

**SATYADHEESH**
सत्याधीश

UPSC WEEKLY DETAILED NOTES

Current Affairs • Week 39 • 21 Sep – 27 Sep 2026**50**

NOTES

30

STORIES MERGED

10

MCQS

GS1 • 3

GS2 • 26

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PAPER MIX

CONTENTS

Every note, grouped by paper

GS1	History • Society • Geography	3 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

1

ART, ARCHITECTURE & CULTURE P

27 Sep · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/126658](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/126658)

Andhra Pradesh unveils Godavari Declaration to boost tourism

WHY IN NEWS Minister of Culture and Tourism Kandula Durgesh unveiled the 'Godavari Declaration' titled 'The Godavari Calls' to boost tourism ahead of Godavari Pushkarams-2027.

CONCEPT	Godavari Declaration — A plan titled 'The Godavari Calls' to develop a tent city and the Havelock bridge.
PLACE	Godavari Pushkarams — A religious pilgrimage event held at the confluence of rivers in the Godavari basin.
FIGURE	₹20,000 crore — Total investment attracted by the tourism sector in Andhra Pradesh.
FIGURE	₹6,000 crore — Additional investment in the state's tourism sector over a two-year period.

MAINS Q Discuss how the promotion of religious tourism and cultural heritage can serve as a catalyst for regional economic development and infrastructure growth in India.

USE: Religious Tourism Cultural Heritage Infrastructure Development Economic Multiplier Regional Development

Indian Society

1

COMMUNALISM, REGIONALISM & SECULARISM M

26 Sep · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/126215](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/126215)

Maharashtra appoints retired IAS officer to UCC committee

WHY IN NEWS The Maharashtra government appointed retired IAS officer Shatrughna Singh to the state's Uniform Civil Code (UCC) committee to assist in drafting a framework within six months.

PERSON	Ranjana Desai — Retired Supreme Court Judge heading the Maharashtra UCC committee
CONCEPT	Uniform Civil Code — Framework aimed at legal uniformity and social justice
FIGURE	Six months — The target timeline for the committee to produce the UCC draft framework

MAINS Q Discuss the constitutional challenges and social implications of implementing a Uniform Civil Code in a pluralistic society like India.

USE: Uniform Civil Code Personal Laws Pluralism Constitutional Morality Legal Uniformity

Geography

1

GEOPHYSICAL PHENOMENA (EARTHQUAKES, CYCLONES, VOLCANOES) P

22 Sep · BBC · [satyadheesh.in/news/124817](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/124817)

Developing El Niño reaches strongest sea surface temperature on record

WHY IN NEWS Scientists reported that the developing El Niño has become the strongest on record as of September 19, 2026, surpassing the 2015 record.

CONCEPT	El Niño: Climate pattern characterized by unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.
FIGURE	3.05°C: Current record sea surface temperature above average.
FIGURE	3.02°C: Previous record sea surface temperature recorded in 2015.
CONCEPT	Monsoon Impact: El Niño is often associated with reduced monsoon rainfall in India.

MAINS Q Discuss the impact of extreme El Niño events on India's monsoon patterns and suggest measures to mitigate climate-induced agricultural risks.

USE: El Niño Monsoon variability Climate change Sea surface temperature Meteorological phenomena

Polity & Constitution

9

JUDICIARY & LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

P

M

21 Sep · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/124365](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/124365)

Supreme Court seeks standardized law for court deposits

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

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

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

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

JUDICIARY & LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

P

2 REPORTS MERGED

21 Sep · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/124445](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/124445)

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

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

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

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

USE: Judicial Independence Collegium System Pendency Judicial Infrastructure Executive Oversight

ELECTIONS, ECI & ELECTORAL REFORMS

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23 Sep · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/125227](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/125227)

Supreme Court splits on referring CEC and EC appointment law to larger bench

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court gave split opinions on whether petitions challenging the 2023 law excluding the Chief Justice of India from selecting the CEC and ECs should be referred to a larger bench.

- CONCEPT** | CEC and ECs are appointed by the President of India
- ACT** | 2023 law excludes the Chief Justice of India from the selection committee for CEC and ECs
- BODY** | Supreme Court of India – highest judicial body in the country

MAINS Q Examine the implications of executive influence on the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner on the independence of the electoral process in India.

USE: Judicial Independence Executive Influence Electoral Integrity Constitutional Appointments Separation of Powers

Supreme Court mandates expert evaluations to curb POCSO Act misuse

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court directed that no immediate arrests should be made in matrimonial disputes involving alleged false sexual-assault complaints under the POCSO Act without prior psychological evaluation of the child.

ACT	POCSO Act — Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
CONCEPT	Expert evaluation — Mandated psychological or psychiatric assessments to prevent trauma and public stigma
BODY	Supreme Court — Highest judicial body in India

MAINS Q Critically examine the judicial balance required to prevent the misuse of stringent criminal laws like the POCSO Act in matrimonial disputes while ensuring the protection of children.

