

**SATYADHEESH**
सत्याधीश

UPSC DAILY DETAILED NOTES

Current Affairs • 9 October 2026**40**
NOTES**7**
STORIES MERGED**10**
MCQSGS1 • 1 GS2 • 21 GS3 • 18
PAPER MIX**CONTENTS****Every note, grouped by paper**

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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.

Indian Society

1

POPULATION, DEMOGRAPHY & MIGRATION

P

9 Oct · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/133330](https://www.satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/133330) · Report a mistake

Registrar General directs Andhra Pradesh officials to complete Census 2027 second phase

WHY IN NEWS The Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India directed Andhra Pradesh officials to complete the second phase of Census 2027 following the completion of the first phase.

- FACT** | Census 2027 first phase was conducted across 94,983 blocks.
- FACT** | 84,115 enumerators and 13,887 supervisors were deployed for the first phase of Census 2027.
- POST** | Mrityunjay Kumar Narayan serves as the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of a comprehensive national census in formulating evidence-based policies for demographic transitions and socio-economic planning in India.

USE: [Demographic transition](#) [Evidence-based policy](#) [Data integrity](#) [Socio-economic planning](#) [Enumeration](#)

Polity & Constitution

6

ELECTIONS, ECI & ELECTORAL REFORMS

P

M

3 REPORTS MERGED

9 Oct · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/133540](https://www.satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/133540) · Report a mistake

ECI caps Form 7 submissions to prevent bulk voter name deletions

WHY IN NEWS The Election Commission of India (ECI) capped Form 7 submissions to prevent the bulk deletion of voter names during the Special Intensive Revision.

- CONCEPT** | Form 7: The specific form used for the deletion of names from the electoral roll.
- BODY** | Election Commission of India (ECI): The body overseeing the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls.
- FIGURE** | Cap: Individual electors limited to 10 applications during claims and objections and 5 per month during continuous updation.

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of maintaining the integrity of electoral rolls and the role of the Election Commission in preventing systematic voter suppression.

USE: [Electoral Integrity](#) [Voter Suppression](#) [Administrative Oversight](#) [Election Commission](#) [Special Intensive Revision](#)

CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENTS & BASIC STRUCTURE

P

M

9 Oct · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/133537](https://www.satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/133537) · Report a mistake

2 REPORTS MERGED

Supreme Court upholds strike down of 34% Backward Classes reservation

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court dismissed an appeal by the Andhra Pradesh government, upholding a High Court ruling that struck down a 34% reservation for Backward Classes in local bodies.

- CONCEPT** | 50% reservation ceiling — the limit beyond which the State must provide empirical data to justify a breach.
- BODY** | Supreme Court — upheld the High Court ruling against the Andhra Pradesh government's reservation attempt.
- PERSON** | Justices Dipankar Datta and Sheel Nagu — the bench that dismissed the appeal.

MAINS Q Examine the constitutional validity of exceeding the 50% reservation ceiling and the necessity of empirical data in justifying affirmative action for Backward Classes.

USE: [Affirmative Action](#) [Reservation Ceiling](#) [Empirical Data](#) [Judicial Review](#) [Backward Classes](#)

Kerala government to request President to return Private Universities Bill

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala government plans to request the President to return the Kerala Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Bill, 2025, via a resolution under Article 201.

CONCEPT	Article 201: Procedure for State Legislature to request the President to reconsider a Bill reserved for assent.
ACT	Kerala Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Bill, 2025: Passed by the LDF-led government on March 25, 2025.
PERSON	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar: Governor who referred the bill in September 2025.

MAINS Q Examine the constitutional role of the Governor in the legislative process and the implications of the President's power to withhold assent to state bills.

USE: Article 201 Governor's discretionary powers Legislative process Federalism Presidential assent

Karnataka High Court reprimands KPSC and Transport Commissioner over fake certificates

WHY IN NEWS The Karnataka High Court castigated the Transport Commissioner and KPSC for accepting fraudulent certificates regarding petrol-engine heavy vehicles and upheld a KSAT finding to order government appointments.

BODY	KPSC: Karnataka Public Service Commission is responsible for recruiting civil servants in the state.
BODY	KSAT: Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal is the body whose finding was upheld by the High Court.
EVENT	The High Court ordered the government to issue appointment orders to candidates in the 2023 revised selection list.

