

**SATYADHEESH**
सत्याधीश

UPSC DAILY DETAILED NOTES

Current Affairs · 25 October 2026

7
NOTES**0**
STORIES MERGED**5**
MCQSGS2 · 3
PAPER MIX

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Every note, grouped by paper

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4 notes

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Practice — 5 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.

Polity & Constitution

1

ELECTIONS, ECI & ELECTORAL REFORMS

P

25 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/141581 · Report a mistake

ECI to conduct re-polling in Agra Division Teachers' Constituency

WHY IN NEWS The Election Commission of India announced re-polling in the Agra Division Teachers' Constituency after the original voting on October 23 was voided under the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

ACT	Representation of the People Act, 1951 — Governs the conduct of elections and provides provisions for voiding votes.
CONCEPT	Section 58A(2)(a) — The specific legal provision used to void the voting in the Agra Division Teachers' Constituency.
DATE	October 26, 2026 — The date scheduled for re-polling at three polling stations.

MAINS Q Examine the legal and procedural mechanisms provided under the Representation of the People Act, 1951, to ensure the integrity of the electoral process in cases of irregularities.

USE: [electoral integrity](#) [Representation of the People Act](#) [re-polling](#) [electoral irregularities](#) [administrative oversight](#)

Governance

1

ROLE OF CIVIL SERVICES

P

25 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/141570 · Report a mistake

ACC approves one-year tenure extension for Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh

WHY IN NEWS The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved a one-year tenure extension for IAS officer Rajesh Kumar Singh as Defence Secretary by relaxing specific Fundamental Rules.

BODY	Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC): Body responsible for approving appointments and tenures of high-ranking civil servants.
PERSON	Rajesh Kumar Singh: 1989-batch IAS officer of the Kerala cadre serving as Secretary, Department of Defence.
CONCEPT	Fundamental Rule 56(d): Rule relating to the retirement age and tenure of civil servants.
DATE	October 31, 2027: The date until which the tenure extension is valid.

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of tenure security for senior civil servants in ensuring administrative continuity and the implications of relaxing retirement rules for policy implementation.

USE: [Administrative Continuity](#) [Civil Service Reforms](#) [Rule of Law](#) [Policy Implementation](#) [Tenure Security](#)

International Relations

1

INDIA'S BILATERAL RELATIONS

P

25 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/141565 · Report a mistake

Indian Consulate in Jeddah issues advisory as Houthi drone and missile attacks cancel flights

WHY IN NEWS The Consulate General of India in Jeddah issued an advisory for Indian nationals and Umrah pilgrims due to flight cancellations caused by Houthi drone and missile attacks in Yemen.

PLACE	Jeddah: A major city in Saudi Arabia where the Consulate General of India is located
FACT	Houthi rebels: A group in Yemen conducting drone and missile attacks causing flight cancellations
POST	Consulate General of India: The diplomatic mission providing advisory and emergency services to Indian nationals in Saudi Arabia

MAINS Q Examine the challenges faced by Indian pilgrims in the Middle East due to regional geopolitical instability and suggest measures to enhance consular protection.

USE: [Consular Protection](#) [Geopolitical Instability](#) [Crisis Management](#) [Humanitarian Assistance](#) [Diplomatic Advisory](#)

Economy

2

INFRASTRUCTURE (ENERGY, PORTS, ROADS, RAILWAYS) P

25 Oct · NDTV · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/141583 · Report a mistake

Tamil Nadu CM slashes aviation turbine fuel VAT at state airports

WHY IN NEWS Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Vijay announced a reduction in Value Added Tax (VAT) on aviation turbine fuel (ATF) to make air travel more affordable.

CONCEPT	Value Added Tax (VAT) — state-level tax reduced on aviation turbine fuel (ATF) to lower air travel costs.
FIGURE	16% — the new VAT rate for aviation turbine fuel at Chennai airport.
FIGURE	1% — the new VAT rate for aviation turbine fuel at other Tamil Nadu state airports.
DATE	November 1, 2026 — the start date for the one-year tax reduction period.

MAINS Q Discuss how state-level fiscal interventions in aviation fuel taxation can influence regional infrastructure development and the aviation sector's competitiveness.