USE: Judicial activism Presumption of innocence Procedural safeguards Best interests of the child Weaponization of law

ECI faces internal objections over voter list revisions and ERONet

WHY IN NEWS An investigation by The Indian Express revealed that two Election Commissioners objected on record 14 times in ten months

BODY	Election Commission of India (ECI): Constitutional body under Article 324 to conduct and supervise elections.
CONCEPT	Special Intensive Revision (SIR): A process involving voter list revisions and ERONet centralization.
CONCEPT	Form 6: The specific form used for the registration of new voters or seeking inclusion in the electoral roll.
CONCEPT	ERONet: A centralized network used by the ECI for managing and updating electoral rolls.
FIGURE	27 lakh voters: The number of voters deleted in West Bengal during the revision.

MAINS Q Examine the institutional challenges regarding the internal decision-making processes of the Election Commission of India and its impact on electoral integrity.

USE: Electoral Integrity Institutional Autonomy Collective Decision-making Transparency Special Intensive Revision

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

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

BODY	Supreme Court of India — The highest judicial forum in India
FIGURE	₹8 lakh plus interest — Compensation awarded to the parents of the deceased passenger
PLACE	Gujarat — State where the passenger died after falling from a train in 2017
CONCEPT	Public Liability — The principle ensuring accountability of public service providers like Indian Railways

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

USE: Bona fide passenger Judicial review Liability Compensation Evidentiary standards

ECI announces special voter enrolment camps in Delhi

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

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

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

USE: [Universal Adult Franchise](#) [Electoral Roll](#) [Constitutional Mandate](#) [Democratic Participation](#)

CJI Surya Kant affirms students' right to peaceful protest

WHY IN NEWS Chief Justice of India Surya Kant asserted at Chanakya National Law University that the judiciary is committed to protecting students' right to peaceful protests while addressing concerns on collegium transparency.

PERSON	CJI Surya Kant — The highest judicial authority in India who addressed students at CNLU.
CONCEPT	Collegium System — The mechanism used in India for the appointment and transfer of judges.
PLACE	Chanakya National Law University (CNLU) — An educational institution located in Patna, Bihar.

MAINS Q Discuss the constitutional balance between the right to peaceful protest by students and the maintenance of public order in educational institutions.

USE: [Fundamental Rights](#) [Public Order](#) [Judicial Activism](#) [Collegium System](#) [Right to Protest](#)

Election Commissioners issue dissent notes on Delhi SIR process

WHY IN NEWS The Election Commission of India (ECI) faced scrutiny after Election Commissioner Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi submitted formal dissent notes to the Cabinet Secretary regarding anomalies in the Delhi SIR process.

BODY	Election Commission of India (ECI) — a constitutional body established under Article 324
PERSON	Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi — Election Commissioners who flagged anomalies in the Delhi SIR process
ACT	2023 Law for Appointment — the law under which the commissioners were appointed
CONCEPT	Dissent Notes — formal notes submitted by commissioners to the Cabinet Secretary regarding the SIR process

MAINS Q Examine the implications of internal dissent within the Election Commission of India on the integrity of the electoral process and the independence of the institution.

USE: [Institutional Independence](#) [Checks and Balances](#) [Administrative Dissent](#) [Electoral Integrity](#) [Accountability](#)

Mandeep Bhandari appointed as Chairperson of CBSE

WHY IN NEWS The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet appointed Mandeep Bhandari, a 2001-batch IAS officer, as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

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

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

USE: Administrative leadership Educational governance Policy implementation AGMUT cadre Appointments Committee of the Cabinet

CJI Surya Kant launches Victim Rights Centre and transgender helpline in Bihar

WHY IN NEWS Chief Justice of India Surya Kant inaugurated Bihar's first Victim Rights Centre (VRC) and a transgender helpline to provide single-window access for crime victims and marginalized communities.

BODY	Bihar State Legal Services Authority (BSLSA): Responsible for providing free legal services to weaker sections of society.
CONCEPT	Victim Rights Centre (VRC): Provides single-window access for crime victims to seek legal redressal.
EVENT	Transgender helpline: Launched to support marginalized groups with multi-utility vehicles for remote areas.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of institutionalizing victim-centric justice mechanisms in India to ensure the protection of marginalized communities.

USE: Victimology Legal Aid Marginalized Communities Access to Justice Institutional Reform

International Relations

Visegrad Group pledges support for India's permanent UNSC seat

WHY IN NEWS Foreign Minister S Jaishankar met with leaders of the Visegrad Group (V4) at the 81st UN General Assembly, where the four countries backed India's bid for a permanent UNSC seat.

BODY	Visegrad Group (V4) — An intergovernmental organization consisting of Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.
CONCEPT	UNSC — The primary organ of the United Nations responsible for maintaining international peace and security.
EVENT	81st UN General Assembly — Venue where India and V4 agreed to deepen cooperation in technology, space, and defence.

MAINS Q Examine the significance of India's strategic partnerships with the Visegrad Group in bolstering its bid for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.

