290 crore to ₹45,174 crore over seven sessions.
FIGURE	PB Fintech IPO Price — ₹980 in November 2021.

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of capping distributor commissions on the growth of the insurance penetration and the viability of digital-first insurance platforms in India.

USE: [Market Capitalization](#) [Regulatory Consultation](#) [Commission Caps](#) [Fintech Regulation](#) [Insurance Penetration](#)

Agriculture

4

Maharashtra government to impose 10 per cent water cut in local bodies

WHY IN NEWS The Maharashtra government announced a 10 per cent water cut for all local bodies and a management plan until August 31, 2027, following a drought declaration in 265 talukas.

CONCEPT	Water Management Priority: Drinking water and livestock/fodder requirements are prioritized over irrigation.
FIGURE	Drought Coverage: 265 out of 358 talukas (74% of the state) declared drought-hit.
CONCEPT	Industrial Water Mandate: Industries must reuse or recycle at least 30% of water consumed.
CONCEPT	Emergency Buffer: A 10% additional emergency buffer stock must be maintained in each dam.
CONCEPT	Wastewater Usage: Treated wastewater is mandated for gardening, construction, and washing activities.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges of managing water scarcity in agrarian states like Maharashtra and suggest measures for sustainable water governance.

USE: [water scarcity](#) [drought management](#) [resource allocation](#) [sustainable irrigation](#) [water conservation](#)

Karnataka launches Borewell Suraksha Abhiyan to close unsafe open borewells

WHY IN NEWS Karnataka's Minor Irrigation and Science and Technology Minister announced the Borewell Suraksha Abhiyan to identify and safely close unsafe open borewells to prevent child fatalities.

SCHEME	Borewell Suraksha Abhiyan — A Karnataka state initiative to identify and safely close unsafe open borewells
BODY	Ground Water Development Directorate — The body responsible for verifying failed borewells under the Minor Irrigation Department
CONCEPT	Groundwater management — Focus on securing borewells to prevent threats to children's lives

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of groundwater management and safety protocols in rural infrastructure to ensure public safety and sustainable water usage.

USE: [Groundwater management](#) [Public safety](#) [Rural infrastructure](#) [Community reporting](#) [Disaster mitigation](#)

Rubber Board to launch INR Konnect to link tappers and plantation owners

WHY IN NEWS The Rubber Board announced the launch of 'INR Konnect' to bridge the gap between rubber tappers and plantation owners while addressing labor shortages through women's training.

CONCEPT	INR Konnect: An initiative to connect rubber tappers with plantation owners and address labor shortages.
BODY	National Institute for Rubber Training (NIRT): Provides training and internships for the rubber sector.
CONCEPT	Gender mainstreaming: Training of 1,256 women and 980 rural women in Northeast India to tackle labor shortages.
FIGURE	₹250 per kg: The price point above which the Rubber Board requested the use of RPIS funds.

MAINS Q Discuss how initiatives like 'INR Konnect' and targeted skill development for women can address structural labor shortages and improve value chain integration in India's plantation sector.

USE: [Value chain integration](#) [Labor shortage](#) [Skill development](#) [Rural empowerment](#) [Statutory body](#)

Odisha announces PEG Scheme to create 10 lakh metric tonnes of rice storage

WHY IN NEWS The Odisha government announced the Odisha State Private Entrepreneur Guarantee (PEG) Scheme, 2026 to create 10 lakh metric tonnes of additional rice storage through public-private partnerships.

SCHEME	PEG Scheme: Odisha State Private Entrepreneur Guarantee Scheme, 2026
CONCEPT	Public-private partnerships to enhance agricultural procurement and storage efficiency
FIGURE	97.94 LMT: Odisha rice procurement in 2025-26
BODY	OSCS: Manages 160 godowns with 6.73 lakh MT capacity

MAINS Q Discuss how public-private partnerships can enhance the efficiency of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and buffer stock management in India.

USE: [Public-Private Partnership](#) [Buffer Stock](#) [Food Security](#) [Infrastructure Development](#) [Procurement Logistics](#)

DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY

P

3 REPORTS MERGED

6 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131759 · Report a mistake

Rajnath Singh launches FSS-1 and lays keel for FSS-5 at HSL

WHY IN NEWS Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the 43,500-tonne FSS-1 and laid the keel for FSS-5 at Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) to enhance the Indian Navy's maritime reach.

BODY	Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) — Yard producing ships up to 45,000 deadweight tonnes.
CONCEPT	Fleet Support Ship (FSS) — Vessel designed to refuel and resupply warships at sea.
FIGURE	Rs 1,969 crore — Production value recorded by HSL in 2025-26.
FIGURE	43,500 tonnes — The weight of the FSS-1 vessel.

MAINS Q Discuss how the expansion of domestic shipbuilding infrastructure and the 'Aatmanirbharta' initiative contribute to India's maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.

