

**SATYADHEESH**  
सत्याधीश

UPSC DAILY DETAILED NOTES

**Current Affairs • 27 October 2026****18**

NOTES

**5**

STORIES MERGED

**10**

MCQS

GS1 • 1

GS2 • 8

GS3 • 9

PAPER MIX

**CONTENTS****Every note, grouped by paper**

|            |                                                   |         |
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| <b>GS2</b> | <b>Polity • Governance • Social Justice • IR</b>  | 8 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.

## Geography

1

LOCATION OF INDUSTRIES

P

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## Tamil Nadu increases non-high rise building height limits to 19.5 metres

**WHY IN NEWS** The Tamil Nadu State government amended the Tamil Nadu Combined Development and Building Rules, 2019, to increase the height limit for non-high rise buildings from 18.3 metres to 19.5 metres.

**ACT** Tamil Nadu Combined Development and Building Rules, 2019: Amended to increase height limits and specify road widths.

**FIGURE** 19.5 metres: The new height limit for non-high rise buildings in Tamil Nadu.

**FIGURE** 18 metres: Minimum road width required for star hotels and multiplexes/malls.

**PLACE** Chennai Metropolitan Area: Commercial zone status for sites abutting roads of 12 metres and above.

**PLACE** Rest of Tamil Nadu: Commercial zone status for sites abutting roads of 9 metres and above.

**MAINS Q** Discuss how urban planning regulations and building height limits impact the quality of life and infrastructure development in rapidly urbanizing states like Tamil Nadu.

USE: Urban Planning

Building Bye-laws

Zoning Regulations

Infrastructure Development

Tamil Nadu

## Polity &amp; Constitution

6

JUDICIARY &amp; LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

P

2 REPORTS MERGED

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## Supreme Court Collegium recommends judges for Chief Justice and High Court positions

**WHY IN NEWS** The Supreme Court Collegium issued a resolution on October 26 recommending four judges for Chief Justice positions and two judges for the Bombay High Court.

**CONCEPT** Collegium System — The mechanism used for the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts.

**PERSON** Justice Tapabrata Chakraborty — Recommended for Telangana

**PERSON** Justice Sudhir Singh — Recommended for Uttarakhand

**PERSON** Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak — Recommended for Gujarat High Court

**PERSON** Ajay Sharma and Vaibhav Anant Sugdare — Approved for Bombay High Court

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of the Collegium system in maintaining judicial independence and the nuances of its role in the appointment of High Court judges.

USE: Judicial Independence

Collegium System

Judicial Appointments

Separation of Powers

High Court

## ECI defends additional declaration form in electoral roll revision

**WHY IN NEWS** The Election Commission of India (ECI) defended the use of an additional declaration form for voters deleted during the Special Intensive Revision against a petition filed by Priya Mishra.

|         |                                                                                                                        |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BODY    | Election Commission of India (ECI) — uses additional declaration forms alongside Form 6 for electoral roll management. |
| PERSON  | Gyanesh Kumar — Chief Election Commissioner of India.                                                                  |
| CONCEPT | Statutory amendment — the ECI argued that the additional declaration form is not a statutory amendment.                |

**MAINS Q** *Examine the constitutional autonomy of the Election Commission of India in formulating procedural guidelines for electoral roll management.*

USE: Constitutional autonomy Electoral integrity Administrative procedure Statutory amendment Judicial review

## Karnataka removes 99.32 lakh names from electoral roll after Special Intensive Revision

**WHY IN NEWS** The Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka published the final electoral roll after a Special Intensive Revision, resulting in the removal of over 99.32 lakh names from the voter list.

|         |                                                                                                  |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BODY    | Chief Electoral Officer — the authority responsible for publishing the final electoral roll      |
| CONCEPT | Special Intensive Revision — a process resulting in the removal of 99.32 lakh names in Karnataka |
| FIGURE  | 16.39 lakh — number of dead voters removed from the list                                         |
| FIGURE  | 80.62 lakh — number of individuals removed due to shifting residence                             |
| FIGURE  | 61,059 — total Form-7 applications filed by Electoral Registration Officers                      |

**MAINS Q** *Discuss the importance of periodic electoral roll revisions in ensuring the integrity of the democratic process in India.*

USE: Electoral Roll Special Intensive Revision Form-7 Democracy Voter List Integrity

## CEC Gyanesh Kumar seeks removal process mirroring Supreme Court judges

**WHY IN NEWS** CEC Gyanesh Kumar and two Election Commissioners filed a 250-page affidavit arguing that the removal process for a CEC must mirror the procedure for removing a Supreme Court judge.

