



Monthly PIB Summary

May 2026

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1. UIDAI–NFSU COLLABORATION TO BOOST CYBERSECURITY & DIGITAL FORENSICS



- B. Stronger cyber resilience
- V. Overall, supports **secure digital governance infrastructure**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

UIDAI

- I. Unique Identification Authority of India:
 - A. Issues Aadhaar
 - B. Ensures secure identity authentication

NFSU

- I. National Forensic Sciences University:
 - A. Specialized university in forensic science and cybersecurity

Digital Forensics

- I. Involves:
 - A. Investigation of digital crimes
 - B. Analysis of electronic evidence

Importance

- I. Increasing cyber threats require:
 - A. Advanced security mechanisms
- II. Protects:
 - A. Sensitive personal data

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Partners:** UIDAI & NFSU.
- **Focus:** Cybersecurity and forensics.
- **Area:** Digital identity protection.
- **Approach:** Research and training.
- **Impact:** Stronger data security.
- **Challenge:** Evolving cyber threats.

- I. The collaboration focuses on:
 - A. Enhancing **data security and privacy protection**
 - B. Developing expertise in **digital forensics**
- II. Key initiatives:
 - A. Joint research and training programmes
 - B. Capacity building for cybersecurity professionals
- III. Areas of focus:
 - A. Cyber threat detection
 - B. Fraud prevention
 - C. Secure digital identity systems
- IV. Benefits:
 - A. Improved protection of Aadhaar ecosystem

- **Way Forward:** Continuous innovation and capacity building.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **UIDAI:** Aadhaar authority
- **NFSU:** Forensic university
- **Concept:** Digital forensics
- **Focus:** Cybersecurity
- **Goal:** Data protection
- **Sector:** Digital governance
- **Impact:** Cyber resilience

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. UIDAI is responsible for Aadhaar.
2. Digital forensics involves analysis of electronic evidence.
3. Cybersecurity is irrelevant to digital identity systems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.BHARAT INNOVATES 2026: GLOBAL ROADSHOW IN PARIS



- I. The roadshow is part of preparations for **Bharat Innovates 2026**, a flagship innovation event.
- II. Key goals:
 - A. Showcase India's **innovation and startup ecosystem**
 - B. Attract **foreign investment and partnerships**
- III. Focus sectors:
 - A. Deep tech (AI, semiconductors, etc.)
 - B. Research & Development (R&D)
 - C. Higher education collaboration
- IV. Promotes:
 - A. Industry-academia partnerships
 - B. Global knowledge exchange
- V. Enhances India's image as a **global innovation destination**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Bharat Innovates Initiative

- I. Platform to:
 - A. Connect startups, academia, investors
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Innovation-driven growth

Role of Ministry of Education

- I. Ministry of Education:
 - A. Promotes research, innovation, and higher education reforms

Global Outreach

- I. International roadshows:
 - A. Build collaborations
 - B. Facilitate technology transfer

Policy Linkages

- Startup India
- National Education Policy 2020

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** Bharat Innovates 2026 (roadshow).
- **Location:** Paris.
- **Organizer:** Ministry of Education.
- **Focus:** Innovation ecosystem.
- **Participants:** Investors, corporates, academia.
- **Impact:** Global partnerships.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen R&D and international collaboration.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Initiative:** Bharat Innovates
- **Ministry:** Education
- **Policy:** NEP 2020
- **Focus:** Innovation & startups
- **Location:** Paris
- **Concept:** R&D collaboration
- **Goal:** Global engagement

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Bharat Innovates focuses on innovation and startup ecosystems.
2. International roadshows help attract global investment and partnerships.
3. The National Education Policy 2020 discourages research and innovation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. INDIAN OCEAN SHIP SAGAR ARRIVES AT YANGON, MYANMAR



India–Myanmar Relations

- I. Strategic importance:
 - A. Gateway to Southeast Asia
- II. Cooperation in:
 - A. Defence
 - B. Connectivity

Indian Ocean Region (IOR)

- I. Critical for:
 - A. Trade and energy routes
- II. Focus on:
 - A. Stability and security

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ship:** IOS SAGAR.
- **Location:** Yangon, Myanmar.
- **Focus:** Maritime cooperation.
- **Policy:** SAGAR doctrine.
- **Impact:** Regional engagement.
- **Sector:** Defence diplomacy.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen maritime partnerships