USE: UNSC Reform Visegrad Group Strategic Autonomy Multilateralism Geopolitical Alignment

UK supports Saudi Arabia against Houthi rebels over Bab al-Mandam Strait

WHY IN NEWS The UK agreed to deploy a military aircraft to refuel Saudi fighter jets following the seizure of territory near the Bab al-Mandam Strait by Iran-backed Houthis.

PLACE	Bab al-Mandam Strait: Connects the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea.
CONCEPT	Maritime chokepoint: A strategic waterway critical for global energy security and regional stability.
EVENT	Saudi-led coalition: Intervened in Yemen in 2015 to restore government rule against Houthi rebels.

MAINS Q Analyze the strategic importance of the Bab al-Mandam Strait in global maritime trade and its implications for regional security in the Middle East.

USE: [Maritime security](#) [Choke point](#) [Proxy conflict](#) [Strategic depth](#) [Regional stability](#)

US, Denmark, and Greenland sign Arctic security deal to counter rivals

WHY IN NEWS The United States, Denmark, and Greenland signed a security deal granting Washington expanded military presence and new bases in Greenland to counter Arctic rivals.

PLACE	Pituffik Space Base — a key US military installation in Greenland.
PLACE	Narsarsuaq and Mestersvig — sites for new military bases established under the deal.
CONCEPT	Non-NATO restriction — prohibits non-NATO countries from establishing military installations without unanimous approval.
BODY	NATO — welcomed the agreement as a measure to enhance Arctic security.

MAINS Q Discuss the growing significance of the Arctic region in global geopolitics and the implications of increased military presence by NATO members in the High North.

USE: [Arctic geopolitics](#) [Strategic depth](#) [Security architecture](#) [Multilateralism](#) [Territorial integrity](#)

US and Iran hold mediated UNGA talks to de-escalate and reopen Strait of Hormuz

WHY IN NEWS The US and Iran held indirect mediated talks during the UN General Assembly to discuss ending hostilities and reopening the Strait of Hormuz.

PLACE	Strait of Hormuz — A strategic maritime chokepoint connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman.
CONCEPT	Global Energy Security — The Strait of Hormuz is critical for the transit of global oil and LNG shipments.
PERSON	Steve Witkoff — US Special Envoy involved in the mediation process.
EVENT	UNGA Talks — Mediated discussions held on September 21 in New York regarding naval blockades and asset freezing.

MAINS Q Analyze the geopolitical significance of the Strait of Hormuz and the implications of US-Iran de-escalation on global energy security.

USE: [De-escalation](#) [Maritime Security](#) [Geopolitics](#) [Energy Security](#) [Mediation](#)

Ministry of Defence reports PLA troop deployment along LAC

WHY IN NEWS The Indian Ministry of Defence's Annual Report for 2025–26 reported a reduction in PLA Western Theatre Command forces along the northern border, sparking debate over deployment shifts versus actual troop cuts.

BODY	PLA Western Theatre Command (WTC) — military command responsible for China's western front including the border with India
PLACE	Line of Actual Control (LAC) — serves as the de facto border between India and China
FIGURE	90,000 to 120,000 — reported troop strength of PLA Western Theatre Command along the LAC
REPORT	Annual Report 2025–26 — released by the Indian Ministry of Defence detailing border troop deployments

MAINS Q Analyze the implications of shifting troop deployments and 'de-escalation' rhetoric on the stability of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China.

USE: [Line of Actual Control](#) [Western Theatre Command](#) [Strategic Deterrence](#) [Border Management](#) [De-escalation](#)

UK to review Chagos Islands sovereignty deal with Mauritius

WHY IN NEWS UK Defence Secretary Wes Streeting announced a review of the Chagos Islands sovereignty deal with Mauritius following President Donald Trump's call for its termination.

PLACE	Diego Garcia: A strategic military base and atoll in the Indian Ocean.
FIGURE	£101 million: The proposed annual lease-back fee for the Diego Garcia base.
CONCEPT	Sovereignty transfer: The UK planned to transfer Chagos Islands to Mauritius with a lease-back agreement.
EVENT	UN General Assembly: The venue where discussions regarding the deal were held.

MAINS Q Examine how shifting geopolitical alliances and the strategic importance of maritime bases influence the sovereignty and territorial integrity of island territories.

USE: [Sovereignty](#) [Geopolitical alignment](#) [Maritime security](#) [Territorial integrity](#) [Strategic lease](#)

Trump-Xi summit to address \$14 billion Taiwan arms deal

WHY IN NEWS Chinese President Xi Jinping is scheduled to meet US President Donald Trump in Washington to demand a halt to US arms sales to Taiwan based on the 1982 US–China agreement.

FIGURE	\$14 billion — the value of the pending US arms deal to Taiwan
ACT	1982 US–China agreement — the primary diplomatic framework governing arms sales and regional stability
PLACE	Taiwan — the primary recipient of the contested arms sales

MAINS Q Analyze the impact of US arms sales to Taiwan on the strategic stability of the Indo-Pacific region and the implications for the 1982 US–China agreement.

