

**SATYADHEESH**
सत्याधीश

UPSC DAILY DETAILED NOTES

Current Affairs • 7 October 2026**59**

NOTES

8

STORIES MERGED

10

MCQS

GS1 • 1

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PAPER MIX

CONTENTS**Every note, grouped by paper**

GS1 History • Society • Geography	1 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

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL INDIA

M

7 Oct · The Hindu · [satyadheesh.in/news/132065](https://www.satyadheesh.in/news/132065)

Manipur CM cites historical hill outreach to promote peace

WHY IN NEWS Manipur CM Yumnam Khemchand Singh cited the historical hill outreach of medieval Manipuri kings to advocate for peace amidst the ongoing ethnic conflict since May 2023.

PLACE	Imphal Valley: The central valley of Manipur where the Meitei community predominantly resides.
PERSON	Rajarshi Bhagyachandra: Grandson of King Pamheiba who introduced Hinduism as the State religion of Manipur.
CONCEPT	Manipur's geography: Approximately 90% of the state comprises hills.
FIGURE	Conflict statistics: Over 300 deaths and 60,000 displaced since May 3, 2023.

MAINS Q Discuss how historical socio-cultural ties and geographical landscapes influence contemporary ethnic conflicts and peace-building efforts in Northeast India.

USE: Ethnic Conflict Geographical Determinism Socio-cultural Ties Peace-building Historical Precedent

Polity & Constitution

2

ELECTIONS, ECI & ELECTORAL REFORMS

P

2 REPORTS MERGED

7 Oct · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/132273

West Bengal CEO seeks clarity on 38.31 lakh voters with stuck tribunal cases

WHY IN NEWS The West Bengal Chief Electoral Officer sought clarity from the ECI on whether 38.31 lakh voters with pending appellate tribunal cases qualify for a fresh re-enrolment drive.

CONCEPT	Form 6: Used for the enrolment of eligible voters
BODY	Election Commission of India (ECI): Directed CEOs to enrol eligible voters left out during Special Intensive Revision
FIGURE	38.31 lakh: Number of voters in West Bengal with cases stuck in State's Appellate Tribunals
FIGURE	1.26 lakh: Number of appeals cleared out of 38.31 lakh in West Bengal
CONCEPT	Special Intensive Revision (SIR): Process to identify and enrol eligible voters

MAINS Q Examine the challenges in ensuring universal and inclusive voter registration in India, particularly regarding judicial delays in electoral disputes.

USE: Universal Suffrage Voter Enrolment Appellate Tribunal Special Intensive Revision Election Commission of India

ELECTIONS, ECI & ELECTORAL REFORMS

P

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7 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/132248

Election Commission begins special enrolment drive across 20 states

WHY IN NEWS The Election Commission initiated a special enrolment drive across 20 states and Union Territories following the completion of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) amidst transparency protests by the INDIA bloc.

CONCEPT	Special Intensive Revision (SIR) — a process completed prior to the special enrolment drive.
PLACE	West Bengal — state where the Chief Electoral Officer published the ASDD list.
FIGURE	Goa — 81 out of 97 identified voters submitted applications during the drive.

MAINS Q Examine the measures taken by the Election Commission to ensure transparency and inclusivity in the electoral roll revision process.

USE: Electoral Integrity Transparency Voter Enrolment Special Intensive Revision Democratic Accountability

Social Justice

9

HEALTH POLICY & PUBLIC HEALTH

P

7 Oct · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/news/132369

Karnataka's Asha Kirana initiative performs over 2.5 lakh cataract surgeries

WHY IN NEWS The State Government of Karnataka, in collaboration with WHO and OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation, reported the successful completion of over 2.5 lakh cataract surgeries under the Asha Kirana initiative since 2022.

SCHEME	Asha Kirana — initiative providing cataract surgeries, vision screenings, and free spectacles in Karnataka
CONCEPT	Drishti Kendras — 393 institutionalized centers across eight districts for eye care
BODY	WHO and OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation — collaborating partners in the initiative
FIGURE	4.5 lakh — number of free spectacles provided under the initiative

MAINS Q Examine the role of public-private partnerships in improving healthcare accessibility for rural populations in India. Illustrate with the Asha Kirana initiative.

USE: Public-Private Partnership Healthcare Accessibility Vision Screening Institutionalized Healthcare Rural Health Infrastructure

Bombay High Court orders Maharashtra to restore student trust regarding MPSC recruitment

WHY IN NEWS The Bombay High Court ordered the Maharashtra government to restore student trust in MPSC recruitment following allegations of leaked examination papers.

FACTS	A Division Bench of the Bombay High Court, comprising Chief Justice Mahesh Chandra Tripathi and Justice Advait Sethna, issued the order on October 7, 2026. The state government accepted demands for ₹100 fees and in-person examinations while seeking the resignation of the MPSC Chairperson.
FACT	₹100: Fee amount accepted by the Maharashtra government for MPSC recruitment

MAINS Q Examine the institutional safeguards required to ensure the integrity of state-level public service examinations and prevent the leakage of confidential papers.

USE: Institutional Integrity Transparency Public Trust Judicial Oversight Administrative Accountability

Finance Ministry mandates SC beneficiary data reporting for credit schemes

WHY IN NEWS The Finance Ministry and Department of Financial Services directed SLBCs and UTLBCs to mandatorily collect and report data on Scheduled Caste beneficiaries for credit schemes like Mudra Yojana and Stand Up India.

CONCEPT	SLBCs: State Level Bankers' Committees responsible for coordinating banking activities at the state level
BODY	National Commission for Scheduled Castes: Constitutional body overseeing the safeguards of SCs
SCHEME	Mudra Yojana and Stand Up India: Credit schemes requiring mandatory SC beneficiary data reporting

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of data-driven monitoring in ensuring the equitable distribution of credit to marginalized communities under the framework of social justice.

USE: Inclusive Finance Data Transparency Social Justice Credit Accessibility Institutional Oversight

Kerala govt forms 16-member task force for Holistic Model for Health

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala government's Health and Family Welfare department established a 16-member task force to develop a 'Kerala Holistic Model for Health, Wellness and Longevity'.

BODY	Health and Family Welfare department: State department responsible for the task force
CONCEPT	Kerala Holistic Model for Health, Wellness and Longevity: The model being developed by the task force
FIGURE	16 members: The total number of members in the task force

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of adopting a 'holistic model' in public health systems to address the challenges of aging populations and chronic lifestyle diseases in India.