MAINS Q Examine the institutional mechanisms required to ensure the integrity of the recruitment process in public services and the role of judicial oversight in curbing administrative lapses.

USE: Administrative integrity Judicial oversight Public recruitment Institutional accountability Transparency

Supreme Court hears arguments on closure of 57 metro stations

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court addressed the 'shutting down' of the national capital, including the closure of 57 metro stations, ahead of planned protests for the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

PERSON	Gyanesh Kumar — Chief Election Commissioner whose resignation was the subject of the protests
CONCEPT	Right to association and peaceful protest — recognized as a fundamental right of every citizen
FIGURE	57 metro stations — reported shut in the national capital ahead of the October 10 protests

MAINS Q Discuss the constitutional balance between the fundamental right to peaceful protest and the state's obligation to ensure the free movement of the general public.

USE: Fundamental Rights Proportionality Public Order Right to Association Judicial Review

Supreme Court suggests prioritizing West Bengal voter inclusions over backlogged appeals

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court suggested prioritizing the inclusion of lakhs of voters in the West Bengal electoral roll over 37.05 lakh backlogged exclusion appeals to ensure participation in the November 2026 municipal elections.

CONCEPT	Right to Franchise — the fundamental right to vote and be included in the electoral roll.
FIGURE	37.05 lakh — the number of backlogged appeals regarding electoral roll inclusions/exclusions in West Bengal.
EVENT	November 2026 municipal elections — the deadline before which the Supreme Court suggested resolving the backlog.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges faced by the Election Commission of India in managing large-scale electoral roll appeals and the implications of judicial intervention on administrative autonomy.

USE: Electoral Roll Judicial Intervention Administrative Efficiency Right to Vote Election Commission

Buildings under 24 metres no longer need Fire NOC in Telangana

WHY IN NEWS The Telangana Fire, Disaster Response, Emergency and Civil Defence Department revised fire safety requirements, exempting residential buildings under 24 metres from needing a Fire NOC.

FACT	Buildings under 24 metres in Telangana are now exempt from Fire NOC requirements.
FACT	Buildings over 24 metres must have fire towers and FCC rooms.
BODY	The Telangana Fire, Disaster Response, Emergency and Civil Defence Department is the nodal body for these revisions.
POST	Vikram Singh Mann serves as the Director General of the Telangana Fire, Disaster Response, Emergency and Civil Defence Department.

MAINS Q Discuss the trade-offs between streamlining urban construction regulations and ensuring public safety in high-density residential zones.

USE: [regulatory easing](#) [urban safety](#) [public safety infrastructure](#) [building bylaws](#)

Social Justice

Parliamentary Committee urges NTA to transition NEET-UG to Computer-Based Test mode

WHY IN NEWS The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education recommended that the National Testing Agency (NTA) transition the NEET-UG exam to a Computer-Based Test (CBT) mode to enhance integrity.

BODY	National Testing Agency (NTA) — Responsible for conducting the NEET-UG exam.
CONCEPT	Centralized registry — Proposed to blacklist compromised vendors across NTA, UPSC, and SSC.
FIGURE	40% — The committee recommended filling over this percentage of vacant permanent posts.
BODY	UPSC and SSC — Central bodies included in the proposed registry for blacklisting compromised vendors.

MAINS Q Discuss the institutional measures required to ensure the integrity of national-level competitive examinations in India.

USE: [Institutional integrity](#) [Examination security](#) [Dynamic question banks](#) [Vendor blacklisting](#) [Administrative oversight](#)

Cuddalore Collector launches Josh team for Tuberculosis-Free India 2030

WHY IN NEWS The Cuddalore District Collector launched the 'Josh' (Joint Squad for Health) team to accelerate the Tuberculosis-Free India goal by 2030.

CONCEPT	Josh (Joint Squad for Health) — a team comprising a nodal officer, coordinator, MY Bharat volunteers, and NCC volunteers.
MISSION	Tuberculosis-Free India — a campaign aiming to eliminate the disease by 2030.
BODY	MY Bharat — a platform for youth volunteers involved in the Josh team.
CONCEPT	NAAT tests and X-ray examinations — diagnostic technologies used to support the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme.

MAINS Q Discuss the role of community-led volunteerism and advanced diagnostic technologies in achieving India's goal of eliminating Tuberculosis by 2030.

