

**Current Affairs • 28 September 2026****19 min**
READING TIME**8**
KEY STORIES**24**
IN BRIEF**5 + 1**
MCQS + MAINSGS1 • 2 GS2 • 17
GS3 • 30
PAPER MIX

01 – TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip

- 1 Supreme Court Collegium recommends three High Court Chiefs for elevation**
Why it matters: Judicial appointments and the Collegium system: a core GS2 topic on the separation of powers.
GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION P
- 2 HLCDC seeks 15-year religion-wise data from states**
Why it matters: Data privacy and secularism: a GS2 case study on the constitutionality of state-led demographic tracking.
GS2 • SOCIAL JUSTICE M
- 3 Supreme Court questions legality of minors holding social media accounts**
Why it matters: Contract law and child protection: a GS2 case study on legal competence and digital safeguards.
GS2 • SOCIAL JUSTICE P M
- 4 Home Minister unveils PRAHAAR strategy to dismantle Shahzad Bhatti network**
Why it matters: Counter-terrorism and internal security: a GS3 case study on multi-agency coordination and UAPA.
GS3 • INTERNAL SECURITY P M
- 5 ISRO and CNES are preparing to launch TRISHNA from Sriharikota in 2027**
Why it matters: ISRO and CNES are collaborating to launch the TRISHNA satellite from Sriharikota in 2027 to map water resources and monitor the global water cycle.
GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P

NUMBER OF THE DAY

50 million

number of Indian schoolchildren without sanitation services as of 2025.

CONNECT TO STATIC

UAPAUnlawful Activities (Prevention) Act provides the legal framework for designating and prosecuting terrorist organizations. *In the news: Home Minister unveils PRAHAAR strategy to dismantle Shahzad Bhatti network.*

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 49 notes · picked for exam value

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

Supreme Court Collegium recommends three High Court Chiefs for elevation

Why in news: The Supreme Court Collegium recommended the elevation of three High Court Chief Justices to the Supreme Court, initiating the formal appointment process.

REMEMBER

- Collegium system — the mechanism used by the Supreme Court to recommend names for judgeships
- Collegium — comprises the Chief Justice of India and four other senior-most judges
- Justice Sunita Agarwal — Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court

MAINS ANGLE Critically analyze the Collegium system of judicial appointments in India, discussing its role in maintaining judicial independence and the need for transparency.

USE: Judicial Independence Collegium System

Judicial Appointments Separation of Powers

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/127339

GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE

P

M

Supreme Court questions legality of minors holding social media accounts

Why in news: The Supreme Court questioned the legality of minors holding social media accounts, noting that minors are legally incompetent to enter contracts, and directed platforms to adopt an 18-year age threshold.

REMEMBER

- Void ab initio: Contracts entered by minors are legally void from the beginning.
- Legal incompetence: Minors are legally incompetent to enter into binding contracts in India.
- Supreme Court of India: Directed social media platforms to implement age thresholds.

MAINS ANGLE Examine the legal and ethical challenges in regulating social media access for minors in India given the current contractual incompetence of minors.

USE: void ab initio digital safeguards legal incompetence

minor protection

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/127323

GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE

M

HLCDC seeks 15-year religion-wise data from states

Why in news: The High-Level Committee on Demographic Changes (HLCDC) requested 15-year religion-wise data from states, sparking a conflict over constitutional prohibitions on such data collection.

REMEMBER

- HLCDC: High-Level Committee on Demographic Changes formed by the Ministry of Home Affairs
- Data Scope: Includes birth/vehicle registrations, school enrolments, property transactions, and ST religious conversions
- Jammu and Maharashtra: States visited or scheduled for visit by the committee

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the constitutional and legal challenges associated with the collection of religion-based demographic data in India.

USE: Demographic Change Constitutional Prohibitions

Data Privacy Scheduled Tribes

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/127345

GS3 · INTERNAL SECURITY

P

M

Home Minister unveils PRAHAAR strategy to dismantle Shahzad Bhatti network

Why in news: Home Minister Amit Shah announced the busting of 40 modules linked to the Shahzad Bhatti network and the unveiling of the PRAHAAR strategy for counter-terrorism.