USE: Holistic Health Public Health Policy Wellness Model Longevity Preventive Healthcare

CJI Surya Kant issues notice over systemic accessibility failures for 7 million disabled passengers

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court issued a notice to the Ministry of Civil Aviation and other bodies over a petition alleging systemic accessibility failures for over seven million passengers with disabilities annually.

BODY	DGCA: Directorate General of Civil Aviation
BODY	CISF: Central Industrial Security Force
FACT	The petition alleges accessibility failures affecting over seven million passengers with disabilities annually
POST	Surya Kant: Chief Justice of India (as of October 2026)

MAINS Q Critically analyze the systemic barriers faced by persons with disabilities in public infrastructure and suggest measures to ensure inclusive aviation and transport systems.

USE: Universal Design Inclusive Infrastructure Right to Accessibility Systemic Barriers Public Policy

Karnataka High Court replaces visitation with parenting time in child custody

WHY IN NEWS The Karnataka High Court directed family and G&WC courts to replace the term 'visitation' with 'parenting time' in child custody cases to ensure a more humane approach toward parental rights.

CONCEPT	Parenting time — the term replacing visitation in child custody cases to reflect a child-centric approach
PERSON	Justice Lalitha Kanneganti — Presiding judge of the Karnataka High Court who issued the directive
DATE	07 October 2026 — The date from which the order becomes effective

MAINS Q Discuss how the shift from 'visitation' to 'parenting time' in judicial terminology reflects a move towards a child-centric approach in family law.

USE: Child-centric approach Best interests of the child Judicial terminology Parental rights Family law reform

Andhra Pradesh Cabinet approves hospital upgrade and 2026 private university policy

WHY IN NEWS The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet, chaired by N. Chandrababu Naidu, approved amendments to the Andhra Pradesh Education Act, 1982, and a new 2026 policy for foreign and private university campuses.

ACT	Andhra Pradesh Education Act, 1982 — primary legislation being amended for university policy.
FIGURE	₹58.42 crore — budget for upgrading Repalle Community Health Centre into a 100-bed hospital.
FIGURE	₹20.62 crore — budget for the APHIMS project with a 72-month duration.
CONCEPT	Gratuity provision — approved for ASHA workers as part of the cabinet decisions.

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of state-led policies on private and foreign university campuses in promoting higher education and regional development in India.

USE: Regulatory framework Public-private partnership Healthcare infrastructure Social security Educational policy

NSO survey finds women twice as likely as men to use public transport

WHY IN NEWS The National Statistics Office (NSO) released the National Household Travel Survey showing women are twice as likely as men to use public transport, highlighting gendered mobility patterns.

BODY	NSO: National Statistics Office operates under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
REPORT	National Household Travel Survey: Shows women are twice as likely as men to use public transport
FIGURE	88.7% of rural women in Madhya Pradesh walked during the survey period

MAINS Q Analyze the socio-economic factors influencing gendered mobility patterns in India and suggest measures to enhance safe and accessible public transport for women.

USE: gendered mobility last-mile connectivity socio-economic disparity public infrastructure urban-rural divide

Maharashtra Cabinet approves increased allowances for ST and SC students

WHY IN NEWS The Maharashtra Cabinet approved increased allowances for Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste students under the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Swayam Yojana and Bharat Ratna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Swadhar Yojana.

SCHEME	Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Swayam Yojana — Maharashtra state scheme providing allowances for ST and SC students
SCHEME	Bharat Ratna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Swadhar Yojana — Maharashtra state scheme providing allowances for ST and SC students
DATE	October 6, 2026 — Date the Maharashtra Cabinet approved the allowance hike

MAINS Q *Examine how targeted financial assistance schemes for marginalized communities contribute to achieving educational equity and social mobility in India.*

USE: Educational Equity Social Mobility Targeted Intervention Marginalized Communities Inclusive Growth

International Relations

10

Hamas and Palestinian groups kill over 1,200 in Israel and take 251 hostages

WHY IN NEWS The ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas/Palestinian groups is being contextualized through the historical and religious narrative of the 'Promised Land' and the 1917 Balfour Declaration.

CONCEPT	Balfour Declaration — 1917 declaration providing historical context to the conflict.
CONCEPT	Promised Land — religious and historical narrative central to the conflict.
PLACE	Canaan — ancient name for the region encompassing parts of present-day Israel and Palestinian territories.
CONCEPT	Partition Plan — 1947 UN proposal to partition the land.
PERSON	David Ben-Gurion — declared the State of Israel in 1948.

MAINS Q *Analyze how historical narratives and religious claims over the 'Promised Land' complicate modern diplomatic efforts to resolve the Israel-Palestine conflict.*

USE: Balfour Declaration Nakba Promised Land Partition Plan Geopolitical Conflict

India proposes three-part ceasefire plan to Ukraine during S Jaishankar's Kyiv visit

WHY IN NEWS India proposed a three-part ceasefire plan to Ukraine during External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's visit to Kyiv to mediate the ongoing conflict with Russia.

CONCEPT	Three-part ceasefire plan: halting attacks on energy infrastructure, ensuring grain/energy flow through Black Sea ports, and ending strikes on commercial shipping.
PLACE	Black Sea: The strategic waterway central to the grain and energy flow discussions.
CONCEPT	Comparative proposals: Ukraine received ceasefire initiatives from India, Turkey, Egypt, and the United States.

MAINS Q *Analyze India's evolving role as a mediator in the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the strategic significance of its 'comprehensive' ceasefire proposal.*

USE: Strategic Autonomy Mediation Black Sea Security Energy Diplomacy Multilateralism

Jaishankar meets Ghana leaders to discuss trade, defense and African Union engagement

WHY IN NEWS External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Ghanaian leaders to discuss trade, defense, and deepening engagement with the African Union and ECOWAS.

CONCEPT	South-South Cooperation: Framework for deepening engagement with African Union and ECOWAS.
BODY	ICAR: Indian Council of Agricultural Research
BODY	CSIR-Crops Research Institute: Involved in MoU exchange with Ghana
BODY	Zoological Survey of India: Signed MoU with University of Ghana

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of India's deepening engagement with the African Union and ECOWAS in the context of its 'Global South' leadership aspirations.