USE: [Public Health](#) [Community Participation](#) [Diagnostic Technology](#) [Last-mile Delivery](#)

P

Kerala government completes 32 projects including ₹200 crore for 16,000 beneficiaries

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala government announced the completion of 32 projects under a 100-day programme, including the distribution of ₹200 crore to 16,000 beneficiaries by the Kerala State Backward Classes Development Corporation.

SCHEME	Dakshayani and Priyadarshini: Kerala government schemes providing subsidies and loans for women
BODY	Kerala State Backward Classes Development Corporation: Body responsible for distributing welfare funds to backward classes
CONCEPT	100-day programme: Initiative to complete 32 projects including 1,000 study rooms and 50 Ambedkar villages

MAINS Q Discuss the role of state-led welfare schemes in promoting social inclusion and educational access for marginalized communities in India.

USE: Social Inclusion Targeted Subsidies Marginalized Communities Welfare Distribution Educational Infrastructure

International Relations

11

4 REPORTS MERGED

Navanethem Pillay awarded 2026 Nobel Peace Prize for UN inquiry oversight

WHY IN NEWS The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize to South African judge Navanethem Pillay for her work in international law and overseeing a UN inquiry into the Gaza genocide.

PERSON	Navanethem Pillay — South African judge and current judge at the International Court of Justice
BODY	International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda — body where Pillay previously served
BODY	Norwegian Nobel Committee — body responsible for awarding the Nobel Peace Prize
DATE	2026 — the year Navanethem Pillay was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize

MAINS Q Discuss the role of international judicial bodies and UN inquiries in upholding international law and addressing allegations of genocide in modern conflicts.

USE: International Law Genocide Judicial Oversight Human Rights Sovereignty

US suspends Microsoft, Infosys, TCS from labor program over fraud

WHY IN NEWS US Vice President JD Vance and Labour Secretary Keith Sonderling announced the suspension of major tech firms, including Microsoft and TCS

CONCEPT	Permanent Labour Certification programme: A US program for tech firms to certify the need for foreign workers.
PERSON	JD Vance: Vice President of the United States
PERSON	Keith Sonderling: US Labour Secretary
CONCEPT	Green Card Backlog: Impacted by the replacement of US workers with lower-paid foreign workers.

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of labor certification fraud on the bilateral tech-services corridor between India and the US and its impact on the Indian diaspora's migration aspirations.

USE: Labor Certification Indentured Servitude Green Card Backlog Bilateral Relations Labor Market Distortion

Japan plans 10 trillion yen investment in India over 10 years

WHY IN NEWS Japan announced a plan to invest 10 trillion yen (approx. \$100 billion) in India over the next 10 years to bolster manufacturing and energy security.

- FIGURE** | 10 trillion yen (approx. \$100 billion) — Japan's planned investment in India over 10 years
- FIGURE** | \$48 billion — Japan's investment in India between 2000 and 2025
- FIGURE** | \$98 billion — Japan's investment in China between 2000 and 2025
- FIGURE** | 1,460 — Number of Japanese companies currently operating in India

MAINS Q Discuss how deepening bilateral investment from Japan can enhance India's manufacturing capabilities and energy security goals.

USE: Foreign Direct Investment Energy Security Manufacturing Hub Bilateral Trade Capital Infusion

Bangladesh seeks new Ganga Water Sharing Treaty before December 2026 expiry

WHY IN NEWS Bangladesh's Water Resources Minister Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anee expressed hope for a new Ganga Water Sharing Treaty with India before the current 30-year agreement expires on December 12, 2026.

- CONCEPT** | Ganga Water Sharing Treaty — governs water sharing at Farakka Barrage during the lean season (January 1 to May 31).
- BODY** | Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) — the bilateral mechanism for discussing water cooperation between India and Bangladesh.
- PLACE** | Padma River — the name of the Ganga River upon entering Bangladesh, 22 km downstream from Farakka Barrage.

MAINS Q Examine the significance of transboundary water-sharing agreements in fostering regional stability and cooperation between India and Bangladesh.

USE: Hydro-diplomacy Transboundary Water Joint Rivers Commission Farakka Barrage Bilateral Cooperation

Israel re-intensifies attacks in Lebanon as World Bank warns of economic contraction

WHY IN NEWS Israel re-intensified attacks in Lebanon resulting in over 9,000 deaths, prompting a World Bank warning of a 6 percent economic contraction by 2026.