REMEMBER

- UAPA: Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act provides the legal framework for designating and prosecuting terrorist organizations.
- PRAHAAR: A strategy highlighting a shift toward multi-agency coordination in counter-terrorism.
- Extradition Portal: A new government initiative launched to expedite the return of fugitives from foreign countries.

MAINS ANGLE Examine the effectiveness of the UAPA and inter-agency coordination in dismantling complex terror networks in India.

USE: Counter-terrorism UAPA Inter-agency coordination

Extradition

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/127298

ISRO and CNES are preparing to launch TRISHNA from Sriharikota in 2027

Why in news: ISRO and CNES are collaborating to launch the TRISHNA satellite from Sriharikota in 2027 to map water resources and monitor the global water cycle.

REMEMBER

- TRISHNA: Thermal infraRed Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural resource Assessment
- TRISHNA will operate in a Sun-synchronous orbit more than 700 kilometres above Earth
- TRISHNA aims to deliver a resolution better than 60 metres

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how space-based remote sensing technologies like TRISHNA can mitigate the challenges of water scarcity and climate change in India.

USE: Remote Sensing Sun-synchronous orbit
Thermal Infrared Water Scarcity

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/127237

HAL Excluded: Defence Ministry Picks Private Firms for AMCA Prototypes

Why in news: Defence Minister RK Singh stated that Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) was excluded from building prototypes for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) on technical grounds

REMEMBER

- AMCA: Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft project for indigenous fighter jet development
- First flight of the AMCA prototype is expected in September 2028
- RK Singh: Minister of Defence (as of September 2026)

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of involving private sector players in the manufacturing of high-tech indigenous defence equipment like the AMCA.

USE: indigenous manufacturing AMCA
private-public partnership defence procurement

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/127190

WHO/UNICEF report finds 50 million Indian schoolchildren lack sanitation

Why in news: A WHO/UNICEF report released on September 23, 2026, highlighted that India had 50 million schoolchildren without sanitation services in 2025.

REMEMBER

- WHO/UNICEF Report (Sept 2026) — states India has the highest number of schoolchildren without sanitation globally.
- Swachh Bharat Mission — launched in 2014 to improve sanitation and hygiene.
- 50 million — number of Indian schoolchildren without sanitation services as of 2025.

MAINS ANGLE Examine the persistent rural-urban divide in sanitation and hygiene infrastructure in Indian schools despite the progress achieved under the Swachh Bharat Mission.

USE: Rural-urban divide Sanitation infrastructure
Public health Swachh Bharat Mission

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/127213

Supreme Court Rejects Plea to Halt 0.4% UPI Charge on Big Transactions

Why in news: The Supreme Court rejected a plea by petitioner Anjan Datta seeking an interim stay on the government's decision to levy a 0.4% charge on UPI person-to-merchant transactions exceeding ₹2,000.

REMEMBER

- UPI charge of 0.4% applies to person-to-merchant transactions over ₹2,000
- Implementation date for the new UPI charge is October 15, 2026
- RBI (Reserve Bank of India) is involved in the regulatory oversight of the UPI transaction charges

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the potential impact of transaction-based charges on UPI on the formalization of the economy and the risk of a return to cash-based transactions.

USE: Digital Public Infrastructure Formalization of Economy
Transaction Costs Cashless Economy

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/127109

Everything else, one line each

GS1 · HISTORY · SOCIETY · GEOGRAPHY

Bay of Bengal depression: Deep depression hit eastern coast on September 23, causing rainfall in Odisha to reach 457.9% above normal.

El Niño to Persist Until April 2027, Threatening India's Monsoon and Fisheries

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Patented medicines: Kerala High Court ruled central government can authorize production of patented drugs at non-commercial rates for needy patients.

SRIA sanctions: India's Foreign Secretary discussed the impact of the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctions against Russia and Iran Act on energy imports.

Gold ring scheme: Tamil Nadu provides one-gram gold rings to newborns in government hospitals to promote social harmony.

Commanders' Conference: Indian Navy to review operational preparedness and West Asian energy shipment protection starting September 29.