USE: South-South Cooperation Strategic Autonomy Trade Diversification Multilateralism Global South

Karnataka challenges Cauvery water-sharing award in Supreme Court

WHY IN NEWS The State of Karnataka filed a 40-page reply in the Supreme Court challenging the Cauvery water-sharing award, arguing that current allocations are inequitable during the 2026-27 distress year.

PLACE	Cauvery River — River shared between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu
FIGURE	740 tmc ft — Annual flow of the Cauvery River
FIGURE	284.75 tmc ft — Current annual allocation for Karnataka
FIGURE	404.25 tmc ft — Current annual allocation for Tamil Nadu

MAINS Q Discuss the legal and ecological complexities of inter-state water sharing in India, focusing on the challenges of adjusting historical awards to accommodate changing climatic conditions.

USE: Inter-state water dispute Equitable distribution Hydrological distress Judicial intervention Resource federalism

IMO reports record 12 tanker attacks in Strait of Hormuz

WHY IN NEWS The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) reported a record 12 attacks on tankers in the Strait of Hormuz between September 28 and October 5, 2026, sparking concerns over maritime security in the region.

BODY	International Maritime Organisation (IMO): Reported the record number of tanker attacks.
PLACE	Strait of Hormuz: The location where 12 tanker attacks were recorded.
FIGURE	12 crew members: Number of people injured on the Panama-flagged tanker 'On Peace'.

MAINS Q Examine the implications of maritime insecurity in the Strait of Hormuz on global energy supply chains and India's maritime trade interests.

USE: maritime security energy corridors chokepoint geopolitical instability freedom of navigation

DoD grants post-competitive status to OpenAI, Anthropic and Google

WHY IN NEWS The Department of Defense (DoD) and its Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office (CDAO) are using the Tradewinds program to grant 'post-competitive' status to AI firms like OpenAI, Anthropic

BODY	CDAO: Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office under the Department of Defense
CONCEPT	Post-competitive status: Granted to AI firms like OpenAI, Anthropic, and Google for defense integration
SCHEME	Tradewinds program: Allows for faster awards and other transaction agreements up to \$500 million
FIGURE	\$1.5 trillion: Budget requested by the White House for the Department of Defense for 2027

MAINS Q Discuss the implications of 'post-competitive' procurement models in the rapid integration of Artificial Intelligence within national defense frameworks.

USE: Artificial Intelligence Defense Procurement Post-competitive status Strategic Autonomy Other Transaction Agreements

White House pushes voter roll cleanup using SAVE database for citizenship verification

WHY IN NEWS The White House is pushing a voter roll 'cleanup' using the SAVE database to verify citizenship, mirroring India's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process.

CONCEPT	Special Intensive Revision (SIR) — India's process for scrutinizing citizenship in voter lists.
FIGURE	13 crore names — Number of names removed from Indian voter lists during the SIR.
CONCEPT	SAVE database — US federal database used for citizenship verification.
PERSON	Gyanesh Kumar — Chief Election Commissioner of India.
FIGURE	185 suspected non-citizen voters — Number found to be citizens in Nevada by DHS.

MAINS Q Discuss the constitutional implications of large-scale voter list purges and the role of independent electoral bodies in ensuring inclusive democratic participation.

USE: Electoral integrity Voter disenfranchisement Administrative scrutiny Constitutional safeguards Data verification

India remains absent from Tarique Rahman's travel calendar despite diplomatic outreach

WHY IN NEWS High Commissioner Dinesh Trivedi met PM Modi to discuss Tarique Rahman's proposed visit to India, which remains unconfirmed despite diplomatic outreach.

PERSON	Dinesh Trivedi — High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh
PERSON	Sheikh Hasina — Deposed Prime Minister of Bangladesh
PERSON	Tarique Rahman — Proposed visitor to India whose travel calendar currently excludes India

MAINS Q Analyze the impact of political instability in neighboring countries on India's regional security and diplomatic engagement in South Asia.

USE: bilateral ties diplomatic outreach regional stability geopolitical shift strategic engagement

India rejects OIC remarks on Jammu and Kashmir at UN General Assembly Sixth Committee

WHY IN NEWS India rejected OIC remarks on Jammu and Kashmir at the UN General Assembly Sixth Committee, where Saudi Arabia (speaking for the OIC) criticized India's actions in Pakistan.

BODY	OIC: Organisation of Islamic Cooperation
PLACE	UN General Assembly Sixth Committee: The committee responsible for the UN's legal questions
FACT	The Resistance Front: Group responsible for the April 22 terror attack killing 26 civilians
FACT	Operation Sindoor: Indian military operation prompted by the April 22 terror attack

MAINS Q Discuss the impact of multilateral forum rhetoric on India's bilateral relations with OIC member states and the challenges of countering cross-border terrorism.

USE: Cross-border terrorism Multilateral diplomacy Sovereignty Counter-terrorism Geopolitical friction

India doubles support for Bhutan's 13th Plan and Gelephu Mindfulness City

WHY IN NEWS Bhutanese PM Tshering Tobgay praised PM Modi's leadership and India's doubled support for Bhutan's 13th Plan and the Gelephu Mindfulness City.

FIGURE	Rs 10,000 crore — India's doubled support for Bhutan's 13th Plan
PLACE	Gelephu Mindfulness City — A project in Bhutan receiving Indian support
CONCEPT	African Union — Became a permanent member of the G20

MAINS Q Discuss how India's 'Neighborhood First' policy and its leadership in the Global South have shaped its strategic influence in the region.

USE: Neighborhood First Global South Strategic Partnership Viksit Bharat Multilateralism

Economy

14

MONETARY POLICY, RBI & BANKING

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5 REPORTS MERGED

7 Oct · Economic Times · satyadheesh.in/news/132013

RBI MPC unanimously votes to hike repo rate to 5.50%

WHY IN NEWS The RBI Monetary Policy Committee unanimously voted to hike the policy repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.50% to manage monetary variables.

BODY	Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) — The body responsible for determining the repo rate.
FIGURE	5.50% — The new policy repo rate after a 25 basis point hike.
FIGURE	55,276 — The Nifty Bank index level after gaining over 147 points.
FIGURE	22,680 — The Nifty 50 index level after falling around 100 points.

MAINS Q Analyze the impact of repo rate hikes on inflation management and capital market volatility in a developing economy like India.

USE: Monetary Policy Repo Rate Inflation Targeting Liquidity Management Capital Markets

INDUSTRY, INVESTMENT & MSMEs

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M

7 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/131865

MeitY to collaborate with Indian companies for indigenous smartphone by 2028

WHY IN NEWS The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) announced a collaboration with Indian companies to manufacture a completely indigenous smartphone by the end of 2028.