- REPORT** | World Bank — projected a 6 percent economic contraction by 2026 due to the conflict
- FIGURE** | 9,000+ deaths — total fatalities resulting from re-intensified attacks by March 2026
- PERSON** | Hassan Nasrallah — assassinated in 2024 prior to the invasion of southern Lebanon

MAINS Q Analyze the impact of prolonged regional conflicts on the economic stability and infrastructure of neighboring states in the Middle East.

USE: Economic contraction Regional instability Asymmetric warfare Humanitarian crisis Geopolitical shift

US bars Microsoft, Tata, Wipro and 6 others from PERM programme over worker replacement

WHY IN NEWS The Donald Trump administration barred eight major IT firms, including Microsoft and Tata, from the PERM programme, alleging the companies use the process to replace American workers.

- BODY** | PERM: Permanent Labour Certification programme used by the US for employment-based residency.
- FACT** | Eight firms barred: Microsoft, Tata, Wipro, Infosys, Adobe, Cognizant, HCL, and Capgemini.

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of restrictive US labor certification policies on the Indian IT services sector and the mobility of Indian technology professionals.

USE: Labor Certification Green Card Trade Relations Employment Mobility IT Services

Ethiopian forces enter Mekelle as TPLF withdraws, ending 2022 Pretoria ceasefire

WHY IN NEWS Ethiopian federal forces entered Mekelle following a TPLF withdrawal, effectively ending the 2022 Pretoria ceasefire and raising regional tensions over Ethiopia's Red Sea ambitions.

PLACE	Mekelle: Capital of the Tigray region in Ethiopia
FACT	Pretoria ceasefire: Agreement signed in 2022 to end the Tigray conflict
FACT	Amhara Fano and Oromo Liberation Army (OLA): Active insurgent groups within Ethiopia

MAINS Q Analyze how Ethiopia's pursuit of a Red Sea outlet impacts the geopolitical stability of the Horn of Africa and its relations with neighboring states.

USE: [Geopolitical stability](#) [Regional security dilemma](#) [Maritime access](#) [Sovereign aspirations](#) [Insurgency](#)

Taniguchi and Verma discuss protecting trade routes against China at NDTV Indo-Japan Summit

WHY IN NEWS Tomohiko Taniguchi and Sanjay Kumar Verma discussed protecting trade routes against China at the NDTV Indo-Japan Summit in New Delhi.

SCHEME	SAGAR: 'Security and Growth for All in the Region' initiative by India.
FACT	The NDTV Indo-Japan Summit was held in New Delhi in October 2026.

MAINS Q Examine how the Indo-Pacific maritime security architecture serves as a strategic counterweight to China's expanding influence in the region.

USE: [Indo-Pacific](#) [Maritime Security](#) [Supply Chain Resilience](#) [Strategic Autonomy](#) [Freedom of Navigation](#)

India and Cote d'Ivoire discuss defence, trade and infrastructure ties

WHY IN NEWS External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar visited Cote d'Ivoire to discuss bilateral cooperation in defence, trade, infrastructure, agriculture, and healthcare.

PERSON	S. Jaishankar — India's External Affairs Minister
PLACE	Cote d'Ivoire — West African nation visited during a three-nation tour including Ghana and Ethiopia
CONCEPT	ITEC — Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation program
DATE	October 7, 2026 — Date of the visit to Cote d'Ivoire

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of India's expanding diplomatic engagement with African nations in the context of diversifying trade and defence partnerships.

USE: [bilateral cooperation](#) [South-South cooperation](#) [strategic partnership](#) [human resource development](#) [infrastructure ties](#)

Israel to honour Indian pilot Captain Smit Machchhar for thwarting hijacking

WHY IN NEWS Israeli President Isaac Herzog announced that Indian pilot Captain Smit Machchhar will receive the State of Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism for thwarting a hijacking attempt.

PERSON	Captain Smit Machchhar — Indian pilot who saved 174 passengers and crew from a hijacking attempt.
CONCEPT	State of Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism — Israel's highest bravery award for civilians.
PLACE	Saudi Arabia — Location where the flydubai aircraft was successfully landed.
FIGURE	174 — Total number of passengers and crew members saved during the incident.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of international cooperation and individual heroism in mitigating unconventional security threats like aircraft hijackings in the contemporary era.

USE: [Aviation Security](#) [Bilateral Relations](#) [Civilian Heroism](#) [Counter-terrorism](#) [Diplomatic Recognition](#)

CWMA upholds order for Karnataka to release 3,000 cusecs daily to Tamil Nadu

WHY IN NEWS The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) upheld a committee order for Karnataka to release 3,000 cusecs of water daily to Tamil Nadu to clear a backlog.