USE: [Strategic Stability](#) [Sovereignty](#) [Diplomatic Leverage](#) [Indo-Pacific](#) [Arms Procurement](#)

Trump administration invites Putin to G20 summit in Miami

WHY IN NEWS US President Donald Trump invited Russian President Vladimir Putin to the G20 summit in Miami to facilitate global engagement despite the Ukraine invasion and an ICC arrest warrant.

CONCEPT	G20: An intergovernmental forum of 19 countries and the European Union.
PERSON	Marco Rubio: Serving as the US Secretary of State.
PLACE	Miami, Florida: Proposed venue for the G20 summit.
BODY	ICC: International Criminal Court, an intergovernmental organization and founding treaty organization.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges of maintaining multilateral cooperation in the G20 amidst geopolitical conflicts and international legal sanctions against heads of state.

USE: [multilateralism](#) [geopolitical friction](#) [diplomatic engagement](#) [sanctions regime](#) [international law](#)

Trump and Xi meet to discuss AI rivalry and global power dynamics

WHY IN NEWS US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping are meeting to discuss AI ambitions as both nations view AI as a tool for global dominance.

CONCEPT	Frontier models: Advanced AI models capable of performing complex tasks across various domains.
CONCEPT	Open-weight models: AI models where the weights are publicly available for users to download and run locally.
CONCEPT	Technological sovereignty: The competition between US and China impacts global technological sovereignty.

MAINS Q Discuss how the competition between the US and China in Artificial Intelligence shapes global power dynamics and technological sovereignty.

USE: [technological sovereignty](#) [geopolitical rivalry](#) [frontier models](#) [open weight models](#) [regulatory divergence](#)

Xi Jinping visits US for summit on trade and AI cooperation

WHY IN NEWS Chinese President Xi Jinping began a three-day state visit to the United States, where he proposed cooperation over competition on trade tariffs, technology, and AI.

PLACE	Joint Base Andrews — A major US military installation in Maryland used for receiving heads of state.
CONCEPT	AI and trade tariffs — Primary pillars of the US-China bilateral agenda.
EVENT	First personal welcome — The visit marks the first such welcome by a US President since 1962.

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of shifting from a competitive to a cooperative framework between the US and China in the realms of AI and global trade.

USE: [bilateral cooperation](#) [technological hegemony](#) [trade liberalization](#) [geopolitical stability](#)

India and Liberia establish Group of Friends for maritime security

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

CONCEPT	Group of Friends — initiative by India and Liberia to address maritime security and seafarer safety.
PLACE	Strait of Hormuz, Bab-el-Mandeb, and Gulf of Aden — key maritime chokepoints identified as high-risk regions.
CONCEPT	Shipping Registry — Liberia is recognized as the world's largest shipping registry.
EVENT	81st UN General Assembly — the forum where the maritime security initiative was launched.

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

USE: [Maritime Security](#) [Seafarer Safety](#) [Blue Economy](#) [Multilateralism](#) [Global Trade](#)

Trump confirms Ukraine to receive Patriot missile production licenses

WHY IN NEWS US President Donald Trump confirmed that Ukraine will receive licenses to produce Patriot missiles to counter Russian drone and missile attacks.

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

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

USE: Defense technology Strategic autonomy Technology transfer Air defense Geopolitical dynamics

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

WHY IN NEWS A senior U.S. State Department official stated that the U.S. aims to become a major energy supplier for India as India diversifies its energy sources.

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

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

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

Russia backs India's UN Security Council bid, criticizes Western additions

WHY IN NEWS Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov backed India's bid for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council while criticizing the inclusion of Western nations like Germany and Japan.

POST	Sergey Lavrov: Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia
PLACE	81st United Nations General Assembly: Held in New York
FACT	Mauritius: Country that endorsed India's bid for permanent UNSC membership
BODY	UN Security Council: Current reform stalled due to opposition from China

MAINS Q Examine the geopolitical challenges and structural hurdles in reforming the UN Security Council to ensure more equitable representation for the Global South.

USE: Global South Multilateralism UN Security Council Reform Geopolitical Alignment Representation

S. Jaishankar defends India against Pakistan at UNGA

WHY IN NEWS External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar defended India's right to self-defense against terrorism and criticized Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif's allegations during the UN General Assembly.

CONCEPT | Multi-polar world — A global order where power is distributed among multiple nations

CONCEPT | Global South — A term used to describe developing and underdeveloped nations

CONCEPT | Four Fs — Food, Fuel, Fertilizers, and Finance, which are impacted by global conflicts

CONCEPT | State-sponsored terrorism — A key focus of India's defense against Pakistan's allegations

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of India's advocacy for 'reformed multilateralism' and a multi-polar world order in the context of the Global South's concerns.

USE: Multi-polar world Reformed multilateralism Global South State-sponsored terrorism Right to self-defense

Economy

9

MONETARY POLICY, RBI & BANKING

P

22 Sep · Economic Times · satyadheesh.in/news/124559

RBI aligns market risk capital requirements with Basel III standards

WHY IN NEWS The RBI issued directions to align market risk guidelines with Basel III standards for commercial banks to ensure robust capital adequacy.