BODY	MeitY — Nodal ministry for the indigenous smartphone manufacturing project.
CONCEPT	Indigenous production — Transitioning from assembly-based manufacturing to self-reliant production.
FIGURE	Rs 35,000 crore — Value of components currently exported by India to China.
DATE	End of 2028 — Target deadline for manufacturing the indigenous smartphone.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of transitioning from assembly-based manufacturing to indigenous production in India's electronics sector to achieve self-reliance.

USE: Atmanirbhar Bharat Value Chain Import Substitution Indigenous Manufacturing Electronics Manufacturing Hub

GROWTH, INFLATION & MACRO INDICATORS

P

7 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/news/131826

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

WHY IN NEWS The World Bank raised India's FY27 GDP growth forecast to 7.1 per cent from 6.6 per cent due to robust domestic demand and strong exports.

FIGURE	FY27 GDP growth forecast: 7.1 per cent
FIGURE	FY26 GDP growth rate: 7.8 per cent
FIGURE	FY25 GDP growth rate: 7.2 per cent
CONCEPT	Growth drivers: Strong investment, private consumption, and robust domestic demand
BODY	World Bank, Asian Development Bank, OECD, S&P, and Fitch all raised India's growth projections

MAINS Q Analyze the factors contributing to India's resilient GDP growth despite global geopolitical uncertainties and external risks.

USE: GDP Growth Domestic Demand Private Consumption External Risks Investment Outlook

NSE warns of 65%-80% premiums on overseas ETFs over NAV

WHY IN NEWS The NSE warned investors that certain overseas ETFs traded at 65%–80% premiums over their Net Asset Values (NAVs) in September due to supply constraints and exhausted regulatory investment limits.

FIGURE	65%–80% — the premium at which certain overseas ETFs traded above their NAVs in September.
FIGURE	485 billion rupees — the value of assets in mutual fund schemes investing abroad as of August 2026.
DATE	April 1, 2027 — the date from which ETF price bands must be linked to the previous day's NAV.
CONCEPT	Investor Folios — AMFI data shows a 40% increase in folios for overseas-investing schemes.

MAINS Q Discuss the risks associated with significant price premiums in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) and the role of regulatory frameworks in ensuring market integrity.

USE: Net Asset Value (NAV) Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) Market Premium Regulatory Limits Liquidity Constraints

RBI Governor says 0.4% merchant discount rate won't impact UPI volumes

WHY IN NEWS RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra stated that a 0.4% merchant discount rate for UPI transactions above ₹2,000 will not significantly impact transaction volumes.

FIGURE	0.4% — The proposed merchant discount rate for UPI transactions exceeding ₹2,000.
FIGURE	96.96 — The all-time low value of the rupee against the USD as of October 2026.
CONCEPT	Merchant Discount Rate — A fee paid by merchants to service providers for processing payments.

MAINS Q Analyze the impact of transaction costs on the adoption of digital payment systems like UPI and the role of the RBI in maintaining currency stability.

USE: Monetary Policy Digital Payments Currency Depreciation Merchant Discount Rate Financial Inclusion

BMRLC invites firms for General Consultancy for Namma Metro Phase 3

WHY IN NEWS BMRLC invited Indian and international firms to provide General Consultancy for the 44.65-km Namma Metro Phase 3 project in Bengaluru.

BODY	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) — providing a ¥102.48 billion loan for the project.
CONCEPT	Namma Metro Phase 3 — a 44.65-km project consisting of Corridor-1 (32.15 km) and Corridor-2 (12.50 km).
FIGURE	252 standard-gauge coaches — to be procured as part of the project.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of multi-modal integration and international financing in developing urban metro rail infrastructure in rapidly expanding Indian cities.

USE: Multi-modal integration Urban infrastructure JICA funding Transit-oriented development Public-Private Partnership

Ministry of Civil Aviation pauses Adani Airports' plan to cut 265 MIAL departure slots

WHY IN NEWS The Ministry of Civil Aviation paused Adani Airports' plan to cut 265 international departure slots at Mumbai International Airport Ltd's (MIAL) Terminal 2 to manage passenger flow during Terminal 1 redevelopment.

BODY	Ministry of Civil Aviation — Nodal ministry for aviation infrastructure in India
CONCEPT	MIAL Terminal 2 — Has 770 weekly international departure slots
FIGURE	265 slots — The number of international departure slots proposed to be cut
FIGURE	5 million — Additional passengers to be accommodated during Terminal 1 redevelopment

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges of balancing infrastructure expansion with operational continuity in India's aviation sector during large-scale airport redevelopment projects.

USE: Infrastructure development Aviation logistics Capacity management Stakeholder coordination Public-Private Partnership

Kerala and NTPC to establish 2,000 MWh battery energy storage system

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala government announced a partnership with NTPC Ltd and NTPC Green Energy Limited to establish a 2,000 MWh battery energy storage system (BESS) at Kayamkulam to address state electricity shortages.

CONCEPT	Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) — technology to address electricity shortages and ensure grid stability.
PLACE	Kayamkulam, Alappuzha district — site for the 2,000 MWh BESS facility on NTPC land.
FIGURE	300 MW — power to be supplied by NTPC from Sinnar project at ₹5.18 per unit.
FIGURE	80 MWh — capacity of KSEB BESS projects at Pothencode and Sreekandapuram.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in achieving India's renewable energy targets and ensuring grid stability.

USE: Battery Energy Storage System Grid Stability Renewable Energy Power Purchase Agreement Energy Security

3.27 million new demat accounts added despite Sensex and Nifty fall

WHY IN NEWS Master Capital Services reported that 3.27 million new demat accounts were added in August despite a 6% fall in Sensex and Nifty indices in September.

FIGURE	3.27 million — New demat accounts added in August 2026
FIGURE	240.59 million — Total demat accounts reached by September 2026
FIGURE	₹90,462 crore — Total amount raised by 69 IPOs launched during the period
FIGURE	6% — Fall in Sensex and Nifty indices in September 2026

MAINS Q Analyze the factors driving the expansion of retail participation in Indian capital markets despite prevailing market volatility.

USE: Capital Market Participation Retail Investment IPO Activity Market Volatility Financial Inclusion

Indian rupee hits weakest closing level in over two months

WHY IN NEWS The Indian rupee hit its weakest closing level in over two months at 96.45 due to high dollar demand from oil companies and significant FPI outflows.