FACT	CWMA: Cauvery Water Management Authority
FACT	CWRC: Cauvery Water Regulation Committee
FACT	Release amount: 3,000 cusecs daily for 15 days
FACT	Location: Biligundlu
FACT	Backlog amount: 15.022 tmcft for Tamil Nadu

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in managing interstate river water sharing in India and the role of statutory bodies in resolving water disputes.

USE: Inter-state water dispute Water management Federalism Resource allocation Statutory bodies

GS3**Economy · S&T · Environment · Security**

18 NOTES

Economy

9

RBI raises interest rates by 25 bps and shifts to calibrated tightening

WHY IN NEWS The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) raised interest rates by 25 bps and shifted its stance to 'calibrated tightening' to combat rising inflation.

BODY	Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) — the body responsible for setting interest rates and policy stance.
CONCEPT	Calibrated Tightening — the new policy stance adopted by the RBI to combat inflation.
FIGURE	7.1% — the revised GDP growth forecast for 2026–27.
FIGURE	6% — the projected retail inflation for Q3 2026.

MAINS Q Discuss the efficacy of monetary policy tools in controlling inflation when the primary drivers are supply-side shocks like deficient monsoons and global oil price volatility.

USE: Monetary Policy Calibrated Tightening Inflation Targeting Supply-side Shock GDP Forecast

Hyderabad to host 85th Indian Road Congress to discuss ₹25,000 crore road plan

WHY IN NEWS Hyderabad is set to host the 85th Indian Road Congress (IRC) to discuss a ₹25,000 crore road investment plan involving major highway expansions.

PLACE	HITEX Exhibition Centre — Venue for the 85th Indian Road Congress in Hyderabad
FIGURE	₹25,000 crore — Total planned road investment
FIGURE	161.518 km — Length of the proposed northern Regional Ring Road
FIGURE	₹12,073 crore — Value of the six-lane highway expansion

MAINS Q Discuss how large-scale infrastructure investments like the Regional Ring Road can catalyze regional economic growth and improve logistical connectivity in India.

USE: Infrastructure development Logistics Regional connectivity Capital investment Urban planning

Telangana to introduce 10 new generation policies for semiconductors and logistics

WHY IN NEWS Telangana's Director of Industries announced the introduction of 10 new generation policies for semiconductors and logistics under 'Industrial Policy 2.0'.

FACT	Telangana to introduce 10 new generation policies for semiconductors and logistics.
POST	Nikhil Chakravarthi is the Director of Industries for Telangana.
PLACE	The policies will be introduced at the upcoming Telangana Global Summit.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of state-led industrial policies in developing a robust semiconductor and logistics ecosystem in India.

USE: Industrial Policy Semiconductors Logistics Ecosystem Investment Incentives Manufacturing Hub

Karnataka wins award for 9 GW highest under-construction wind power capacity

WHY IN NEWS Karnataka won the award for Highest Under-Construction Wind Power Capacity of 9 GW at the Windergy 2026 event organized by the Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers' Association (IWTMA).

FACT	Karnataka's under-construction wind power capacity: 9 GW
BODY	IWTMA: Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers' Association
PLACE	Windergy 2026 event venue: Chennai Trade Centre
BODY	Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited: State body facilitating wind projects

MAINS Q Examine the role of state-led agencies in accelerating India's transition towards renewable energy and the infrastructure required to support large-scale wind power capacity.

USE: Renewable Energy Infrastructure Development Decarbonization State Agency Facilitation Wind Power Capacity

DEA approves ₹5,000 crore KfW funding for Telangana-CRUTI sewerage project

WHY IN NEWS The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) screening committee approved ₹5,000 crore in funding from KfW for the Telangana-CRUTI sewerage project to enhance urban infrastructure.

FIGURE	₹7,143 crore — Total project cost for the Telangana-CRUTI sewerage project
FIGURE	₹5,257 crore — Value of the sewerage network specifically in Warangal
BODY	KfW — The funding body for the sewerage project
PLACE	Warangal — Primary location for the sewerage network project
CONCEPT	NIUM — Initiative supported by UN-Habitat for sustainable urban development

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of public-private-multilateral partnerships in financing large-scale urban infrastructure projects in developing economies like India.

