PadhAI

Daily PIB Summary

13th March 2026

Welcome to PadhAI

Your Partner in Smart UPSC Preparation

You're holding a resource designed to cut through the noise and bring you *only what truly matters* for the exam. At PadhAI, we believe preparation should be clear, focused, and time-efficient — never overwhelming.

At PadhAI, we build everything around one philosophy:
"Learn only what matters.
Learn it the right way.
Learn it at the right time."

With a rapidly growing community of *2lakh+ aspirants,* PadhAI has become a trusted space for disciplined learning and daily practice.

We bring you:

- Concise Monthly Magazines
- Daily PIB Summaries @ 9 PM
- Daily MCQs + Mains Practice
- High-yield, exam-ready content
- APP features - duel competition, fast mains answer review, daily news article summary, PYQs, MCQs PRACTICE, AI tutor (based on highly yield content From UPSC topper insight, and various trusted websites). Many more feature which will improve your preparation and save your time automatically.

Join our Telegram community and download the PadhAI App to experience structured guidance, supportive peers, and consistent motivation — everything a serious aspirantneeds

Welcome to a smarter way of preparing.
Welcome to PadhAI.

Click here to join to telegram channel

Scan the QR code or just click on it
to download the app

1.NXT 2026 CONCLAVE EMERGING AS A KEY PLATFORM FOR POLICY DIALOGUE, INNOVATION AND GLOBAL COOPERATION: LOK SABHA SPEAKER

- The **NXT 2026 Conclave** is gaining recognition as a significant forum for **dialogue on emerging technologies, governance challenges, and global collaboration**.
- The event brings together **policy makers, industry leaders, innovators, and international stakeholders** to discuss solutions for contemporary global issues.
- Key themes include **technology-driven governance, innovation ecosystems, digital transformation, and international partnerships**.
- Such platforms facilitate **knowledge exchange, policy coordination, and collaborative solutions to shared global challenges**.

- The conclave also reflects India's growing role as a **hub for international dialogue on technology, governance, and innovation**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Policy Conclaves and Global Dialogue

Policy conclaves are platforms that facilitate:

- **Interaction between policymakers and experts**
- **Exchange of ideas on governance and development**
- **International collaboration on emerging global issues**

These forums help generate **innovative policy solutions and strengthen diplomatic engagement**.

Role of Innovation in Governance

Innovation-driven policymaking focuses on:

- **Adoption of emerging technologies**
- **Digital transformation of governance systems**
- **Public–private collaboration**

Such approaches enhance **efficiency, transparency, and service delivery** in governance.

India's Role in Global Policy Platforms

India has increasingly hosted major international forums such as:

- G20 Summit 2023

- Raisina Dialogue

These platforms strengthen India's role in **global governance and international cooperation**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Policy Platform:** NXT 2026 Conclave is emerging as a **major forum for policy dialogue and innovation**.
- **Speaker's Statement:** Remarks made by the **Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla**.
- **Global Participation:** Brings together **policy makers, innovators, and international stakeholders**.
- **Innovation Focus:** Discussions on **technology, governance, and digital transformation**.
- **International Cooperation:** Encourages **collaborative approaches to global challenges**.
- **Strategic Importance:** Enhances India's role as a **hub for global policy discussions**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Lok Sabha Speaker

- Presiding officer of the **Lower House of Parliament**
- Responsible for **maintaining order and regulating debates**

Policy Conclaves

- Platforms for **dialogue among governments, industry, and academia**

Examples of Major Global Forums Hosted by India

- Raisina Dialogue
- G20 Summit 2023

Importance of Innovation Platforms

- Promote **policy experimentation and global cooperation**
- Support **technology-driven governance**

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding **policy conclaves and international forums**:

1. Policy conclaves serve as platforms for dialogue among policymakers, experts, and industry leaders.
2. Such forums facilitate knowledge exchange and international cooperation on global challenges.
3. They are exclusively limited to domestic policy discussions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