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **SAGAR:** Security and Growth for All in the Region
- **Region:** Indian Ocean
- **Country:** Myanmar
- **City:** Yangon
- **Concept:** Maritime diplomacy
- **Goal:** Regional cooperation
- **Impact:** Security

- I. The deployment of **IOS SAGAR** is part of India's:
 - A. Maritime diplomacy initiatives
- II. Key objectives:
 - A. Strengthen ties with Myanmar
 - B. Enhance cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region
- III. Activities include:
 - A. Joint interactions
 - B. Capacity-building engagements
- IV. Promotes:
 - A. Goodwill and trust among regional partners
- V. Supports:
 - A. India's role as a **net security provider**
- VI. Overall, strengthens **India–Myanmar maritime relations**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

SAGAR Doctrine

- I. Stands for:
 - A. **Security and Growth for All in the Region**
- II. Emphasizes:
 - A. Cooperative maritime security

PadhAI–GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. SAGAR stands for Security and Growth for All in the Region.
2. Myanmar is part of Southeast Asia.
3. The Indian Ocean has no strategic importance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. CABINET APPROVES 3 MULTITRACKING RAIL PROJECTS (≈901 KM EXPANSION)



- IV. What is multitracking?
 - A. Addition of **extra rail lines (doubling/tripling)** along existing routes
- V. Key benefits:
 - A. Faster passenger and freight movement
 - B. Reduced congestion and delays
 - C. Better logistics efficiency
- VI. Economic impact:
 - A. Supports industrial growth
 - B. Enhances supply chain connectivity

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Why Multitracking is Needed

- I. Existing rail lines face:
 - A. Heavy traffic congestion
- II. Leads to:
 - A. Delays and reduced efficiency
- III. Multitracking helps:
 - A. Increase throughput
 - B. Improve punctuality

Role of Indian Railways

- I. Indian Railways:
 - A. Backbone of India's transport system
- II. Critical for:
 - A. Freight (coal, cement, food grains)
 - B. Passenger mobility

Policy Linkages

- PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan
- National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- I. States covered:
 - A. Madhya Pradesh
 - B. Rajasthan
 - C. Uttar Pradesh
 - D. Karnataka
 - E. Andhra Pradesh
 - F. Telangana
- II. Implementing agency:
 - A. Indian Railways
- III. Key objectives:
 - A. Increase **line capacity** on high-traffic routes
 - B. Improve **operational efficiency**

- **Projects:** 3 multitracking projects
- **Length:** ~901 km
- **Coverage:** 19 districts, 6 states
- **Focus:** Capacity expansion
- **Impact:** Reduced congestion, faster trains
- **Sector:** Rail infrastructure
- **Way Forward:** Accelerate modernization and network expansion

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Concept:** Multitracking (doubling/tripling lines)
- **Agency:** Indian Railways
- **Length:** ~901 km
- **States:** MP, Rajasthan, UP, Karnataka, AP, Telangana
- **Benefit:** Efficiency & capacity
- **Policy:** PM Gati Shakti
- **Goal:** Connectivity

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Multitracking involves adding additional railway lines alongside existing ones.
2. It helps increase railway capacity and reduce congestion.
3. Multitracking reduces freight movement efficiency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. CABINET APPROVES INCREASE IN SUPREME COURT JUDGE STRENGTH



- I. The proposal aims to:
 - A. Address **rising pendency of cases**
 - B. Improve **speed of justice delivery**
- II. New sanctioned strength:
 - A. **37 judges (including the Chief Justice of India)**
- III. Expected outcomes:
 - A. Faster disposal of cases
 - B. Reduced backlog
- IV. Reflects the need for:
 - A. Strengthening judicial capacity
- V. Overall, it enhances **the efficiency of the highest judicial body.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Supreme Court of India

- I. Supreme Court of India:
 - A. Apex judicial authority
- II. Functions:
 - A. Constitutional interpretation
 - B. Appellate jurisdiction
 - C. Protection of fundamental rights

Judge Strength

- I. Determined by:
 - A. Parliament through legislation
- II. Increased periodically to:
 - A. Meet growing caseload

Issue of Pendency

- I. Large number of pending cases:
 - A. Leads to delays in justice
- II. Increasing judges helps:
 - A. Improve case disposal rate