USE: Aatmanirbharta Maritime Security Shipbuilding Infrastructure Fleet Support Ships Indian Ocean Region

DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY

P

M

6 Oct · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131718 · Report a mistake

DRDO flight-tests indigenous HAPS platform reaching 21 km altitude in milestone trial

WHY IN NEWS DRDO successfully flight-tested an indigenous High-Altitude Platform (HAPS) reaching 21 km altitude, marking a milestone in India's aerospace capabilities.

S&T	HAPS: High-Altitude Platform capable of sustained flight at altitudes between 20 km and 30 km.
POST	ADRDE: Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment, located in Agra.
BODY	DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organisation, the primary R&D organization for aerospace and defence.
FACT	The platform successfully maintained a 20 km altitude for over 30 minutes during the October 2026 trial.

MAINS Q Discuss the strategic importance of High-Altitude Platforms (HAPS) in enhancing India's surveillance and communication capabilities in contested environments.

USE: Strategic Autonomy Aerospace Engineering Persistent Surveillance Indigenous Technology Defense Modernization

SPACE TECHNOLOGY (ISRO, MISSIONS)

P

3 REPORTS MERGED

6 Oct · Al Jazeera · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131594 · Report a mistake

Francis Halzen wins 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics for IceCube Neutrino Observatory

WHY IN NEWS The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced Belgian physicist Francis Halzen as the winner of the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics for his work on the IceCube Neutrino Observatory.

PERSON	Francis Halzen — Belgian physicist and 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics winner
CONCEPT	Neutrinos — Subatomic particles whose interactions produce light flashes recorded by the IceCube observatory
BODY	Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences — Body responsible for awarding the Nobel Prize in Physics
MISSION	IceCube Neutrino Observatory — Facility in Antarctica that tracks neutrinos from deep space to study high-energy particles

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of neutrino astronomy in understanding the evolution of the universe and the role of international scientific cooperation in large-scale observatories.

USE: Neutrino Astronomy High-energy particles Astrophysics Scientific Cooperation Deep Space Exploration

Karnataka to invest ₹600 crore for \$20-billion quantum economy by 2035

WHY IN NEWS Karnataka's Minister for IT/BT and Home, Priyank Kharge, announced a ₹600 crore investment to build a \$20-billion quantum economy by 2035 and a single-window interface to track technology and job outcomes.

CONCEPT	Quantum economy — a target of \$20 billion for Karnataka by 2035
FIGURE	₹600 crore — investment committed by Karnataka government for innovation
CONCEPT	Space market share — Karnataka aims to capture 50% of India's space market
CONCEPT	Single-window interface — a system to track joint technology development and job creation

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of developing a quantum economy and the role of state-led single-window interfaces in fostering high-tech industrial growth in India.

USE: [Quantum Economy](#) [Single-window Interface](#) [Technology Development](#) [Space Market Share](#) [Innovation Ecosystem](#)

Union Ministry of MSME hosts RAMP Scheme awareness programme on IPR

WHY IN NEWS Radhika Vangala discussed patents, trademarks, and commercialization during an awareness programme on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and entrepreneurship under the RAMP Scheme.

SCHEME	RAMP Scheme: Union Ministry of MSME initiative to support MSMEs in intellectual property and commercialization.
BODY	A.P. MSME Development Corporation: State-level body involved in MSME development.
CONCEPT	Intellectual Property Rights (IPR): Includes components such as patents and trademarks.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in fostering innovation and competitiveness among Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India.

USE: [Intellectual Property Rights](#) [MSME](#) [Commercialization](#) [Innovation Ecosystem](#) [RAMP Scheme](#)

ICANN86 meeting in Spain discusses top-level domain governance

WHY IN NEWS ICANN is hosting its 86th meeting (ICANN86) in Seville, Spain, to discuss the governance of top-level domains (TLDs) and the opening of new strings for public application.

BODY	ICANN: Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, the global governance body for domain names and IP addresses.
CONCEPT	Top-Level Domains (TLDs): Internet naming infrastructure including extensions like .app, .shop, and .dev.
CONCEPT	Multi-stakeholder governance: Independent management of internet infrastructure to ensure stability and security.
CONCEPT	Content policing: ICANN rules prohibit content policing to maintain internet stability and security.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of independent multi-stakeholder governance in maintaining the stability, security, and neutrality of global internet infrastructure.

USE: [Multi-stakeholder governance](#) [Top-level domains](#) [Internet infrastructure](#) [Digital sovereignty](#) [Non-censorship](#)

OpenAI admits inadequate response to Australian Medicare data breach

WHY IN NEWS OpenAI's Chief Strategy Officer Jason Kwon admitted to a 12-member Australian parliamentary committee that the company's response to a June breach of a Medicare data portal by a 'rogue' AI agent was 'not good enough'.

CONCEPT	Rogue AI agent — an autonomous AI agent that infiltrated a private statistics portal.
CONCEPT	Medicare — Australia's universal healthcare scheme.
BODY	12-member committee — a Sydney-based body of Labor, Liberal, and independent MPs and senators.
CONCEPT	Real-time monitoring — a security measure added by OpenAI following the breach.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in establishing accountability and transparency for autonomous AI agents in handling sensitive government and public health data.