Special Enrichment: A ₹5 crore initiative to provide targeted educational support to 445 schools in isolated and marginalized areas.

Voter registration: ECI faces a backlog of 8,14,160 pending applications, with over 6 lakh stuck for more than 45 days.

Medical diplomacy: India sent 3 tonnes of anti-tuberculosis medicines and a grant of SLR 600 million to Sri Lanka.

Anti-defection: MLA Danam Nagender disqualified for contesting as a Congress candidate while holding a BRS seat.

MAHSR project: The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail receives financial and technical support from Japan.

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

Zorawar light tank: Government to fast-track an initial batch of 18 Zorawar light tanks to counter China's Type-15 tanks along the LAC.

Rafale acquisition: India is negotiating a ₹3.25 lakh crore deal for 114 Rafale jets to address squadron shortages.

Telecom regulations: TRAI mandates proportional tariff reductions for voice and SMS-only plans to lower consumer costs.

Suo motu cognizance: Supreme Court initiated action on Delhi gang-rape cases to address systemic law enforcement and safety failures.

Rupee depreciation: RBI intervention to stabilize the Rupee against a strong Dollar led to a \$14.8 billion reduction in reserves.

Starship orbit: SpaceX's Starship successfully completed six orbits at 275km altitude and carried 26 Starlink satellites.

Chouhan urges states to prioritize water budgeting amid El Niño's impact on crops

OpenAI reveals nine rogue AI incidents, including data breaches and online postings

Industrial fire safety: Telangana proposes G1, G2, and G3 risk categories for industrial Fire NOCs to streamline safety and monitoring.

Winter pollution plan: Delhi to implement a ban on non-BS-VI vehicles and construction restrictions starting in late 2026.

India's Petroleum Minister: Fuel Reserves Can Last 80 Days

Digital Safety Hazard Detection: Karnataka High Court mandated vehicle-mounted cameras to identify and report hazards like open manholes.

UP Floods: Deep Depression merged with Western Disturbance causing 56 deaths and 46 injuries in Uttar Pradesh.

MAP WORK

Places in news

Jammu and Maharashtra States visited or scheduled for visit by the committee

Line of Actual Control (LAC) The specific area where Zorawar tanks are intended for use.

Kerala High Court Judicial body that ruled on affordable access to life-saving drugs like Ribociclib.

Government Rajaji Hospital The location in Madurai where the scheme was launched.

Bay of Bengal A marginal sea of the Indian Ocean prone to tropical cyclones and depressions

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

- 1 Which of the following describes the current composition of the Supreme Court Collegium?
 - (a) Chief Justice of India and two other senior-most judges
 - (b) Chief Justice of India and six other senior-most judges
 - (c) Chief Justice of India and four other senior-most judges
 - (d) Chief Justice of India and three other senior-most judges
- 2 Which ministry formed the High-Level Committee on Demographic Changes (HLCDC)?
 - (a) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (b) Ministry of Rural Development
 - (c) Ministry of Finance
 - (d) Ministry of and Education
- 3 What is the legal status of a contract entered into by a minor in India?
 - (a) Valid and binding
 - (b) Void ab initio
 - (c) Voidable at option
 - (d) Ultra vires
- 4 With reference to the government's counter-terrorism actions against the Shahzad Bhatti network, consider the following statements:
 1. The operation resulted in over 100 FIRs across 15 Indian states.
 2. The PRAHAAR strategy emphasizes multi-agency coordination in counter-terrorism.
 3. The network was declared a terrorist organization under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.
 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
- 5 Which mission was launched in 2014 to improve sanitation and hygiene in India?
 - (a) Swachh Bharat Mission
 - (b) Jal Jeevan Mission
 - (c) PM-SHRI
 - (d) Ayushman Bharat

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Critically analyze the Collegium system of judicial appointments in India, discussing its role in maintaining judicial independence and the need for transparency.

USE : Judicial Independence Collegium System Judicial Appointments Separation of Powers Transparency

ANSWERS · 1 (c) 2 (a) 3 (b) 4 (b) 5 (a)



TELEGRAM



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