|         |                                                                                                           |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PERSON  | Gyanesh Kumar — Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)                                                         |
| CONCEPT | Removal Process — Argument that CEC removal should mirror the procedure for removing Supreme Court judges |
| BODY    | Election Commission of India (ECI) — Responsible for electoral roll revisions                             |

**MAINS Q** *Discuss the constitutional necessity of ensuring the independence of the Election Commission of India through robust removal protections.*

USE: Institutional Independence Constitutional Safeguards Executive Oversight Democratic Integrity

## UP Chief Electoral Officer announces vote counting for 11 Legislative Council seats

**WHY IN NEWS** The UP Chief Electoral Officer, Navdeep Rinwa, announced the commencement of vote counting for 11 Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council constituencies.

- CONCEPT** | Proportional representation via the single transferable vote method is used for the UP Legislative Council.
- BODY** | Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) is the authority responsible for overseeing the state's electoral process.
- PLACE** | Counting locations include Lucknow, Varanasi, Agra, Meerut, Jhansi, Bareilly, and Gorakhpur.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of the proportional representation system in the election of members to the Legislative Council and its impact on ensuring diverse representation.

**USE:** Proportional Representation Single Transferable Vote Electoral Transparency Legislative Council Election Administration

## Supreme Court warns Rajasthan of CBI probe over illegal mining in river system

**WHY IN NEWS** The Supreme Court warned the Rajasthan government of a CBI probe into illegal mining activities within the Jojari-Luni-Bandi river system.

- PLACE** | Jojari-Luni-Bandi river system — site of illegal mining activities in Rajasthan
- CONCEPT** | Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) — infrastructure for which a financial proposal was demanded
- DATE** | November 27, 2026 — deadline for Rajasthan to submit the financial proposal for CETPs

**MAINS Q** Examine the role of the judiciary in ensuring environmental accountability and curbing illegal mining activities in India's river systems.

**USE:** Judicial Activism Environmental Governance Regulatory Compliance Accountability Natural Resource Management

## Social Justice

1

## IITs fail UGC counsellor mandates and faculty representation quotas

**WHY IN NEWS** RTI data revealed that several IITs are failing to meet UGC-mandated student-counsellor ratios and faculty representation quotas, sparking protests following the death of Sahil Wakode at IIT-Bombay.

- CONCEPT** | UGC recommendation: One counsellor per 500 students in educational institutions
- PLACE** | IIT Ropar: One of the few IITs reported to meet the counsellor-to-student ratio guidelines
- CONCEPT** | Faculty representation mandates: Failure to meet quotas for SC, ST, OBC, and EWS faculty

**MAINS Q** Critically analyze the institutional gaps in mental health support and diversity mandates in premier technical institutes like IITs.

**USE:** Mental Health Infrastructure Institutional Accountability Inclusive Education Regulatory Compliance Student Welfare

## India warns UNSC reform without veto powers creates second-class status

**WHY IN NEWS** India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, warned that UNSC reforms granting permanent seats without veto powers would result in a 'second-class' status for those members.

|         |                                                                                                 |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CONCEPT | Veto Power — India argues that permanent seats without this power create a second-class status. |
| MISSION | India's UNSC Goals — Seeking a permanent seat and a non-permanent seat for the 2028-29 term.    |
| EVENT   | June 2027 Contest — India is contesting against Tajikistan for a non-permanent seat.            |
| BODY    | UN Security Council — Founded in 1945 with five current permanent members.                      |

**MAINS Q** Critically analyze the hurdles in reforming the UN Security Council and the significance of the veto power in maintaining global geopolitical equilibrium.

USE: [multilateralism](#) [geopolitical influence](#) [sovereign equality](#) [institutional reform](#) [veto power](#)

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

9 NOTES

## Economy

## Ministry amends Central Motor Vehicles Rules to permit E100 fuel in flex-fuel vehicles

**WHY IN NEWS** The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways amended the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, to permit the use of E100 (100% ethanol) fuel in flex-fuel vehicles to facilitate their homologation.

|         |                                                                                                                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ACT     | Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989: Amended to include E100 alongside E85 for flex-fuel vehicles.                                |
| CONCEPT | E100: Fuel comprising 100% ethanol, whereas E85 contains up to 85% ethanol.                                                      |
| BODY    | Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI): Authorized agency for verifying technical, safety, and environmental standards. |
| FIGURE  | E20: India reached its E20 fuel blend target in 2025.                                                                            |

**MAINS Q** Discuss how the promotion of flex-fuel vehicles and E100 fuel contributes to India's energy security and decarbonization goals.