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Institution:** Supreme Court of India.
- **Old Strength:** 33 judges.
- **New Strength:** 37 judges.
- **Increase:** +4 judges.
- **Reason:** Reduce pendency.
- **Impact:** Faster justice delivery.
- **Way Forward:** Judicial reforms and digitization.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Court:** Supreme Court
- **Strength:** 37 judges
- **Function:** Apex judiciary

- **Issue:** Case backlog
- **Solution:** Increase judges
- **Goal:** Speedy justice
- **Concept:** Judicial efficiency

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The strength of the Supreme Court is determined by Parliament.
2. Increasing the number of judges helps reduce case pendency.
3. The Supreme Court has only original jurisdiction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. PSA OFFICE–FICCI MoU TO BOOST INDIA'S R&D ECOSYSTEM



- I. The MoU focuses on:
 - A. Strengthening **industry–academia collaboration**
 - B. Promoting **innovation–driven growth**
- II. Key areas:
 - A. Research commercialization
 - B. Technology transfer
 - C. Capacity building
- III. Encourages:
 - A. Private sector participation in R&D
- IV. Supports:
 - A. Development of emerging technologies
- V. Overall, aims to enhance **India's innovation capacity and global competitiveness.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA)

- I. Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India:
 - A. Advises government on science and technology policies
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Innovation and research

FICCI

- I. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry:
 - A. Leading industry body
- II. Represents:
 - A. Business and industry interests

Importance of R&D

- I. Drives:
 - A. Economic growth
 - B. Technological advancement
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Global competitiveness

Challenges in India

- Low private investment in R&D
- Gap between research and commercialization

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Parties:** PSA Office & FICCI
- **Focus:** R&D ecosystem
- **Approach:** Industry–academia collaboration
- **Objective:** Innovation and commercialization
- **Impact:** Stronger research ecosystem

- **Challenge:** Funding and coordination
- **Way Forward:** Increase private sector participation

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PSA:** Scientific advisory body
- **FICCI:** Industry association
- **Focus:** R&D
- **Concept:** Innovation ecosystem
- **Challenge:** Low R&D investment
- **Goal:** Global competitiveness
- **Approach:** Collaboration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

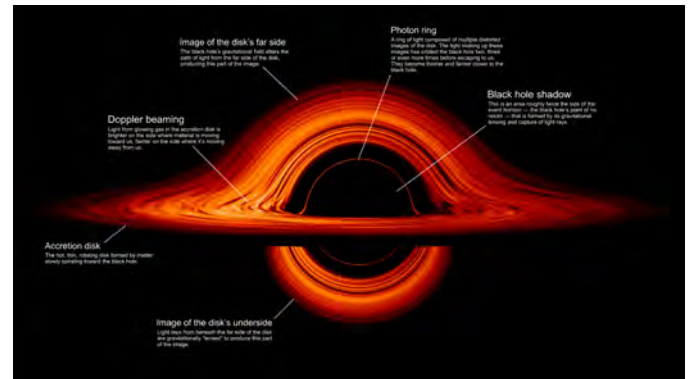
1. The Principal Scientific Adviser advises the government on science and technology.
2. FICCI is an industry body representing businesses.
3. R&D has no role in economic growth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.SCIENTISTS STUDY DIFFERENT APPEARANCES OF EXTRAGALACTIC JETS



- Extragalactic jets:**
 - A. Powerful streams of matter and energy ejected from regions near **black holes**
- Observations show:
 - A. Some jets are **bright and narrow**
 - B. Others are **diffuse and irregular**
- Key factors influencing differences:
 - A. Surrounding environment (density of intergalactic medium)
 - B. Magnetic fields
 - C. Speed and energy of particles
- Research helps:
 - A. Understand galaxy evolution
 - B. Study extreme physics conditions
- Overall, it improves knowledge of **cosmic phenomena and space physics**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Black Holes

- Regions in space with:
 - A. Extremely strong gravity
- Not even light can escape

Extragalactic Jets

- I. Originate from:
 - A. Active galactic nuclei (AGN)
- II. Travel:
 - A. Thousands of light-years

Scientific Importance

- I. Helps in:
 - A. Understanding high-energy physics
 - B. Studying structure of galaxies