USE: Fiscal Federalism Aviation Infrastructure Value Added Tax Operational Costs Regional Development

INDUSTRY, INVESTMENT & MSMEs P

25 Oct · The Hindu · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/141551 · Report a mistake

Vaishnaw assures Andhra Pradesh support for semiconductor design, manufacturing and AI

WHY IN NEWS Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw assured Andhra Pradesh of Central support for semiconductor design, manufacturing, and AI initiatives during a meeting with Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

FACT	Vijayawada bypass railway project cost: ₹3,197 crore
FACT	Kovvur-Bhadrachalam railway project cost: ₹2,860 crore
FACT	Ongole-Donakonda railway project cost: ₹1,800 crore
FACT	Anakapalli-Kothavalasa railway project cost: ₹2,190 crore
PLACE	Proposed Vande Bharat sleeper train route: Visakhapatnam to Bengaluru via Tirupati

MAINS Q Discuss the significance of developing a robust semiconductor manufacturing and AI ecosystem in India to achieve technological sovereignty.

USE: Semiconductor ecosystem Infrastructure development Technological sovereignty Multi-modal connectivity Industrial investment

Science & Technology

1

IT, AI, SEMICONDUCTORS & COMPUTING P

25 Oct · TechCrunch · satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/141562 · Report a mistake

S&P Global reports 42% of AI initiatives abandoned as major products shut down

WHY IN NEWS S&P Global Market Intelligence reported that 42% of AI initiatives are abandoned as major players like OpenAI, Google, and Microsoft face shutdowns and delays in AI products.

REPORT	S&P Global Market Intelligence — reported that 42% of AI initiatives are abandoned
CONCEPT	OpenAI — discontinued ChatGPT Atlas and shut down Sora in March 2026
EVENT	Character.ai — filed for bankruptcy after five years of operation
FIGURE	Humane — sold AI Pin business to HP for \$116 million in February 2025
FIGURE	Rabbit R1 — sold 100,000 units at CES in January 2024

MAINS Q Discuss the economic and technical challenges leading to the high abandonment rate of AI initiatives and its implications for sustainable technological growth.

USE: Artificial Intelligence Market Volatility Data Privacy Technological Sustainability Venture Capital

IMD issues red alert for very severe cyclonic storm near Andhra Pradesh coast

WHY IN NEWS The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a red alert for 13 districts in Andhra Pradesh as a low-pressure area in the Bay of Bengal is projected to intensify into a very severe cyclonic storm by October 28.

CONCEPT	Very severe cyclonic storm — defined by maximum sustained wind speeds between 118 kmph and 221 kmph
PLACE	Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts — projected landfall area between Bapatla and Visakhapatnam
FIGURE	130 kmph — expected maximum sustained wind speed near the Andhra Pradesh coast

MAINS Q Discuss the challenges in coastal disaster management in India and the role of early warning systems in mitigating the impact of cyclonic storms.

USE: [cyclonic storm](#) [early warning system](#) [disaster mitigation](#) [Bay of Bengal](#) [climate resilience](#)

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

- 1** What is the new VAT rate for aviation turbine fuel at other state airports in Tamil Nadu?
- (a) 10% (b) 1%
(c) 5% (d) 16%
-
- 2** Which Act provides the legal provisions for voiding votes and governing the conduct of elections in India?
- (a) General Elections Act, 1952 (b) Constitution of India
(c) Delimitation Act, 2002 (d) Representation of the People Act, 1951
-
- 3** With reference to the tenure extension of the Defence Secretary, consider the following statements:
1. The extension was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
 2. The extension involved a relaxation of Fundamental Rule 56(d).
 3. The extension is valid until October 31, 2026.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1 and 3 only
-
- 4** With reference to cyclonic storms in India, consider the following statements:
1. A very severe cyclonic storm is characterized by wind speeds between 118 kmph and 221 kmph.
 2. The storm is projected to reach a maximum sustained wind speed of 150 kmph near the coast.
 3. The IMD issued a red alert for 13 districts in Andhra Pradesh.
- 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
-
- 5** With reference to the current AI market landscape, consider the following statements:
1. S&P Global Market Intelligence reported that 42% of AI initiatives are abandoned.
 2. OpenAI discontinued ChatGPT Atlas and shut down Sora in March 2025.
 3. Humane sold its AI Pin business to HP for \$116 million in February 2025.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 3 only

(c) 5 (c) 4 (c) 3 (d) 2 (b) 1 • ANSWERS



TELEGRAM



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