USE: [Flex-fuel vehicles](#) [Homologation](#) [Ethanol blending](#) [Energy security](#) [Decarbonization](#)

## Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train to be inaugurated in 2027

**WHY IN NEWS** Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw confirmed at the NDTV World Summit 2026 that the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train will be inaugurated in 2027.

|        |                                                                         |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PERSON | Ashwini Vaishnaw — Union Railway Minister                               |
| EVENT  | Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train — Project connecting Mumbai and Ahmedabad |
| DATE   | 2021 — Year construction of the bullet train began                      |
| DATE   | 2017 — Year the foundation stone for the project was laid               |

**MAINS Q** Discuss the role of high-speed rail infrastructure in enhancing India's logistical efficiency and regional connectivity.

USE: [Logistics efficiency](#) [Regional connectivity](#) [Infrastructure development](#) [Project management](#) [High-speed rail](#)

## Uday Kotak warns India to strengthen macroeconomic fundamentals

**WHY IN NEWS** Uday Kotak warned at the Business Standard BFSI Summit that India must strengthen macroeconomic fundamentals as US assets are increasingly outperforming domestic bonds.

- CONCEPT** | Macroeconomic fundamentals: Key factors India must strengthen as US assets outperform domestic bonds.
- SCHEME** | FCNR(B) scheme: Mobilized over \$130 billion by the RBI and government.
- FIGURE** | Repayment obligation: Estimated between \$160 billion and \$170 billion before the August 31 closure.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges India faces in maintaining capital inflows and managing external debt obligations amidst the rising attractiveness of US assets over domestic bonds.

**USE:** Macroeconomic fundamentals Capital flight FCNR(B) scheme External debt Monetary policy

## FPIs sell ₹4.55 lakh crore in equities as Kapoor warns of AI risks

**WHY IN NEWS** Chicago-based investor Kapoor warned of risks regarding AI-driven market concentration and FPI net selling of ₹4.55 lakh crore in Indian equities in 2026.

- FIGURE** | ₹4.55 lakh crore — Total net sale of Indian equities by FPIs in 2026
- FIGURE** | \$115.06 per barrel — Brent crude price reached in October 2026
- CONCEPT** | AI-driven market concentration — Identified as a risk factor for global markets
- CONCEPT** | FPI net selling — Trend observed in Indian equities since July 2025

**MAINS Q** Discuss the implications of Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) volatility and AI-driven market concentration on India's capital market stability.

**USE:** Foreign Portfolio Investment Market Concentration Capital Market Volatility AI-driven Earnings Commodity Cycle

## Agriculture

1

## Karnataka CM mediates agreement to link sugarcane prices to Union MSP

**WHY IN NEWS** Karnataka CM D.K. Shivakumar mediated a deadlock between sugarcane growers and sugar mill owners to link farmer prices to the Union Government's minimum selling price (MSP).

- PLACE** | Belagavi — Location where the mediation between sugarcane growers and sugar mill owners occurred.
- FIGURE** | 79 out of 80 — Number of sugar factories in Karnataka that participated in the price negotiations.
- CONCEPT** | Minimum Selling Price (MSP) — The benchmark used to link farmer prices to ensure agricultural viability.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the challenges in balancing the economic viability of sugar mills with the livelihood of sugarcane farmers in the context of Minimum Selling Price (MSP) linkages.

**USE:** Minimum Selling Price Stakeholder mediation Price linkage Agricultural viability Sugar industry

IT, AI, SEMICONDUCTORS &amp; COMPUTING

P

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## OpenAI models achieve breakthroughs in harmonic analysis and complexity theory

**WHY IN NEWS** OpenAI announced that its AI models achieved significant scientific breakthroughs by proving the local smoothing conjecture, disproving the Exponential Time Hypothesis

- CONCEPT** | Local smoothing conjecture — proved by OpenAI models in every spatial dimension
- CONCEPT** | Exponential Time Hypothesis — disproved by OpenAI models
- CONCEPT** | Quantum chromodynamics — OpenAI models provided proof of its existence
- CONCEPT** | Enzyme discovery — Anthropic claimed an AI-driven discovery of a new enzyme

**MAINS Q** Discuss the implications of AI-driven scientific discovery on the traditional methodology of empirical research and the democratization of high-level theoretical physics.