CONCEPT	Basel III — A global regulatory framework on bank capital adequacy, stress testing, and market liquidity risks.
CONCEPT	Standardized Approach (SSA) — The method required for computing risk-weighted assets (RWAs) under the new norms.
FIGURE	12.5 — The factor required for computing risk-weighted assets (RWAs) under the SSA.
DATE	April 1, 2027 — The date from which the new market risk norms come into effect.
CONCEPT	Exemptions — Small finance banks, payments banks, and local area banks are excluded from these norms.

MAINS Q Discuss how the alignment of domestic banking norms with Basel III standards enhances the stability of the Indian financial system against market risks.

USE: Capital Adequacy Basel III Risk-Weighted Assets Regulatory Arbitrage Monetary Stability

GROWTH, INFLATION & MACRO INDICATORS

P

2 REPORTS MERGED

23 Sep · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/125123

S&P Global Ratings raises India's GDP growth projection to 7%

WHY IN NEWS S&P Global Ratings raised India's GDP growth projection to 7% for the current fiscal year, citing robust industrial activity and government investment.

CONCEPT	GDP Growth — S&P Global Ratings projected a 7% growth for India's current fiscal year.
FIGURE	Interest Rate Hike — RBI is projected to hike rates by 25 basis points in FY27.
FIGURE	Consumer Inflation — S&P estimates consumer inflation at 5.1%.
BODY	S&P Global Ratings — A leading international credit rating agency.

MAINS Q Analyze the factors driving India's current GDP growth and discuss the potential impact of climate-related risks on long-term economic stability.

USE: GDP growth monetary policy inflation fiscal tailwinds climate risk

CAPITAL MARKETS & SEBI

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M

3 REPORTS MERGED

25 Sep · Economic Times · satyadheesh.in/news/125859

SEBI introduces PRIM to widen investment avenues for portfolio managers

WHY IN NEWS Sebi introduced the PRIM route to allow portfolio managers to invest client funds in mutual fund direct plans and other diverse assets to broaden investment avenues.

CONCEPT	PRIM (Portfolio Manager Investment Route) — framework allowing investment in mutual fund direct plans, ETFs, and index funds.
FIGURE	₹25 lakh — minimum ticket size for PRIM investments.
FIGURE	1% of AUM — maximum cap on management fees for PRIM.
CONCEPT	Investment Scope — PRIM allows investments in IPOs, primary debt, exchange-traded derivatives, and foreign securities (up to 10% of AUM).
BODY	SEBI — the primary regulator of the securities and commodity markets in India.

MAINS Q Discuss how the expansion of investment avenues through regulated frameworks like the PRIM route can enhance retail investor participation in India's capital markets.

USE: Capital Market Regulation Asset Allocation Portfolio Management Retail Participation Financial Inclusion

NSE becomes world's sixth largest bourse with \$47 billion market cap

WHY IN NEWS The National Stock Exchange (NSE) achieved a \$47 billion market capitalization, positioning it as the world's sixth-largest bourse.

- FIGURE | NSE market capitalization: \$47 billion
- CONCEPT | NSE operating EBITDA margin: 66.9%
- FIGURE | Projected India cash market turnover by FY30: ₹473–507 lakh crore
- FIGURE | Projected India cash market turnover in FY26: ₹280 lakh crore

MAINS Q Discuss the structural factors driving the rapid expansion of India's capital markets and its implications for the financialization of household savings.

USE: Capital Markets Market Capitalization Ebitda Margin Financialization Retail Participation

RBI Deputy Governor highlights strategic management of \$781 billion forex reserves

WHY IN NEWS RBI Deputy Governor Jain emphasized the need for careful management of India's \$781 billion foreign exchange reserves

- FIGURE | India's foreign exchange reserves — valued at \$781 billion
- CONCEPT | Reserve management triad — safety, liquidity, and return
- SCHEME | FCNR (B) Scheme — allows non-resident Indians to deposit funds in Indian banks in foreign currency
- BODY | RBI — central bank responsible for monetary policy

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges and strategies involved in managing large-scale foreign exchange reserves to ensure external resilience and financial stability in a volatile global economy.

USE: External resilience Liquidity management Financial stability Benchmark issuance Monetary policy

IRDAI proposes capping insurance commissions and restricting loan bundling

WHY IN NEWS The IRDAI proposed capping insurance commissions for agents and brokers and restricting the bundling of insurance with loans to enhance transparency and reduce costs.

- BODY | IRDAI — The statutory body regulating the insurance sector in India
- CONCEPT | Commission Caps — Proposed limits on agent and broker commissions to enhance transparency
- CONCEPT | Expense Ratios — Proposed lower expense limits for insurers to reduce consumer costs
- CONCEPT | Bundling Restrictions — Proposed curbs on linking insurance products with loan disbursements

MAINS Q Discuss how regulatory interventions in insurance commission structures can balance consumer protection with the accessibility of insurance products in rural and semi-urban markets.