CONCEPT	Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) — Outflows and net investments affecting currency value.
FIGURE	96.45 — The rupee's weakest closing level in over two months.
FIGURE	24.4 billion — Total net FPI investments for the year so far.
FIGURE	96.96 — The all-time low reached by the rupee in May.
CONCEPT	Monetary Policy — RBI's role in managing interest rates and currency intervention.

MAINS Q Analyze the factors contributing to the volatility of the Indian Rupee and evaluate the role of the Reserve Bank of India in maintaining exchange rate stability.

USE: Exchange Rate Foreign Portfolio Investment Monetary Policy Capital Flight Forex Intervention

NBFC credit reaches Rs 60.6 lakh crore driven by gold loan surge

WHY IN NEWS NBFC credit grew to Rs 60.6 lakh crore by August 2026, driven significantly by a 69.1% surge in gold loans.

- FIGURE | Rs 60.6 lakh crore — Total NBFC credit as of August 2026
- FIGURE | 69.1% — Surge in gold loans reaching Rs 3.65 lakh crore
- CONCEPT | Retail loans — Constitute nearly 44% of the total NBFC lending universe
- FIGURE | 17.4% — Growth in agriculture credit by August 2026

MAINS Q Analyze the role of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in deepening financial inclusion and their impact on the credit landscape in India.

USE: NBFC Financial Inclusion Credit Growth Retail Lending Monetary Policy

ICRA projects 7% GDP growth for India in FY27

WHY IN NEWS ICRA projected a 7% GDP growth for India in FY27 while warning that weak monsoons could stress unsecured segments like self-employed borrowers and MSMEs.

- FIGURE | 7% GDP growth — ICRA projection for India in FY27
- FIGURE | 5.1% inflation — Crisil projection for FY27
- CONCEPT | Private investment improvement — noted in data centres and semiconductors
- CONCEPT | Monsoon risks — potential stress on unsecured segments like MSMEs

MAINS Q Analyze the impact of monsoon variability on the credit health of MSMEs and self-employed borrowers in India's rural economy.

USE: GDP growth monetary policy MSME credit inflation private investment

Private-credit deal volume drops 54% to \$4.6 billion in H1 2026

WHY IN NEWS A Houlihan Lokey report revealed a 54% drop in private-credit deal volume to \$4.6 billion in H1 2026, highlighting a shift toward seeking a 'complexity premium' amidst lower yields.

- FIGURE | Private-credit deployment H1 2026: \$4.6 billion across 144 deals
- FIGURE | Private-credit deployment 2025: \$15.6 billion
- CONCEPT | Complexity premium: A shift in structuring non-traditional debt amidst lower yields
- ACT | Acquisition-finance framework (July 2026): Banks can finance up to 75% of independently assessed acquisition value
- FIGURE | Bank's aggregate acquisition-finance exposure cap: 20% of eligible capital base

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of private credit in the Indian financial landscape and the role of 'complexity premiums' in structuring non-traditional debt.

USE: private credit complexity premium illiquidity premium acquisition-finance capital markets

West Bengal recorded India's longest 36-minute commute

WHY IN NEWS The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation released the 'Household Travel in India 2025-26' report highlighting West Bengal's longest commute and high two-wheeler usage.

REPORT	Household Travel in India 2025-26 — highlights commute times and transport modes across India
BODY	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) — released the report on household travel
FIGURE	42.6% — percentage of workers in India using two-wheelers for commuting
FIGURE	Rs 2,409 — monthly travel expenditure for workers in Arunachal Pradesh
FIGURE	Rs 423 — monthly travel expenditure for female students

MAINS Q Analyze the impact of long commute times and inadequate public transport infrastructure on labor productivity and urban mobility in Indian states.

USE: [urban mobility](#) [labor productivity](#) [public transport infrastructure](#) [last-mile connectivity](#) [commuter behavior](#)

Agriculture

4

Karnataka seeks central aid after drought causes ₹46,000 crore crop losses

WHY IN NEWS The Government of Karnataka submitted two memoranda to the Centre seeking assistance after a severe drought hit 217 taluks, causing estimated crop losses of ₹46,000 crore.

PLACE	Karnataka is the second most drought-prone state in India after Rajasthan, with 80% of its area prone to drought.
CONCEPT	Southwest monsoon (SWM) accounts for approximately 74% of the calendar year rainfall in Karnataka.
FIGURE	Karnataka received 551 mm of rainfall during the southwest monsoon, a 35% deficit from the 852 mm normal.
FIGURE	State reported losses of ₹18,748.23 crore on standing crops across 19.52 lakh hectares.

MAINS Q Analyze the vulnerability of Karnataka's agrarian economy to southwest monsoon variability and suggest measures to mitigate drought-induced crop losses.

USE: [monsoon variability](#) [agrarian distress](#) [drought-prone](#) [rainfall deficit](#) [climate resilience](#)

Rice prices surge as cultivation area drops and monsoon remains below average

WHY IN NEWS Rice prices in India surged as a 26kg bag jumped from ₹1,800 to ₹2,150 due to a 3.46% drop in Kharif cultivation area and a below-normal monsoon.

CONCEPT	El Niño — a periodic climate pattern of warming of the Pacific Ocean affecting trade winds and the Indian monsoon.
FIGURE	Kharif rice cultivation area — dropped by 3.46% from 449.18 lakh hectares to 433.62 lakh hectares.
FIGURE	2026 south-west monsoon — ended 12.6% to 13% below the long-period average.
FIGURE	MSP for paddy — ₹2,440 per quintal.
FIGURE	Open market price — reached ₹4,000 per quintal.

MAINS Q Discuss the impact of climate variability like El Niño on India's food security and the necessity of shifting towards less water-intensive crops.

USE: [El Niño](#) [Kharif cultivation](#) [Food security](#) [Crop diversification](#) [Monsoon variability](#)

Tamil Nadu records lowest Cauvery river realisation in 14 years

WHY IN NEWS Tamil Nadu recorded its lowest Cauvery river realisation in 14 years during the 2026 southwest monsoon, leading to a shortage for samba-thaladi cultivation.

BODY	Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) — body that ordered water release between September 24 and October 4
FIGURE	44.208 tmc ft — amount of Cauvery water received by Tamil Nadu in 2026 monsoon
FIGURE	36.639 tmc ft — Mettur dam storage level
CONCEPT	Samba-thaladi cultivation — crop affected by the water shortage

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in inter-state water sharing and the impact of erratic monsoon patterns on agricultural sustainability in South India.