2.STATUS OF AATMANIRBHARTA MISSION IN PULSES

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
सत्यमेव जयते

- The **Aatmanirbharta Mission in Pulses** focuses on increasing domestic production of pulses through **enhanced productivity, improved seed varieties, and expansion of cultivation areas**.
- The mission aims to reduce India's dependence on imports of pulses while ensuring **nutritional security and stable supply of protein-rich food**.
- Key measures include **procurement support, price incentives, research on high-yield varieties, and promotion of pulses cultivation in suitable regions**.
- The initiative also supports farmers by **improving market access, strengthening procurement mechanisms, and stabilizing prices through Minimum Support Price (MSP) policies**.
- Achieving self-reliance in pulses is crucial for **food security, agricultural sustainability, and income enhancement for farmers**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Importance of Pulses in India

Pulses are an essential component of the Indian diet as a major **source of plant-based protein**.

Key characteristics:

- Rich in **protein, fibre, and micronutrients**
- Improve **soil fertility through nitrogen fixation**
- Require **relatively less water compared to many other crops**

India is both the **largest producer and consumer of pulses globally**.

Major Pulse Crops in India

Important pulses grown in India include:

- **Gram (Chickpea)**
- **Tur/Arhar (Pigeon pea)**
- **Urad (Black gram)**
- **Moong (Green gram)**
- **Masoor (Lentil)**

These crops are cultivated mainly during the **Rabi and Kharif seasons**.

Policy Support for Pulses

The government supports pulse production through:

- **Minimum Support Price (MSP)**
- **Procurement mechanisms**
- **Distribution under food security programmes**

Procurement is undertaken by agencies such as
National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India.

- National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India

Policy Tools

- **Minimum Support Price (MSP)**
- **Price support schemes**
- **Research on improved seed varieties**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Mission Objective:** Achieve **self-reliance in pulses production**.
- **Production Boost:** Focus on **higher productivity and expanded cultivation area**.
- **Seed Development:** Promotion of **improved and high-yielding seed varieties**.
- **Farmer Support:** MSP and procurement mechanisms to ensure **price stability**.
- **Import Reduction:** Reduce dependence on **pulse imports**.
- **Nutritional Security:** Pulses provide **protein-rich food for the population**.
- **Soil Health:** Pulse crops improve **soil fertility through nitrogen fixation**.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding **pulses cultivation in India**:

1. Pulses help improve soil fertility through nitrogen fixation.
2. India is one of the largest producers and consumers of pulses in the world.
3. Pulses are primarily grown only during the Kharif season.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Major Pulses in India

- Gram (Chickpea)
- Tur/Arhar (Pigeon pea)
- Moong (Green gram)
- Urad (Black gram)
- Masoor (Lentil)

Nitrogen Fixation

- Pulses host **Rhizobium bacteria** in root nodules
- Helps improve **soil fertility**

Key Procurement Agency

3.FIRST EXPORT OF GI-TAGGED JOHA RICE FROM ASSAM TO UK AND ITALY FACILITATED BY APEDA

- The export of **Joha rice**, a traditional aromatic rice variety from Assam, marks an important milestone in promoting **Geographical Indication (GI) products from Northeast India**.
- Facilitated by APEDA, the export strengthens **global market access for region-specific agricultural products** while ensuring authenticity and quality through GI certification.
- The move also supports **farmer collectives, producer organisations, and exporters** in the region.
- Promoting GI-tagged products internationally enhances **India's agri-exports, rural livelihoods, and brand value of indigenous agricultural produce**.
- This step aligns with broader efforts to **diversify agricultural exports and integrate small farmers into global value chains**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Joha Rice

Joha rice is a **short-grain aromatic rice variety traditionally grown in Assam**.