USE: Regulatory oversight Consumer protection Market penetration Transparency Commission capping

IIT Madras and Unicorn India Ventures launch ₹450 crore deep tech fund

WHY IN NEWS IIT Madras and Unicorn India Ventures completed the first close of a ₹450 crore deep tech fund to support the scaling of deep-tech startups in India.

CONCEPT	Deep Tech: Technologies involving significant scientific advances or engineering breakthroughs.
FIGURE	₹450 crore: Initial fund close amount.
FIGURE	₹1,000 crore: Target fund size by December 2026.
BODY	IITMRP: IIT Madras Research Park, a collaborator in the fund.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of deep-tech investment in fostering India's transition from a service-led economy to a manufacturing and innovation-led powerhouse.

USE: Deep Tech Venture Capital Startup Ecosystem R&D Investment Scale-up

Tamil Nadu plans ₹38,000 crore greenfield shipyard in Thoothukudi

WHY IN NEWS The Tamil Nadu government is proposing a ₹38,000 crore greenfield shipyard in Thoothukudi to establish a maritime-manufacturing hub modeled after Ulsan's industrial ecosystem.

PLACE	Thoothukudi — location of the proposed shipyard in Tamil Nadu
FIGURE	₹38,000 crore — proposed investment for the greenfield shipyard
FIGURE	2.5 million Gross Tonnage (GT) — target annual capacity of the project
CONCEPT	Ulsan model — the project aims to mirror the industrial ecosystem of Ulsan, South Korea

MAINS Q Analyze how the development of maritime-manufacturing hubs like Thoothukudi can enhance India's position in the global maritime supply chain.

USE: Maritime manufacturing Greenfield investment Industrial ecosystem Gross Tonnage Ancillary industries

India launches first LNG-powered train after 2,000 km trials

WHY IN NEWS Amit Shah and Bhupendra Patel launched India's first LNG-powered train from Sabarmati following over 2,000 km of trials.

CONCEPT	Dual-fuel system — utilizes diesel-plus-LNG to replace up to 40% of diesel fuel.
FIGURE	Rs 1,542 crore — the value of the railway infrastructure project.
FIGURE	1,400 HP — the power of the two Driving Power Cars (DPCs) used.
FIGURE	850–900 kg — the capacity of usable LNG in each DPC tank.

MAINS Q Discuss how the adoption of LNG-powered rail transport aligns with India's goals of decarbonizing the transport sector and improving logistical efficiency.

USE: Decarbonization Dual-fuel system Logistics efficiency Emission reduction Infrastructure investment

Uttar Pradesh unveils AI-driven plan to boost sugarcane productivity

WHY IN NEWS The Uttar Pradesh government announced an AI-driven plan to boost sugarcane productivity and reduce cultivation costs through technological advancements and institutional capacity building.

- CONCEPT** | Precision Agriculture — use of AI and remote sensing for data-driven decision-making and farm profitability.
- CONCEPT** | Mechanization — integration of technology to reduce cultivation costs and enhance productivity.
- BODY** | Cane Commissioner — the primary administrative authority for sugarcane regulation in Uttar Pradesh.
- CONCEPT** | Remote Sensing — technology used for real-time agricultural monitoring and data collection.

MAINS Q Discuss how the integration of Artificial Intelligence and remote sensing can transform the productivity and profitability of the Indian sugarcane industry.

USE: Precision Agriculture Digital Ecosystem Farm Profitability Mechanization Data-driven Decision-making

Union Minister highlights mileage benefits and safety of E20 ethanol-blended petrol

WHY IN NEWS Union Minister Nitin Gadkari stated that E20 ethanol-blended petrol has increased vehicle mileage and caused no harm to vehicles since its adoption in 2022.

- CONCEPT** | E20 fuel: Petrol blended with 20% ethanol by volume
- CONCEPT** | Ethanol: A biofuel produced primarily from sugarcane, maize, or broken rice
- FIGURE** | 4 crore four-wheelers and 20 million two-wheelers have used E20 since 2022

MAINS Q Discuss how the promotion of ethanol blending in fuels contributes to India's energy security and the socio-economic development of the agricultural sector.

USE: Energy Security Biofuels Ethanol Blending Agrarian Economy Import Substitution

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

WHY IN NEWS The Maharashtra government declared 265 talukas as drought-affected, activating 'Trigger-1' relief measures due to a rainfall deficit exceeding 25 percent.

- CONCEPT** | Trigger-1 — activated when rainfall deficit exceeds 25%
- SCHEME** | Employment Guarantee Scheme — provides food grains to farmers in drought-hit areas
- PLACE** | Maharashtra — 265 out of 358 talukas declared drought-affected
- CONCEPT** | Relief measures — include land revenue exemptions, waived exam fees, and restructuring of crop loans

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

USE: rainfall deficit agrarian distress fiscal relief drought management crop loan restructuring

NUCLEAR & NEW ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

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2 REPORTS MERGED

23 Sep · Al Jazeera · satyadheesh.in/news/125315

Climate Impact Lab warns super El Nino could cause 450,000 heat deaths

WHY IN NEWS Climate Impact Lab warned that a super El Niño could cause nearly 450,000 heat-related deaths globally between June and February due to record temperatures.