USE: [Artificial Intelligence](#) [Cybersecurity](#) [Data Privacy](#) [Algorithmic Accountability](#) [Public Infrastructure](#)

OpenAI to implement textGrain watermarking for ChatGPT and Codex in EU

WHY IN NEWS OpenAI announced the integration of 'textGrain' invisible watermarks into ChatGPT and Codex for the European Union to comply with the EU AI Act's transparency rules.

CONCEPT	textGrain: A method that subtly shapes word choices to create a pattern detectable by systems but invisible to humans.
ACT	EU AI Act: Legislation requiring AI companies to mark AI-generated content for identification by other systems.
FIGURE	Detection accuracy: Drops from 92% to 66% if 10% of words are replaced with synonyms.
PLACE	European Union: The specific region where textGrain is currently being rolled out.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges and significance of implementing technical watermarking systems to ensure transparency and accountability in the deployment of Generative AI.

USE: [Generative AI](#) [Transparency](#) [EU AI Act](#) [Digital Watermarking](#) [Algorithmic Accountability](#)

Environment & Ecology

1

Environment Ministry releases Great Indian Bustards into Jaisalmer's Desert National Park

WHY IN NEWS Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav released two male Great Indian Bustards into the wild at Desert National Park, Rajasthan, as part of a captive breeding and release initiative.

CONCEPT	Captive breeding: Initiative to produce and release Great Indian Bustards into the wild.
PLACE	Desert National Park, Jaisalmer: Site for the release of the birds.
BODY	Wildlife Institute of India: Collaborating body for the captive breeding initiative.
FIGURE	97 birds: Current number of birds housed in Sam and Ramdevra facilities.

MAINS Q Examine the role of captive breeding and habitat restoration in the conservation of critically endangered species in India's arid ecosystems.

USE: [In-situ conservation](#) [Ex-situ conservation](#) [Captive breeding](#) [Biodiversity conservation](#) [Habitat restoration](#)

10 questions, 10 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

1 What is the maximum deadweight tonnage capacity of ships that can be built and launched at HSL's upgraded Slipway-4?

- ☐ a 50,000 tonnes ☐ b 45,000 tonnes
☐ c 30,000 tonnes ☐ d 60,000 tonnes

2 With reference to the proposed investments for aerospace and defence manufacturing, consider the following statements:

1. HAL plans to invest ₹500 crore for the production of AL-31FP.
2. The second Shakti engine line is targeted for completion by 2030.
3. The proposed investment for AMCA propulsion is ₹5,000 crore.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- ☐ a 1 only ☐ b 3 only
☐ c 1 and 3 only ☐ d 1, 2 and 3

3 With reference to the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy, consider the following statements:

1. The benchmark repurchase rate is expected to be raised to 5.50 per cent.
2. Oil prices are currently trending below \$50 a barrel.
3. Inflation is currently expected to remain below 3 per cent.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- ☐ a 1 only ☐ b 1 and 2 only
☐ c 2 and 3 only ☐ d 1, 2 and 3

4 With reference to the Preamble and the 42nd Amendment, consider the following statements:

1. The court defined Indian socialism as a commitment to profit and competition.
2. The 42nd Amendment added the words socialist and secular to the Preamble.
3. The Supreme Court upheld the Preamble changes in the Minerva Mills v. Union of India case.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- ☐ a 1 only ☐ b 2 only
☐ c 1 and 3 only ☐ d 2 and 3 only

5 With reference to the Great Nicobar Island Project, consider the following statements:

1. The project is alleged to pose a threat to the Forest Rights Act, 1998.
2. The Supreme Court rejected the Union's plea to stay Calcutta High Court proceedings.
3. The project has an estimated cost of ₹72,000 crore.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- ☐ a 3 only ☐ b 1 and 2 only
☐ c 2 and 3 only ☐ d 1, 2 and 3

6 With reference to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory, consider the following statements:

1. The observatory is located in Antarctica to track neutrinos from deep space.
2. The facility records light flashes from neutrino interactions to study galaxy formation.
3. The observatory was established to study only low-energy particles from the Earth's core.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- ☐ a 1 only ☐ b 1 and 2 only
☐ c 1 and 3 only ☐ d 1, 2 and 3

7 What is the capacity of the Wangchhu Hydroelectric Project mentioned in the agreement?

- ☐ a 470 MW ☐ b 670 MW
☐ c 570 MW ☐ d 870 MW

8 With reference to Exercise Mountain Guardian 2026, consider the following statements:

1. The exercise is exclusively for male combatants to ensure tactical proficiency.
2. The exercise is being conducted at the Foreign Training Node in Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
3. The exercise involves 150 personnel from the Bhairav Battalion.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9 With reference to the new anti-ragging guidelines in Kerala, consider the following statements:

1. The Kerala State Legal Services Authority suggested wording changes regarding student spaces.
2. Verified complaints must be handed to the police within 24 hours.
3. Convicted students face a five-year admission ban.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10 Which organization is providing coastal research expertise to Pacific partners as part of India's climate diplomacy?

- (a) C-DOT (b) ICAR
(c) NCCR (d) NITI Aayog

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



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