Key features:

- Distinct **fragrance and soft texture**
- Popular in **traditional Assamese cuisine**
- Cultivated mainly in **Upper Assam regions**

Joha rice received **Geographical Indication (GI) status** due to its **unique regional characteristics**.

Geographical Indication (GI) Tag

A **Geographical Indication** identifies goods that originate from a specific region where **quality, reputation, or characteristics are linked to the geographical origin**.

GI tags in India are governed under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

Examples of GI-tagged products include:

- Darjeeling Tea
- Basmati Rice

Role of APEDA

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority operates under the
Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Its functions include:

Click here to access
Monthly Magazine

Click here to access
Yojana Magazine

Click here to access
Current Affairs

Click here to access
Our Telegram

- **Promotion of agricultural exports**
- **Quality certification and export standards**
- **Market development for Indian agri-products**

APEDA plays a crucial role in promoting **GI-tagged agricultural products internationally**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **First Export:** GI-tagged **Joha rice exported to the UK and Italy**.
- **Facilitating Agency:** Export facilitated by **APEDA**.
- **Regional Product:** Joha rice is a **traditional aromatic rice from Assam**.
- **GI Promotion:** Enhances global visibility of **Geographical Indication products**.
- **Farmer Benefits:** Improves **income opportunities for farmers and producer groups**.
- **Export Diversification:** Supports **expansion of India's agricultural exports**.
- **Northeast Focus:** Promotes **agricultural products from the Northeast region**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

GI Law in India

- Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999

GI Definition

- Products whose **quality or reputation is linked to a specific geographical origin**

Joha Rice

- **Aromatic rice variety from Assam**
- Known for **distinct fragrance and soft texture**

Export Promotion Body

- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

Examples of GI Products

- Darjeeling Tea
- Basmati Rice

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding **Geographical Indication (GI) tagged agricultural products**:

1. A GI tag identifies products whose qualities or reputation are linked to a specific geographical origin.
2. The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 governs GI registration in India.
3. APEDA plays a role in promoting export of GI-tagged agricultural products.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

4.C-DOT ORGANISES DEMO DAY FOR 18 STARTUPS UNDER 'SAMARTH' INCUBATION PROGRAM (COHORT-II)

- The **Samarth Incubation Program** by C-DOT aims to **promote innovation and entrepreneurship in telecom and information technology sectors**.
- Under Cohort-II, **18 startups presented their technological solutions** during the Demo Day, highlighting advancements in areas such as **telecommunications, digital infrastructure, and emerging technologies**.
- The initiative provides **mentorship, technical support, infrastructure, and networking opportunities** to startups.
- Such programs strengthen India's **telecom innovation ecosystem**, encourage **indigenous technology development**, and support the country's push towards **digital self-reliance**.
- The platform also connects startups with **industry leaders, investors, and policymakers**, accelerating the commercialization of innovative technologies.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)

The Centre for Development of Telematics is a **telecom technology development centre of the Government of India**.

It functions under the Department of Telecommunications.

Key roles include:

- Development of **indigenous telecom technologies**
- Research in **next-generation communication systems**
- Promotion of **telecom innovation and startups**

Samarth Incubation Program

The **Samarth Program** is a startup incubation initiative by C-DOT aimed at:

- Supporting **early-stage technology startups**
- Providing **mentorship and infrastructure**
- Facilitating **industry collaboration and funding opportunities**

Focus areas include:

- **Telecom technologies**
- **5G and next-generation networks**
- **Artificial Intelligence and IoT applications**
- **Digital infrastructure solutions**

Startup Incubation in India

Incubation programs play a key role in strengthening the **startup ecosystem** by offering:

- **Technical guidance and mentorship**
- **Access to research facilities**
- **Investor and industry networking**
- **Commercialization support**