Key Concepts

- Plasma physics
- Relativistic speeds
- Magnetic field interactions

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Phenomenon:** Extragalactic jets.
- **Source:** Black holes.
- **Variation:** Shape and brightness differ.
- **Factors:** Environment, magnetic fields.
- **Field:** Astrophysics.
- **Impact:** Better understanding of the universe.
- **Way Forward:** Advanced observations and simulations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Object:** Black hole
- **Phenomenon:** Jets
- **Origin:** AGN
- **Concept:** Relativistic particles
- **Field:** Astrophysics
- **Scale:** Light-years
- **Goal:** Understand universe

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Extragalactic jets originate near black holes.
2. Their appearance can vary due to environmental factors.
3. Black holes emit light directly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.INDIA TO HOST INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE (IBCA) SUMMIT 2026



- I. The summit will bring together:
 - A. Member countries
 - B. Conservation experts
 - C. International organizations
- II. Objective:

- A. Strengthen cooperation for **protection of big cats**
- III. Species covered:
 - A. Tiger
 - B. Lion
 - C. Leopard
 - D. Snow leopard
 - E. Cheetah
 - F. Jaguar
 - G. Puma
- IV. Key themes:
 - A. Habitat conservation
 - B. Anti-poaching efforts
 - C. Wildlife research and monitoring
- V. India's role:
 - A. Leader in wildlife conservation initiatives
- VI. Overall, it enhances **global collaboration for biodiversity protection**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

- I. International Big Cat Alliance:
 - A. Launched by India
- II. Focus:
 - A. Conservation of seven big cat species

India's Conservation Efforts

- I. Notable programmes:
 - A. Project Tiger
 - B. Project Lion
- II. India hosts:
 - A. Largest population of wild tigers

Importance

- I. Big cats are:
 - A. Apex predators
- II. Maintain:
 - A. Ecological balance

Global Linkages

- I. Aligns with:
 - A. Biodiversity conservation goals
 - B. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** IBCA Summit 2026.
- **Location:** New Delhi.
- **Focus:** Big cat conservation.
- **Organizer:** India.
- **Species:** 7 big cats.
- **Impact:** Global cooperation.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen conservation strategies.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Alliance:** IBCA
- **Species:** 7 big cats
- **Location:** New Delhi
- **Concept:** Biodiversity
- **Programme:** Project Tiger
- **Role:** Apex predators
- **Goal:** Conservation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. IBCA focuses on conservation of big cats.
2. India hosts the largest population of wild tigers.
3. Big cats are herbivores.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. SWASTH BHARAT PORTAL UNVEILED: BOOST TO DIGITAL HEALTH ECOSYSTEM



- I. The portal provides a **unified digital platform** for:
 - A. Health data management
 - B. Service delivery integration
- II. Key features:
 - A. Interoperability between healthcare systems
 - B. Centralized access to health records
 - C. Improved coordination among stakeholders
- III. Benefits:

- A. Better patient care and continuity
 - B. Enhanced efficiency of healthcare services
- IV. Supports:
 - A. Data-driven decision-making
 - V. Overall, it strengthens India's **digital health infrastructure**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Digital Health in India

- I. Increasing use of:
 - A. Technology in healthcare delivery
- II. Focus on:
 - A. Accessibility and efficiency

Policy Linkage

- I. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM):
 - A. Aims to create a **digital health ecosystem**
- II. Swasth Bharat Portal complements:
 - A. ABDM initiatives

Challenges Addressed

- Fragmented health data systems
- Lack of interoperability
- Inefficiencies in service delivery

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Platform:** Swasth Bharat Portal.
- **Focus:** Digital health integration.
- **Feature:** Interoperability.
- **Benefit:** Better patient care.
- **Policy:** ABDM.
- **Impact:** Efficient healthcare system.
- **Way Forward:** Scale adoption nationwide.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Portal:** Swasth Bharat
- **Mission:** ABDM
- **Concept:** Digital health
- **Feature:** Interoperability
- **Goal:** Unified system
- **Sector:** Healthcare
- **Impact:** Efficiency