USE: Urban Infrastructure Multilateral Funding Sustainable Development Public-Private Partnership Urban Sanitation

India's GCC ecosystem expands to 2,117 centers amid tech job losses

WHY IN NEWS Nasscom and Zinnov reported the growth of India's Global Capability Centers (GCC) ecosystem to 2,117 centers by FY26 amidst significant tech job losses.

FIGURE	253,000 — Tech job losses recorded across 2025 and 2026
FIGURE	2,117 — Number of Global Capability Centers (GCC) in India by FY26
FIGURE	2.36 million — People employed by India's GCC ecosystem
FIGURE	2.33 million — Jobs created by Startup India by FY2025-26
CONCEPT	Skill mismatch — 68% of organizations struggle to recruit talent

MAINS Q Discuss the dual impact of the growing Global Capability Centers (GCC) ecosystem and the startup landscape on India's employment dynamics in the technology sector.

USE: Global Capability Centers Employment dynamics Skill mismatch Startup ecosystem Labor market trends

Trump's PERM suspension may accelerate India as global hub for AI and GCCs

WHY IN NEWS Karnataka IT Minister Priyank Kharge stated that the Trump administration's suspension of the PERM programme may accelerate India's emergence as a global hub for AI and GCCs.

S&T	GCCs: Global Capability Centres are hubs for research, product development, and AI.
FACT	PERM: Permanent Labour Certification programme is subject to suspension by the Trump administration.
POST	Priyank Kharge: Minister for IT and Home portfolio in Karnataka.

MAINS Q Discuss how the shift in US labor certification policies may influence India's position as a global hub for Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and AI research.

USE: Global Capability Centres Artificial Intelligence Outsourcing Labour Certification Research and Development

RBI shifts focus on forward market dollar sales to cool surging premiums

WHY IN NEWS The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is reportedly shifting focus on forward market dollar sales to cool surging forward premiums as the rupee hit 96.79 against the dollar.

BODY	Reserve Bank of India (RBI) — manages the forward market to stabilize currency premiums.
FIGURE	96.79 — The rupee's closing rate against the dollar.
FIGURE	8.45% — The retreated one-year dollar-rupee forward premium.
CONCEPT	Forward Premium — high premiums make hedging expensive for foreign investors.

MAINS Q Discuss how high forward premiums and hedging costs impact the flow of Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) into Indian debt markets.

USE: Forward Premium Hedging Costs Currency Volatility Foreign Portfolio Investment Monetary Policy

Khambata defends Jane Street against Sebi ex-parte order

WHY IN NEWS Senior counsel Khambata defended global trading firm Jane Street before a tribunal against an ex-parte order by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) regarding its trading activities.

BODY	Sebi: The primary regulator for the securities and capital markets in India.
BODY	NSE: The National Stock Exchange of India which collaborated with Sebi on surveillance reports.
FIGURE	42 complaints: Number of complaints against Jane Street activities leading to regulatory scrutiny.

MAINS Q Critically analyze the balance between regulatory oversight of high-frequency trading and the protection of investor rights in emerging capital markets.

USE: Ex-parte order Market manipulation Hedging strategy Regulatory oversight Capital markets

Agriculture

2

Farmers in Punjab, Haryana, and UP burn 29 million metric tons of paddy straw

WHY IN NEWS Farmers in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh burned 29 million metric tons of paddy straw, highlighting the limitations of the PPSSWA 2009 and the high cost of Happy Seeders.

BODY	CPCB: Central Pollution Control Board deployed squads in 2025 to monitor straw burning.
FIGURE	29 million metric tons: Amount of paddy straw burned in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh.
CONCEPT	Happy Seeders: Agricultural machinery whose high costs hinder widespread adoption for straw management.
MISSION	NASA satellites: Used to monitor agricultural burning, though farmers may burn at night to evade detection.

MAINS Q Critically analyze the socio-economic and logistical barriers preventing the effective adoption of in-situ crop residue management technologies in Northern India.

USE: In-situ management Crop residue Environmental degradation Policy implementation Socio-economic barriers

Rajasthan reviews Isarda dam to ensure water supply by next month

WHY IN NEWS Chief Secretary V. Srinivas reviewed the Isarda dam project in Rajasthan's Tonk district to ensure water supply to urban areas and neighboring districts by next month.