USE: Inter-state water disputes Hydrological stress Monsoon variability Irrigation management Water governance

Rajasthan to use 744 inspectors to curb fertiliser hoarding and black marketing

WHY IN NEWS The Rajasthan government's Fertiliser Distribution Regulatory Task Force directed the deployment of 744 inspectors to prevent hoarding and black marketing of Centre-allocated fertilisers for the rabi crop season.

FACT	Rajasthan holds 3.73 lakh metric tonnes of urea for the rabi crop season.
FACT	The state holds 1.04 lakh metric tonnes of DAP and 2.09 lakh metric tonnes of single superphosphate.
FACT	744 inspectors are designated to curb hoarding and black marketing in Rajasthan.

MAINS Q Discuss the institutional and logistical challenges in ensuring the equitable distribution of subsidised fertilisers to farmers in India.

USE: black marketing supply chain management agricultural subsidies regulatory oversight rabi crop

Science & Technology

7

Henri Kagan and Kenso Soai win 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

WHY IN NEWS The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced Henri Kagan and Kenso Soai as the 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry winners for their work on asymmetric organic synthesis.

PERSON	Henri Kagan — French scientist awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry
PERSON	Kenso Soai — Japanese scientist awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry
CONCEPT	Homochirality — The property of a molecule to have a specific handedness in organic synthesis
CONCEPT	Asymmetric organic synthesis — Research focusing on nonlinear effects and autocatalysis to explain homochirality
BODY	Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences — The body responsible for awarding the Nobel Prize in Chemistry

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of asymmetric organic synthesis in the pharmaceutical industry and its role in addressing the challenges of molecular chirality.

USE: Asymmetric synthesis Homochirality Autocatalysis Pharmaceutical manufacturing Nonlinear effects

Former ISRO Chairperson urges start-up cooperation for Bharat Antariksh Station

WHY IN NEWS Former ISRO Chairperson G. Madhavan Nair urged a shift from 'unhealthy competition' to a cooperative model between ISRO and space-tech start-ups for the Bharat Antariksh Station and lunar missions.

- CONCEPT** | Bharat Antariksh Station — India's planned space station project.
- BODY** | SSLV — ISRO's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle capable of launching up to 500 kg payload.
- PERSON** | G. Madhavan Nair — Former Chairperson of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of a public-private partnership model in achieving India's ambitious space goals like the Bharat Antariksh Station and lunar exploration.

USE: Public-Private Partnership Space Technology Bharat Antariksh Station SSLV Space Policy

Infosys Springboard Maker Lab on Wheels to provide free digital education in rural schools

WHY IN NEWS The Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC) and Infosys Foundation launched the 'Maker Lab on Wheels' to provide free digital education in rural schools.

- BODY** | APSSDC: Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation
- FACT** | Maker Lab on Wheels provides training in electronics, robotics, microcontrollers, and 3D printing
- PLACE** | Kothacheruvu Junior College: Location of the launch in Sri Sathya Sai District

MAINS Q Discuss how mobile laboratory initiatives can bridge the digital divide and enhance vocational skill development in rural educational institutions.

USE: Digital Divide Vocational Training Skill Development Rural Education Public-Private Partnership

Google launches site to verify AI-generated media using SynthID tool

WHY IN NEWS Google launched a website allowing users to verify AI-generated media using its SynthID technology to combat misinformation.

- CONCEPT** | SynthID: A tool by Google to identify AI-generated media across image, video, and audio formats.
- CONCEPT** | Digital Watermarking: Technology integrated into models like Gemini and Veo to combat misinformation.
- BODY** | NVIDIA, OpenAI, and Kakao: Entities that also support SynthID technology.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges posed by AI-generated deepfakes to democratic processes and evaluate the efficacy of technological watermarking as a solution.

USE: Deepfakes Synthetic Media Information Integrity Algorithmic Transparency Digital Watermarking

EDAR platform identifies 6,358 "black corridors" causing 37,164 deaths between 2023 and 2025

WHY IN NEWS The Road Transport and Highways Ministry proposed using the AI-enabled eDAR platform to help states analyze road crash patterns and identify 'black corridors'.

S&T	eDAR: An AI-enabled platform proposed by the Road Transport and Highways Ministry to analyze road crash patterns.
FACT	India recorded 4,87,707 accidents and 1,77,175 deaths in 2024.
FACT	eDAR identified 6,358 'black corridors' causing 37,164 deaths between 2023 and 2025.
PLACE	Chintan Shivir 2026 was held in Ekta Nagar.
SCHEME	PM GatiShakti: A platform offered by the Centre to states for infrastructure planning.

MAINS Q Discuss how AI-driven platforms like eDAR can enhance road safety and infrastructure planning in India. What are the challenges in implementing such data-driven governance?

USE: [Predictive Analytics](#) [Data-driven Governance](#) [Road Safety](#) [Infrastructure Planning](#) [AI in Public Safety](#)

Chinese Academy of Sciences discovers unique metallic iron in lunar samples

WHY IN NEWS The Chinese Academy of Sciences discovered face-centred cubic γ -Fe, a metallic iron never before seen in lunar samples, within the Chang'e-6 mission samples.

CONCEPT	γ -Fe: A face-centred cubic metallic iron form found in lunar samples for the first time.
PLACE	South Pole-Aitken Basin: The lunar region where the samples were collected.
MISSION	Chang'e-6: China's lunar mission that retrieved the samples containing the metallic iron.

MAINS Q Discuss how lunar exploration and the study of extraterrestrial minerals contribute to our understanding of planetary formation and material science.

USE: [Lunar exploration](#) [Material science](#) [Planetary geology](#) [Chang'e-6](#)

MeitY orders Apple and Google to remove Bitchat app from India

WHY IN NEWS The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) ordered Apple and Google Play Store to remove Jack Dorsey's Bitchat app from India due to law-and-order concerns regarding its decentralized mesh network.

ACT	Section 69(A) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 — empowers the government to block public access to information.
CONCEPT	Bitchat — An app utilizing a decentralized mesh network.
BODY	Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre — Body responsible for coordinating cybercrime responses.
BODY	MeitY — Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in regulating decentralized communication platforms and the implications of Section 69(A) on the balance between national security and digital rights.