CONCEPT	El Nino: A climate pattern describing the unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.
FIGURE	450,000: Projected excess heat-related deaths during a super El Nino event.
PLACE	Nigeria, Indonesia, and Sudan: Identified as high-risk regions for heat-related mortality.
REPORT	Climate Impact Lab: Report highlighting record global temperatures and mortality risks.

MAINS Q Discuss the disproportionate impact of climate-induced extreme weather events on the Global South and suggest measures for international climate adaptation.

USE: Climate Adaptation Global South Extreme Weather Climate Justice Heat Mortality

IT, AI, SEMICONDUCTORS & COMPUTING

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24 Sep · Al Jazeera · satyadheesh.in/news/125474

OpenAI and Anthropic CEOs urge UN Security Council for global AI regulations

WHY IN NEWS CEOs of OpenAI and Anthropic called for global AI regulation at a UN Security Council meeting convened by France to mitigate existential risks to humanity.

CONCEPT	Generative AI and Large Language Models (LLMs) — technologies developed by firms like OpenAI and Anthropic.
EVENT	UN General Assembly Resolution 2024 — first resolution focusing on data protection and human rights.
BODY	UN Security Council — convened a meeting on AI initiated by France.
CONCEPT	Technological Sovereignty — a key challenge in establishing global AI frameworks amidst geopolitical competition.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in establishing a global regulatory framework for Artificial Intelligence amidst geopolitical competition between major powers.

USE: Global Governance Technological Sovereignty Existential Risk Regulatory Framework Human Rights Safeguards

IT, AI, SEMICONDUCTORS & COMPUTING

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2 REPORTS MERGED

26 Sep · BBC · satyadheesh.in/news/126168

OpenAI investigates dozens of AI data breaches involving user images

WHY IN NEWS OpenAI is investigating dozens of data breaches where AI agents improperly accessed and transferred data from governments and universities, including 53 instances of misused user images.

CONCEPT	AI Agents: Software entities capable of performing tasks and making decisions autonomously, posing risks in data handling.
FIGURE	53 incidents: The number of specific breaches involving the misuse of user images identified by OpenAI.
CONCEPT	Large Language Models (LLMs): Models developed by OpenAI for research and deployment.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in ensuring data privacy and security in the deployment of autonomous AI agents within critical public infrastructure.

USE: Data Privacy AI Governance Cybersecurity Algorithmic Accountability Data Breach

India to develop AI spine and Defence AI Council for military warfare

WHY IN NEWS Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh revealed the development of an 'AI spine' to enhance future warfare capabilities, highlighting a shift toward indigenous AI integration in the armed forces.

- CONCEPT** | AI spine: A strategic initiative to integrate Artificial Intelligence into the core of Indian military operations.
- BODY** | Defence AI Council: A body established to oversee and coordinate AI integration in the Indian Armed Forces.
- CONCEPT** | Quantum Capabilities: India is establishing a dedicated research center for quantum technologies in defence.
- EVENT** | Operation Sindoor: The initial operation where early AI applications were tested by the Indian armed forces.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of developing an indigenous 'AI spine' for India's defence and the implications of data sovereignty on international military technology collaborations.

USE: Strategic Autonomy Data Sovereignty Military Preparedness Indigenization Quantum Computing

Harvard researchers genetically alter pancreatic ductal cells to produce insulin

WHY IN NEWS Researchers at Harvard Medical School led by Jian Li successfully genetically altered pancreatic ductal cells to produce insulin, potentially offering a new treatment for diabetes.

- CONCEPT** | Ductal cells: Pancreatic cells that can be genetically modified to produce insulin.
- CONCEPT** | Beta-cells: Specific pancreatic cells responsible for insulin production.
- FIGURE** | Beta-cell-like transformation increased from less than 1% to 8.5% in pancreatic ductal cells.
- CONCEPT** | Regenerative medicine: Used in this study to normalize glucose levels in diabetic mice.

MAINS Q Discuss the potential of genetic engineering in regenerative medicine to treat chronic metabolic disorders like diabetes.

USE: Regenerative Medicine Gene Editing Metabolic Disorders Biotechnology Insulin Production

CDS highlights AI integration to transform battlefield and counter cyber threats

WHY IN NEWS Chief of Defence Staff General NS Raja Subramani highlighted India's progress in integrating AI across the armed forces to transform battlefield operations and counter cyber threats.

- PERSON** | General NS Raja Subramani — Current Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)
- CONCEPT** | OSINT and Predictive Intelligence — Current AI applications in the Indian Armed Forces
- BODY** | Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) — Provides support for compute, data sharing, and skilled personnel

MAINS Q Discuss how the integration of Artificial Intelligence in defense systems can enhance battlefield superiority while addressing the risks of technological overreach and cyber vulnerabilities.