PLACE	Isarda dam is located in Tonk district, Rajasthan
CONCEPT	Isarda dam is built on the Banas river
CONCEPT	Isarda dam utilizes advanced Swedish hydraulic systems
FIGURE	Ramgarh dam capacity is to be increased to 10.77 thousand million cubic feet
SCHEME	Jal Sanchay-Jan Bhagidari is a public participation campaign for water conservation in Rajasthan

MAINS Q Discuss the role of high-tech irrigation infrastructure and community participation in addressing chronic water scarcity in arid and semi-arid regions of India.

USE: water conservation hydraulic systems irrigation infrastructure Jan Bhagidari water scarcity

Science & Technology

6

Indian Navy to commission Mangrol, third indigenous Anti-Submarine Warfare craft, in Mumbai

WHY IN NEWS The Indian Navy is set to commission the Mangrol, its third indigenous Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft, in Mumbai to bolster maritime security.

S&T	Mangrol: Third indigenous Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft for the Indian Navy
BODY	Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL): The entity responsible for building the Mangrol craft
FACT	Mangrol features over 80% indigenous content under the Make in India initiative
S&T	Abhay sonar and Mareech decoy system: Specific technologies integrated into the Mangrol craft

MAINS Q Discuss how the 'Make in India' initiative in the defence sector contributes to India's strategic autonomy and maritime security.

USE: Strategic Autonomy Indigenization Maritime Security Make in India Defence Procurement

IISc study finds magnetized white dwarfs can exceed Chandrasekhar limit

WHY IN NEWS Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) published a study in The Astrophysical Journal Letters showing that magnetized carbon-oxygen white dwarfs can exceed the 1.4 solar mass Chandrasekhar limit.

CONCEPT	Chandrasekhar limit — The maximum mass of a stable white dwarf star is approximately 1.4 solar masses.
FIGURE	2.4 solar masses — The mass white dwarfs can reach when influenced by strong magnetic fields.
CONCEPT	STARS code — A simulation tool used for stellar modeling and simulating stellar evolution.

MAINS Q Discuss how advancements in computational astrophysics and stellar modeling are refining our understanding of stellar evolution and the limits of degenerate matter.

USE: Stellar Evolution White Dwarfs Chandrasekhar Limit Magnetized Stars Computational Astrophysics

Francis Halzen wins Physics Nobel Prize for IceCube Neutrino Observatory detections

WHY IN NEWS The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics to Francis Halzen for the IceCube Neutrino Observatory's detection of high-energy cosmic neutrinos.

PERSON	Francis Halzen — Recipient of the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics
CONCEPT	IceCube Neutrino Observatory — Facility used to detect high-energy cosmic neutrinos
FIGURE	28 high-energy cosmic neutrinos — Number detected by the observatory since 2011
BODY	Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences — Body responsible for awarding the Nobel Prizes

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of neutrino astronomy in understanding the fundamental laws of the universe and the role of international collaborative observatories in space science.

USE: Neutrino Astronomy Cosmic Neutrinos IceCube Observatory Astrophysics Scientific Collaboration

Tamil Nadu launches ₹500 crore Chief Minister's Road Safety Mission

WHY IN NEWS The Tamil Nadu government announced the Chief Minister's Road Safety Mission with a ₹500 crore budget following reports of 18,449 fatalities in the state.

SCHEME	Chief Minister's Road Safety Mission — A ₹500 crore initiative by the Tamil Nadu government
BODY	MoRTH — Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
CONCEPT	DDHI framework and Sanjaya portal — Developed by CoERS at IIT Madras
FIGURE	18,449 fatalities — Number of deaths recorded in Tamil Nadu in 2024

MAINS Q Discuss the role of technological frameworks and data-driven monitoring in reducing road fatalities in high-crash states like Tamil Nadu.

USE: Road Safety Mission Data-driven governance Infrastructure safety Technological intervention Public safety

FSSAI issues notices to Dr Reddy's, Nestle Health Science over misleading health claims

WHY IN NEWS FSSAI issued notices to Dr Reddy's, Nestle Health Science, and others over allegedly misleading health claims regarding protein support and lean muscle mass.

BODY	FSSAI: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
FACT	FSSAI issued notices to Amazon and Flipkart regarding misleading health claims
FACT	Nex International and Shreyash Retail Pvt. Ltd. were flagged for unsafe food and expired products

MAINS Q Discuss the regulatory challenges in monitoring digital marketplaces and ensuring consumer protection against misleading health claims in the food and supplement industry.