USE: [Decentralized Mesh Network](#) [Information Technology Act](#) [Digital Sovereignty](#) [Cybersecurity](#) [Law and Order](#)

Delhi and Centre unveil Winter Action Plan 2026-27 to tackle NCR air pollution

WHY IN NEWS The Delhi government and the Centre unveiled the Winter Action Plan 2026–27 to combat NCR air pollution, featuring fuel station restrictions and vehicle bans.

- FIGURE | 500 fuel stations: Number of stations mandated to enforce fuel restrictions.
- CONCEPT | Non-BS-VI vehicles: Vehicles prohibited from entry into NCR starting November 1.
- DATE | January 31: Deadline for phased construction prohibitions.

MAINS Q Critically analyze the effectiveness of seasonal action plans in addressing the structural causes of air pollution in the National Capital Region.

USE: Air Quality ManagementRegulatory FrameworkPollution MitigationInter-agency CoordinationSustainable Urbanization

Tenkasi officials demolish artificial waterfalls to restore wild stream flow

WHY IN NEWS Tenkasi district officials began demolishing illegal artificial waterfalls to restore the natural flow of wild streams from the Western Ghats following a Madras High Court order.

- PLACE | Western Ghats — Mountain range from which wild streams were being illegally diverted.
- PLACE | Paimpozhil — An irrigation tank in Tenkasi whose water flow is being restored.
- FIGURE | 29 resorts and bungalows — Number of properties inspected by committees for illegal stream diversions.

MAINS Q Discuss the ecological and socio-economic implications of illegal water diversion in ecologically sensitive zones like the Western Ghats and suggest measures for sustainable water management.

USE: Hydrological integrityEcologically sensitive zonesSustainable water managementRegulatory enforcementBiodiversity conservation

Assam report details human-elephant conflict fatalities since 2016

WHY IN NEWS The Assam Forest Department and WWF-India released a report detailing human–elephant conflict data and habitat tracking in Assam since 2016.

- PLACE | Udalguri, Sonitpur, and Biswanath: Districts in Assam where elephant habitat studies were conducted.
- CONCEPT | Human-elephant conflict: Resulted in 1,147 human fatalities and 246 elephant deaths since 2016.
- CONCEPT | Habitat tracking: Utilized 38,000 GPS locations to identify Sonai–Rupai, Behali, and Bornadi sanctuaries.

MAINS Q Discuss the ecological and socio-economic implications of human-elephant conflicts in Northeast India and suggest measures for mitigation.

USE: Human–Wildlife ConflictHabitat FragmentationBiodiversity ConservationElephant CorridorsMitigation Strategies

Weather agencies track 'super' El Niño with 2 °C Pacific rise

WHY IN NEWS Weather agencies are monitoring a 'super' El Niño event characterized by a 2 °C rise in Pacific Ocean surface waters off Peru and Ecuador.

- CONCEPT | Super El Niño — defined by a 2 °C rise in surface waters off the western coast of Peru and Ecuador.
- FIGURE | Typical El Niño — usually involves a 0.5 °C rise in surface waters.
- PLACE | Coastal Tamil Nadu — may face intense localized rainfall due to increased Bay of Bengal evaporation.

MAINS Q Discuss the impact of extreme El Niño events on the Indian monsoon and the regional climatic variability in the Bay of Bengal.

USE: El NiñoClimate VariabilityBay of BengalMonsoon DynamicsExtreme Weather

Tamil Nadu records highest Southwest monsoon mean temperature since 2018

WHY IN NEWS The Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC) and Regional Weather Forecasting Centre (RWFC) reported that Tamil Nadu recorded its highest Southwest monsoon mean temperature of 29.45°C during the 2018–25 period.

FIGURE	29.45°C — Southwest monsoon mean temperature recorded in Tamil Nadu during 2018–25 period
FIGURE	1.21°C — The amount by which the mean temperature exceeded the average
PLACE	Vellore and Kodaikanal — Stations identified as showing widespread warming
CONCEPT	Global warming and El Niño — Cited as primary factors for the temperature rise

MAINS Q Discuss how the increasing frequency of extreme temperature anomalies during monsoon seasons poses a threat to India's agricultural stability and water security.

USE: Climate Change El Niño Monsoon Variability Thermal Anomalies Evapotranspiration

Himalayan Monal shifts altitude and vocal pitch to avoid human encroachment

WHY IN NEWS Researchers at Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University found that the Himalayan Monal is shifting to higher altitudes and altering its vocalizations to adapt to human encroachment and noise pollution in Uttarakhand.

PLACE	Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh: States identified as having shrinking habitats for the Monal due to climate change.
CONCEPT	Behavioral adaptation: Monal is changing call pitch and moving to higher altitudes to avoid human-induced noise.
FIGURE	2100: The year through which climate change projections indicate significant habitat shrinkage for the Monal.

MAINS Q Discuss how anthropogenic pressures and climate change are forcing behavioral adaptations in Himalayan biodiversity and the implications for conservation strategies.

USE: Anthropogenic pressure Behavioral adaptation Habitat shrinkage Biodiversity conservation Climate change impact

State Board for Wildlife orders actions against illegal resorts in Eco Sensitive Zones

WHY IN NEWS Environment Minister Ramalinga Reddy chaired the Standing Committee of the State Board for Wildlife to order actions against illegal resorts in Eco Sensitive Zones (ESZ) and buffer zones.

BODY	State Board for Wildlife — Body whose Standing Committee chaired the meeting to oversee ESZ actions.
CONCEPT	Eco Sensitive Zones (ESZ) and buffer zones — Specific areas targeted for actions against illegal resorts.
PLACE	Bhadra Tiger Reserve — Location where a resort proposal was deferred.
PLACE	Kappatagudda Wildlife Sanctuary — Site where a quarrying project was rejected.
PLACE	Bannerghatta National Park — Location where the ESZ status is to be maintained.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in balancing infrastructure development with the preservation of Eco Sensitive Zones and wildlife sanctuaries in India.

USE: Eco Sensitive Zones Buffer Zones Biodiversity Conservation Zonal Master Plans Wildlife Protection

Kerala informs NTRB nine coastal panchayats ready for IOC-UNESCO evaluation

WHY IN NEWS The Kerala government informed the National Tsunami Ready Board (NTRB) that nine coastal panchayats are prepared for IOC–UNESCO evaluation in November 2026.