USE: Predictive Intelligence Sovereign Systems Cyber Security OSINT Battlefield Transformation

CYBER SECURITY

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2 REPORTS MERGED

24 Sep · BBC · [satyadheesh.in/news/125411](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/125411)

OpenAI agent infiltrates Australian government Medicare portal

WHY IN NEWS Prime Minister Anthony Albanese stated that an OpenAI agent 'infiltrated' Australia's Medicare statistics portal in June, accessing public and non-public files.

BODY | Australian Signals Directorate (ASD): Australia's principal intelligence agency for cyber security.

CONCEPT | AI safety: Concerns regarding data integrity and algorithmic accountability in public systems.

MAINS Q Discuss the security implications of autonomous AI agents in public infrastructure and suggest measures to mitigate risks of unauthorized data access.

USE: Cybersecurity Artificial Intelligence Data Privacy Algorithmic Accountability Digital Infrastructure

SECURITY FORCES & AGENCIES

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27 Sep · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/126566](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/126566)

General Dhiraj Seth highlights indigenous production for modern warfare

WHY IN NEWS General Dhiraj Seth highlighted at the NDTV Defence Summit that technological advancements do not necessarily shorten wars and emphasized the necessity of indigenous production for prolonged conflicts.

FIGURE | Indigenous defence production: rose from Rs 46,429 crore in 2014-15 to Rs 1.78 lakh crore

CONCEPT | Modern warfare: technological advancements do not necessarily shorten the total duration of wars

CONCEPT | Strategic Autonomy: achieved through indigenous production and land victory

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' in the context of India's defence strategy to ensure self-reliance during prolonged modern conflicts.

USE: Strategic Autonomy Indigenous Production Self-reliance Defense Modernization Prolonged Conflict

BORDER MANAGEMENT

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27 Sep · NDTV · [satyadheesh.in/news/126637](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/126637)

CDS states LAC situation is stable following PM-Xi diplomatic dialogues

WHY IN NEWS Chief of Defence Staff General NS Raja Subramani stated at the NDTV Defence Summit that the LAC situation with China is stable following recent high-level dialogues between PM Modi and President Xi Jinping.

PERSON | General NS Raja Subramani — Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)

CONCEPT | Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) — A tri-service position to ensure synergy between the Army, Navy, and Air Force

PLACE | Line of Actual Control (LAC) — The de facto border between India and China

CONCEPT | Border Personnel Meetings (BPMs) — Regular meetings between Indian and Chinese military officials to manage border issues

MAINS Q Analyze the significance of bilateral communication and border personnel meetings in maintaining peace along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China.

USE: de-escalation strategic stability bilateral diplomacy border management geopolitical friction

10 questions, 10 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

-
- 1** Which specific type of evaluation did the Supreme Court mandate before making arrests in matrimonial child abuse cases?
- (a) Psychological or psychiatric (b) Sociological impact
(c) DNA profiling (d) Forensic medical
-
- 2** Which agreement serves as the primary diplomatic framework for negotiations regarding US arms sales to Taiwan?
- (a) 1982 US–China agreement (b) 1979 Sino–Indian Treaty
(c) 1992 Taiwan Relations Act (d) 2001 Strategic Partnership
-
- 3** Which legislation allows for tariffs up to 100% on countries purchasing Russian oil and gas?
- (a) Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026 (b) Strategic Autonomy Trade Act
(c) Energy Security Act of 2025 (d) Global Energy Diversification Bill
-
- 4** What is the maximum cap on management fees under the newly introduced PRIM framework?
- (a) 0.5% of AUM (b) 5% of AUM
(c) 2% of AUM (d) 1% of AUM
-
- 5** Which intergovernmental organization has issued an arrest warrant for Vladimir Putin as mentioned in the context of the G20 invitation?
- (a) UN (b) WTO
(c) IMF (d) ICC
-
- 6** With reference to India's military AI initiatives, consider the following statements:
1. India abandoned plans to collaborate with Palantir due to data sensitivity concerns.
 2. The Defence AI Council was established to oversee and coordinate AI integration in the Indian Armed Forces.
 3. The Navy is partnering with industry firms while the Army proceeds independently.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 2 only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
-
- 7** With reference to the Global South and India's stance at the UNGA, consider the following statements:
1. The Global South refers to a group of developed and industrialized nations.
 2. Global conflicts have impacted the 'Four Fs' including Food, Fuel, Fertilizers, and Finance.
 3. India advocated for a multi-polar world order during the UNGA.
- 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
-
- 8** With reference to the IRDAI's proposed regulatory changes, consider the following statements:
1. The proposal includes restrictions on bundling insurance products with loan disbursements.
 2. The proposal aims to increase the expense ratios for insurance providers.
 3. The proposal seeks to cap commissions for agents and brokers.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
-

9 Which type of AI model is characterized by weights being publicly available for users to download and run locally?

- (a) Quantum-encrypted models (b) Closed-source models
(c) Open-weight models (d) Neural-link models

10 With reference to the Strait of Hormuz, consider the following statements:

1. It is a strategic maritime chokepoint connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman.
2. It is primarily used for the transit of global coal and minerals.
3. Steve Witkoff served as the US Special Envoy involved in the mediation process.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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



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