These initiatives contribute to **innovation-driven economic growth and technology development**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organising Institution:** Demo Day organised by **C-DOT**.
- **Program:** Cohort-II of the **Samarth Incubation Program**.
- **Startup Participation: 18 startups showcased telecom and ICT innovations**.
- **Innovation Focus:** Solutions related to **telecom, digital infrastructure, and emerging technologies**.
- **Startup Support:** Provides **mentorship, infrastructure, and networking opportunities**.
- **Strategic Goal:** Promote **indigenous telecom innovation and digital self-reliance**.
- **Industry Linkages:** Connects startups with **investors, industry experts, and policymakers**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

C-DOT

- Established in **1984**
- Autonomous telecom R&D centre under the Department of Telecommunications

Samarth Incubation Program

- Startup incubation initiative for **telecom and digital technology startups**

Focus Areas

- **Telecommunications**
- **5G technologies**
- **IoT applications**
- **Artificial Intelligence**

Purpose of Incubation

- Promote **innovation and technology commercialization**
- Support **startup ecosystem development**

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**:

1. C-DOT functions under the Department of Telecommunications.
2. The Samarth Incubation Program aims to support startups working in telecom and digital technologies.

3. C-DOT primarily regulates telecom tariffs in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.PROGRESS OF SCHEME ON ENHANCEMENT OF COMPETITIVENESS IN INDIAN CAPITAL GOODS SECTOR

DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

- The scheme aims to **strengthen India's capital goods sector by improving technology development, innovation, and manufacturing capabilities**.

- Capital goods such as **machinery, equipment, and industrial tools** are essential for the growth of manufacturing and infrastructure sectors.
- Through initiatives such as **technology development funds, skill development, and research support**, the government seeks to enhance **domestic production and reduce dependence on imports**.
- The program also promotes **industry–academia collaboration, testing facilities, and standards development** to boost competitiveness.
- Strengthening the capital goods sector contributes to **industrial growth, job creation, and the development of a resilient manufacturing ecosystem**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Capital Goods Sector

Capital goods refer to **machines, equipment, and tools used to produce other goods and services**.

Examples include:

- **Industrial machinery**
- **Electrical equipment**
- **Machine tools**
- **Heavy engineering products**

The sector acts as a **backbone for manufacturing and infrastructure development**.

National Capital Goods Policy, 2016

The scheme aligns with the objectives of the National Capital Goods Policy, 2016.

Key goals of the policy include:

- Increasing the **share of capital goods sector in manufacturing**
- Expanding **exports of capital goods**
- Promoting **technology development and innovation**
- Enhancing **skill development in engineering sectors**

Importance for Industrial Growth

A strong capital goods sector enables:

- **Technological self-reliance**
- **Reduced import dependency**
- **Growth of domestic manufacturing**
- **Support for sectors such as energy, infrastructure, and transport**

It also contributes to initiatives such as **Make in India and industrial modernization**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme Objective:** Enhance **competitiveness of the Indian capital goods sector**.
- **Implementing Department:** Managed by **DPIIT under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.
- **Technology Development:** Supports **R&D and innovation in industrial equipment**.
- **Industry–Academia Collaboration:** Encourages **joint research and skill development**.

- **Infrastructure Support:** Development of **testing facilities and technology centers**.
- **Import Reduction:** Promotes **domestic manufacturing of capital goods**.
- **Economic Impact:** Strengthens **manufacturing ecosystem and industrial growth**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Capital Goods

- Goods used for **producing other goods or services**
- Examples: **machinery, equipment, machine tools**

Key Policy

- National Capital Goods Policy, 2016

Implementing Authority

- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

Importance

- Supports **manufacturing and infrastructure sectors**
- Enhances **technological capability and industrial productivity**

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the **capital goods sector**:

1. Capital goods are machines and equipment used to produce other goods and services.
2. The National Capital Goods Policy, 2016 aims to promote innovation and increase exports of capital goods.
3. The capital goods sector has no linkage with infrastructure development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Click here to access
Monthly Magazine

Click here to access
Yojana Magazine

Click here to access
Current Affairs

Click here to access
Our Telegram