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

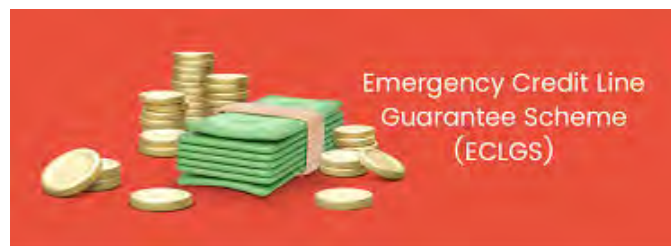
1. Swasth Bharat Portal aims to integrate health systems.
2. ABDM focuses on the digital health ecosystem.
3. Fragmentation improves healthcare efficiency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. CABINET APPROVES EMERGENCY CREDIT LINE GUARANTEE SCHEME (ECLGS) 5.0



- I. **ECLGS 5.0** builds upon earlier versions of the scheme.
- II. Key features:
 - A. Collateral-free loans to businesses
 - B. Government-backed credit guarantees
- III. Target beneficiaries:
 - A. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
 - B. Other stressed sectors
- IV. Objectives:
 - A. Ensure liquidity support
 - B. Promote economic recovery
- V. Benefits:
 - A. Prevent business closures
 - B. Safeguard jobs
- VI. Overall, strengthens **credit flow and economic resilience**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

ECLGS Scheme

- I. Launched during:
 - A. COVID-19 pandemic
- II. Implemented by:
 - A. Ministry of Finance

How It Works

- I. Government provides:
 - A. Guarantee to banks for loans
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Lending without collateral

Importance

- I. MSMEs are:
 - A. Backbone of India's economy
- II. Provide:
 - A. Employment and industrial growth

Policy Linkages

- Atmanirbhar Bharat Package
- MSME support initiatives

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme:** ECLGS 5.0.
- **Ministry:** Finance.
- **Target:** MSMEs.
- **Feature:** Credit guarantee.
- **Benefit:** Liquidity support.
- **Impact:** Economic recovery.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen MSME financing.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Scheme:** ECLGS
- **Type:** Credit guarantee
- **Target:** MSMEs
- **Feature:** Collateral-free loans
- **Ministry:** Finance
- **Goal:** Liquidity
- **Impact:** Jobs

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. ECLGS provides collateral-free loans backed by government guarantees.
2. It mainly targets MSMEs.
3. It discourages lending by banks.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. UTTAR PRADESH EMERGING AS HUB FOR PREMIUM FRUIT PRODUCTION & EXPORTS



- I. Focus on promoting:
 - A. High-value horticulture and fruit exports
- II. Key objectives:
 - A. Increase farmers' income
 - B. Improve export competitiveness
- III. Priority areas:
 - A. Modern farming techniques
 - B. Post-harvest infrastructure
 - C. Cold storage and supply chains
- IV. Encourages:
 - A. Value addition and food processing
- V. Benefits:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Rural economic growth
- VI. Overall, supports diversification of agriculture toward **high-value horticulture**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Horticulture in India

- I. Includes:
 - A. Fruits, vegetables, flowers, spices
- II. Important for:
 - A. Nutritional security and exports

Uttar Pradesh's Potential

- I. Favorable:
 - A. Climate and fertile soil
- II. Major fruit crops:
 - A. Mango
 - B. Guava
 - C. Amla

Export Significance

- I. Premium fruit exports:
 - A. Increase foreign exchange earnings
- II. Require:
 - A. Quality standards and cold chain logistics

Government Initiatives

- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
- Agriculture export promotion measures

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** Fruit Horizon 2026.
- **Location:** Lucknow.
- **Focus:** Premium fruit production.
- **State:** Uttar Pradesh.
- **Objective:** Boost exports and farmer income.
- **Sector:** Horticulture.

- **Way Forward:** Strengthen value chains and infrastructure.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Sector:** Horticulture
- **State:** Uttar Pradesh
- **Event:** Fruit Horizon 2026
- **Minister:** Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- **Mission:** MIDH
- **Focus:** Fruit exports
- **Goal:** Farmer income

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Horticulture includes fruit cultivation.
2. Cold chain infrastructure is important for fruit exports.
3. Premium fruit exports reduce farmers' income.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.INDIA AT THE 61st INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION – LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA 2026



- I. The **India Pavilion** will present:
 - A. Contemporary Indian art and cultural narratives
- II. Objectives:
 - A. Promote India's creative industries globally
 - B. Encourage cultural exchange
- III. Highlights:
 - A. Participation of Indian artists and curators
 - B. Blend of traditional and modern artistic expressions
- IV. Enhances:
 - A. India's soft power and cultural diplomacy
- V. Provides:
 - A. International exposure to Indian art
- VI. Overall, it strengthens India's role in the **global cultural ecosystem**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