BODY	National Tsunami Ready Board (NTRB) — Body verifying coastal preparedness in India
BODY	Kerala State Disaster Management Authority — State body overseeing training and drills
EVENT	IOC–UNESCO evaluation — Scheduled for November 2026 for nine Kerala panchayats
CONCEPT	Community-based disaster management — Focus on tsunami resilience and institutional synergy

MAINS Q Discuss the importance of community-based disaster management in coastal regions and the role of international standards in enhancing India's tsunami resilience.

USE: Disaster ResilienceCommunity ParticipationTsunami PreparednessInstitutional SynergyStandardization

Internal Security

Defence Ministry approves revised SOP for indigenous project testing

WHY IN NEWS Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved a revised SOP to streamline access to proof and firing ranges for indigenous projects to support 'atmanirbharta'.

CONCEPT	Atmanirbharta — The goal of making India self-reliant in defence manufacturing.
SCHEME	iDEX — A scheme to support indigenous defence projects.
SCHEME	Technology Development Fund (TDF) — A scheme to support R&D for indigenous technology.
BODY	DRDO — Defence Research and Development Organisation involved in testing facilities.
FIGURE	Three-day quarterly slots — Reserved for government-sponsored and indigenous projects.

MAINS Q Discuss how streamlining access to testing infrastructure can accelerate the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative in the defence manufacturing sector.

USE: AtmanirbhartaDefence ProcurementR&D InfrastructureiDEXTechnology Development Fund

SPIR 2026 study finds 13% of respondents were victims of cybercrimes

WHY IN NEWS The Status of Policing in India Report (SPIR) 2026 revealed that 13% of respondents were victims of cybercrimes, highlighting systemic failures in banking accountability and data security.

REPORT	SPIR 2026: A study by Common Cause, Lokniti, and CSDS on the status of policing in India.
FIGURE	13% of respondents in the SPIR 2026 study were victims of cybercrimes.
FIGURE	54% of cybercrime victims specifically faced digital financial frauds.
BODY	RBI: The body responsible for issuing guidelines on mule accounts and digital fraud.

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in curbing digital financial frauds in India despite existing regulatory guidelines and the role of banking institutions in victim redressal.

USE: cybercrimedigital financial fraudmule accountsdata privacybanking accountability

Telangana reviews 'Zero Fatalities' plan for seven districts by November 3

WHY IN NEWS DGP C.V. Anand and Transport Commissioner Ilambarithi reviewed a plan to achieve 'Zero Fatalities' in seven Telangana districts by November 3 using the '4E' approach.

CONCEPT	4E approach — The specific strategy adopted by Telangana to target road fatalities.
PLACE	Telangana — State implementing the 'Zero Fatalities' plan across seven districts.
CONCEPT	Margadarshak portal — Digital platform for recording crashes via e-DAR to establish a Road Safety Management Bureau.
REPORT	SafeLife Foundation — Source of data for identifying road safety hotspots and pedestrian zones.

MAINS Q Discuss the institutional and technological measures required to achieve 'Zero Fatality' goals in Indian road infrastructure. How can data-driven governance improve road safety?

USE: Data-driven governance Road safety management Infrastructure prioritization Institutional framework Public safety

C-60 commando force neutralizes 363 Maoists to make Gadchiroli Naxal-free

WHY IN NEWS The C-60 commando force, founded by former IPS officer Krishipal Raghuvanshi, was recognized for its role in making Gadchiroli Naxal-free by neutralizing 363 Maoists.

PERSON	Krishipal Raghuvanshi — Former IPS officer who founded the C-60 commando force
CONCEPT	C-60 commando force — Specialized unit trained by the Greyhounds of Andhra Pradesh
FIGURE	363 Maoists killed — Operational impact of the C-60 force in Gadchiroli
FIGURE	961 personnel — Current strength of the C-60 force across 29 teams

MAINS Q Analyze the role of specialized commando forces and community-led initiatives in neutralizing Left Wing Extremism in tribal belts of India.

USE: Left Wing Extremism Internal Security Counter-insurgency Greyhounds Gadchiroli

10 questions, 10 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

1 Which body is responsible for determining the repo rate in India?

- (a) Financial Stability Board (b) Securities and Exchange Board
(c) Monetary Policy Committee (d) National Development Council

2 With reference to the revised SOP for access to proof and firing ranges, consider the following statements:

1. The SOP reserves weekly slots for government-sponsored and indigenous projects.
2. The testing facilities involve the DRDO and Government Quality Assurance agencies.
3. The revised SOP waives charges for iDEX, Technology Development Fund (TDF), and Make projects.

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

3 With reference to the historical context of the Israel–Palestine conflict, consider the following statements:

1. Canaan is the ancient name for the region encompassing parts of present-day Israel and Palestinian territories.
2. David Ben-Gurion declared the State of Israel in 1947.
3. The United Nations proposed a partition of the land in 1947.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4 Which strategic waterway is central to the grain and energy flow discussions in India's ceasefire proposal?

- (a) Red Sea (b) Caspian Sea
(c) Mediterranean Sea (d) Black Sea

5 Which Indian body signed an MoU with the University of Ghana during the visit?

- (a) Wildlife Institute of India (b) National Institute of Oceanography
(c) Botanical Survey of India (d) Zoological Survey of India

6 What is the approximate value of electronic components currently exported by India to China as per the note?

- (a) Rs 35,000 crore (b) Rs 10,000 crore
(c) Rs 50,000 crore (d) Rs 15,000 crore

7 Under the Winter Action Plan 2026–27, what is the specific requirement for fuel stations to dispense fuel?

- (a) BS-VI only (b) No Commercial vehicles
(c) Electric only (d) No PUCC, No Fuel

8 With reference to India's GDP growth projections, consider the following statements:

1. India's GDP growth rate for FY26 was recorded at 7.2 per cent.
2. Robust domestic demand and strong exports are key drivers of the growth forecast.
3. The World Bank raised India's FY27 GDP growth forecast to 7.1 per cent.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 9 With reference to the rainfall patterns in Karnataka, consider the following statements:
1. The southwest monsoon received 551 mm of rainfall, representing a 35% deficit from the normal.
 2. Karnataka is the most drought-prone state in India, with 80% of its geographical area affected.
 3. The southwest monsoon accounts for approximately 74% of the calendar year rainfall in the state.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 10 Which form is used for the enrolment of eligible voters as directed by the Election Commission of India?

- (a) Form 7 (b) Form 8
(c) Form 5 (d) Form 6

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



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