USE: Regulatory oversight Consumer protection Food safety standards Misleading advertisements E-commerce regulation

Anil Kakodkar urges NSG membership to counter SHANTI Act reactor restrictions

WHY IN NEWS Anil Kakodkar of the Atomic Energy Commission urged diplomats to secure NSG membership to ensure uranium availability and criticized the SHANTI Act, 2025 for restricting reactor designs.

BODY	Atomic Energy Commission (AEC): Body involved in India's nuclear energy policy.
BODY	Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG): Multilateral body whose membership India seeks for uranium access.
ACT	SHANTI Act, 2025: Legislation cited as restricting reactor designs in India.
PLACE	IIT-M and DCIR: Venues in Chennai where the conference was held.

MAINS Q Examine the significance of Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) membership for India's energy security and the implications of domestic legislative restrictions on nuclear reactor designs.

USE: Energy Security Nuclear Non-Proliferation Strategic Autonomy Regulatory Framework Uranium Supply Chain

Internal Security

1

Mumbai Police ban firecrackers and laser lights following High Court ruling

WHY IN NEWS Mumbai Police issued a preventive order banning firecrackers and laser lights until December 4, 2026, following a Bombay High Court ruling to regulate noise and public safety.

PERSON	Akbar Pathan — Deputy Commissioner of Police (Operations) in Mumbai who issued the order
FIGURE	₹1 lakh or ₹50,000 — Security deposits required for organizers
DATE	October 5, 2026 to December 4, 2026 — Duration of the ban on firecrackers and laser lights
CONCEPT	Noise monitoring — Mandated by the Bombay High Court to regulate public safety

MAINS Q Discuss the balance between the right to celebrate cultural festivals and the state's obligation to ensure public health and safety in densely populated urban centers.

USE: Public Safety Noise Pollution Judicial Oversight Urban Governance Regulatory Compliance

10 questions, 10 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

-
- 1** What is the revised GDP growth forecast for 2026-27 as projected by the RBI?
- ☐ a 8.2% ☐ b 7.5%
☐ c 6.7% ☐ d 7.1%
-
- 2** Which international judicial body currently has Navanethem Pillay serving as a judge?
- ☐ a International Court of Justice ☐ b European Court of Human Rights
☐ c World Bank ☐ d International Criminal Court
-
- 3** With reference to the Election Commission of India's measures on electoral rolls, consider the following statements:
1. Individual electors are limited to 15 applications during claims and objections.
 2. Form 7 is the specific form used for the deletion of names from the electoral roll.
 3. The cap of 5 applications per month applies during continuous updation.
- 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
-
- 4** What is the reservation ceiling mentioned by the Supreme Court as a limit for the State to justify breaching with empirical data?
- ☐ a 40% ☐ b 60%
☐ c 50% ☐ d 33%
-
- 5** Which US program is used by tech firms to certify the need for foreign workers?
- ☐ a Global Talent Initiative ☐ b Permanent Labour Certification programme
☐ c Employment Authorization System ☐ d H-1B Visa Scheme
-
- 6** With reference to Japan's investment in India, consider the following statements:
1. There are currently 1,460 Japanese companies operating in India.
 2. Japan plans to invest 10 trillion yen in India over a 10-year period.
 3. Japan invested \$98 billion in India between 2000 and 2025.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- ☐ a 1 and 2 only ☐ b 1 and 3 only
☐ c 2 and 3 only ☐ d 1, 2 and 3
-
- 7** With reference to the Ganga Water Sharing Treaty between India and Bangladesh, consider the following statements:
1. The treaty governs water sharing at the Farakka Barrage during the monsoon season.
 2. The Ganga River is known as the Padma upon entering Bangladesh.
 3. The current treaty is a 30-year agreement set to expire in December 2026.
- 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
-
- 8** What is the projected economic contraction percentage for the region by 2026 according to the World Bank?
- ☐ a 10 percent ☐ b 6 percent
☐ c 8 percent ☐ d 4 percent
-
- 9** Which central bodies are included in the proposed centralized registry for blacklisting compromised vendors according to the committee?
- ☐ a UPSC and SSC ☐ b RBI and SEBI
☐ c NABARD and NHB ☐ d IRDAI and EPFO
-

10 What is the approximate maximum mass of a stable white dwarf star according to the Chandrasekhar limit?

- a 1.4 solar masses
- b 0.8 solar masses
- c 3.5 solar masses
- d 2.4 solar masses

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



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