- **Focus:** Contemporary art
- **Goal:** Soft power

La Biennale di Venezia

- I. Held in:
 - A. Venice
- II. One of the world's most prestigious:
 - A. International art exhibitions
- III. Organized every:
 - A. Two years (biennale)

India's Participation

- I. India uses the pavilion to:
 - A. Showcase artistic diversity
 - B. Promote cultural diplomacy

Importance of Cultural Diplomacy

- I. Art and culture help:
 - A. Build global understanding
 - B. Enhance international relations

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** La Biennale di Venezia 2026.
- **Country:** India.
- **Venue:** Venice, Italy.
- **Focus:** Contemporary Indian art.
- **Purpose:** Cultural diplomacy.
- **Impact:** Global artistic engagement.
- **Way Forward:** Expand international cultural collaborations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Event:** La Biennale di Venezia
- **Location:** Venice
- **Type:** International art exhibition
- **Frequency:** Biennial
- **Concept:** Cultural diplomacy

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. La Biennale di Venezia is an international art exhibition.
2. Cultural diplomacy can strengthen international relations.
3. The event is held annually.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.DFS INSURANCE DIVISION TOPS GRAI RANKINGS FOR MARCH 2026



वित्तीय सेवाएं विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF
FINANCIAL SERVICES

- I. The ranking reflects:
 - A. Efficient handling of public grievances
 - B. Improved citizen service delivery
- II. GRAI evaluates:
 - A. Timeliness of grievance resolution
 - B. Quality of responses
 - C. Citizen satisfaction
- III. Achievement highlights:

- A. Strengthened accountability mechanisms
- B. Effective governance practices
- IV. Focus areas:
 - A. Transparency
 - B. Responsiveness
 - C. Digital grievance management
- V. Overall, demonstrates progress in **citizen-centric governance and administrative efficiency.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Department of Financial Services (DFS)

- I. Department of Financial Services:
 - A. Functions under the Ministry of Finance
- II. Oversees:
 - A. Banking
 - B. Insurance
 - C. Financial institutions

GRAI (Grievance Redressal Assessment and Index)

- I. Measures:
 - A. Performance of departments in grievance handling
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Faster and better public service delivery

Importance of Grievance Redressal

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Transparency and accountability
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Public trust in governance

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Department:** DFS Insurance Division.
- **Ranking:** Top in Group A.
- **Index:** GRAI.
- **Focus:** Grievance redressal.
- **Impact:** Better citizen services.
- **Approach:** Transparency and responsiveness.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen digital grievance systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Department:** DFS
- **Sector:** Insurance
- **Index:** GRAI
- **Concept:** Grievance redressal
- **Goal:** Citizen-centric governance
- **Focus:** Accountability
- **Impact:** Public trust

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. GRAI assesses grievance redressal performance of departments.
2. DFS functions under the Ministry of Finance.
3. Efficient grievance redressal reduces transparency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. NATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATION CONCLAVE HELD FOR MAJOR GLOBAL SPORTS PREPARATIONS



- I. The conclave brought together:
 - A. National Sports Federations (NSFs)
 - B. Sports administrators and stakeholders
- II. Main objective:
 - A. Strengthen India's long-term sports planning and athlete preparation
- III. Key focus areas:
 - A. Athlete-centric training
 - B. Sports infrastructure
 - C. Scientific coaching and sports medicine
 - D. Talent identification
- IV. Emphasis on:
 - A. Coordination among federations and government agencies
- V. Goal:
 - A. Improve India's performance in international sporting events
- VI. Overall, supports the vision of transforming India into a **global sporting nation**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National Sports Federations (NSFs)

- I. Responsible for:
 - A. Management and promotion of specific sports disciplines
- II. Recognized by:
 - A. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

Major International Events

Asian Games

- Continental multi-sport event in Asia

Commonwealth Games

- International event among Commonwealth nations

Olympic Games

- World's premier international sporting event

India's Sports Policy Focus

- I. Programmes:
 - A. Khelo India
 - B. Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)
- II. Aim:
 - A. Build world-class athletes and infrastructure

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** National Sports Federation Conclave.
- **Minister:** Mansukh Mandaviya.
- **Focus:** International sports preparation.
- **Events targeted:** Asian, Commonwealth & Olympics.
- **Approach:** Athlete-centric planning.
- **Impact:** Better coordination and performance.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen grassroots talent and sports science.