**USE:** Artificial Intelligence Quantum Chromodynamics Complexity Theory Scientific Discovery Algorithmic Research

IT, AI, SEMICONDUCTORS &amp; COMPUTING

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## DNPA petitions Supreme Court to stay data laws threatening press freedom

**WHY IN NEWS** The Digital News Publishers Association (DNPA) petitioned the Supreme Court to stay the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 and its 2025 Rules, alleging they threaten press freedom.

- BODY** | DNPA: Digital News Publishers Association representing 21 publishers
- ACT / BILL** | Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023
- FACT** | Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025
- POST** | Surya Kant: Chief Justice of India

**MAINS Q** Examine the conflict between personal data protection regulations and the constitutional right to freedom of the press in the digital age.

**USE:** Press Freedom Data Privacy Digital Governance Constitutional Rights Regulatory Oversight

DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY

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## Rajnath Singh calls for Aatmanirbharta 2.0 as Navy signs ₹1,900 crore contracts

**WHY IN NEWS** Defense Minister Rajnath Singh called for 'Aatmanirbharta 2.0' during SWAVLAMBAN 5.0 to reduce import dependence through advanced technology and resilient supply chains.

- CONCEPT** | Aatmanirbharta 2.0 — Initiative to reduce import dependence through advanced technology and resilient supply chains.
- EVENT** | SWAVLAMBAN 5.0 — Event held in New Delhi to discuss defense indigenization.
- FIGURE** | ₹1,900 crore — Value of 25 contracts signed by the Indian Navy.
- FIGURE** | ₹3,500 crore — Value of 41 Acceptance of Necessity approvals received by the Navy.
- CONCEPT** | iDEX — Navy-specific challenges increased from 20 in 2022 to 229.

**MAINS Q** Discuss the significance of 'Aatmanirbharta 2.0' in achieving strategic autonomy and reducing import dependence in India's defense manufacturing sector.

**USE:** Strategic Autonomy Defense Indigenization Supply Chain Resilience iDEX Aatmanirbharta

## IMD issues red alert for Andhra Pradesh as cyclonic storm Arnab approaches

**WHY IN NEWS** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a red alert for Andhra Pradesh due to the approaching cyclonic storm 'Arnab' to facilitate emergency response and evacuation.

**BODY** | NDRF — National Disaster Response Force is the primary agency for disaster response in India

**PLACE** | Andhra Pradesh — State on the eastern coast of India affected by Cyclonic Storm Arnab

**FIGURE** | 54 relief camps — Established to accommodate 31,405 people

**FIGURE** | 37 villages — Identified in 11 mandals as high-risk areas

**MAINS Q** Discuss the institutional framework for disaster management in coastal India and the role of multi-agency coordination in mitigating cyclonic risks.

**USE:** Disaster Management Cyclonic Storm Multi-agency Coordination Climate Resilience Early Warning Systems

# 10 questions, 10 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

1 Which High Court was Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak recommended for?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh High Court (b) Gujarat High Court  
(c) Maharashtra High Court (d) Kerala High Court

2 Which country is India contesting against for a non-permanent seat in June 2027?

- (a) Kyrgyzstan (b) Uzbekistan  
(c) Tajikistan (d) Turkmenistan

3 With reference to flex-fuel vehicles and ethanol blending in India, consider the following statements:

1. ARAI is the authorized agency for verifying vehicle homologation and type approval.
2. The Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 were amended to permit E100 fuel in flex-fuel vehicles.
3. E100 fuel contains up to 85% ethanol content.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4 With reference to AI-driven scientific discoveries, consider the following statements:

1. OpenAI models provided proof of the existence of quantum chromodynamics
2. OpenAI models proved the Exponential Time Hypothesis
3. OpenAI models proved the local smoothing conjecture in every spatial dimension

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

5 Which agency is identified as the primary body for disaster response in India?

- (a) SCDF (b) INSAS  
(c) NDRF (d) NIDM

6 Who is the current Chief Election Commissioner of India?

- (a) Amit Kumar (b) Gyanesh Kumar  
(c) Sanjay Kumar (d) Ravi Kumar

7 With reference to the electoral roll revision in Karnataka, consider the following statements:

1. A total of 99.32 lakh names were struck off from the voter list.
2. The number of dead voters removed from the list was 80.62 lakh.
3. The revision resulted in the electorate decreasing from 5,54,32,314 to 4,55,00,011.

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

8 What is the student-to-counsellor ratio recommended by the UGC for educational institutions?

- (a) 1:500 (b) 1:2000  
(c) 1:1000 (d) 1:250

9 In which city did the mediation between sugarcane growers and sugar mill owners take place?

- (a) Mysuru (b) Belagavi  
(c) Hubli (d) Bengaluru