Answer: (a)

5.INDIA'S PENSION LANDSCAPE



PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NSF:** National Sports Federation
- **Programme:** Khelo India
- **Scheme:** TOPS
- **Focus:** Athlete preparation
- **Events:** Olympics, Asian Games
- **Sector:** Sports governance
- **Goal:** Sporting excellence

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. National Sports Federations manage specific sports disciplines in India.
2. TOPS aims to support elite athletes for international competitions.
3. Khelo India is unrelated to sports development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- I. India's pension landscape includes:
 - A. Government pensions
 - B. Social security schemes
 - C. Market-linked pension systems
- II. Major pension schemes:
 - A. National Pension System (NPS)
 - B. Atal Pension Yojana (APY)
 - C. Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS)
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Provide income security after retirement
 - B. Expand pension coverage to unorganized workers
- IV. Key reforms:
 - A. Digital onboarding and portability
 - B. Financial inclusion initiatives
- V. Challenges:
 - A. Low pension penetration
 - B. Informal workforce dominance
- VI. Overall, India is moving toward a **more inclusive and sustainable pension system.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Need for Pension Systems

- I. Rising life expectancy:
 - A. Increases need for retirement security
- II. Pensions help:
 - A. Reduce old-age vulnerability

National Pension System (NPS)

- I. National Pension System:
 - A. Market-linked contributory pension scheme
- II. Regulated by:
 - A. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)

Atal Pension Yojana (APY)

- I. Atal Pension Yojana:
 - A. Targets workers in the unorganized sector
- II. Provides:
 - A. Guaranteed pension after 60 years

Challenges

- I. Large informal workforce:
 - A. Limited formal retirement savings
- II. Need for:
 - A. Financial literacy and wider participation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Focus:** Retirement security.

- **Key schemes:** NPS, APY, EPS.
- **Regulator:** PFRDA.
- **Challenge:** Low coverage.
- **Approach:** Digital and financial inclusion.
- **Impact:** Social security expansion.
- **Way Forward:** Universal pension access.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NPS:** Market-linked pension
- **APY:** Pension for unorganized workers
- **Regulator:** PFRDA
- **Concept:** Social security
- **Challenge:** Informal sector
- **Goal:** Retirement income
- **Focus:** Financial inclusion

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NPS is regulated by PFRDA.
2. Atal Pension Yojana targets unorganized sector workers.
3. Pension systems are unrelated to social security.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA CONVERGE TO STRENGTHEN INDIA'S WATER RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM



Key Objectives

- I. Promote:
 - A. Collaborative research and innovation in the water sector
- II. Encourage:
 - A. Industry-academia partnerships
- III. Develop:
 - A. Indigenous technologies for water conservation and treatment
- IV. Strengthen:
 - A. Evidence-based policymaking and water governance

Focus Areas

- Water conservation technologies
- Wastewater treatment and reuse
- Groundwater management
- Smart water monitoring systems
- Climate-resilient water infrastructure
- Urban and rural water security

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Sustainable development
 - B. Water resource efficiency
 - C. Long-term water security
- II. Helps:
 - A. Bridge the gap between research and real-world implementation

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Water Security

Water Security

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Sustainable availability of adequate quantities of acceptable-quality water
- II. Essential for:
 - A. Human health
 - B. Agriculture
 - C. Industry
 - D. Ecosystem sustainability

Water Challenges in India

- I. Rising demand due to:
 - A. Population growth
 - B. Urbanization
 - C. Industrialization
- II. Key concerns:
 - A. Groundwater depletion
 - B. Water pollution
 - C. Uneven distribution of water resources
 - D. Climate change impacts

Role of Research and Innovation

- I. Helps develop:
 - A. Efficient water treatment technologies
 - B. Water-use efficiency solutions
 - C. Data-driven resource management systems
- II. Facilitates:
 - A. Sustainable and affordable water management

Industry–Academia Collaboration

- I. Promotes:
 - A. Technology transfer
 - B. Commercialization of innovations
 - C. Skill development and capacity building

RELEVANT GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Jal Jeevan Mission

- Aims to provide functional household tap water connections to rural households.

Atal Bhujal Yojana

- Focuses on sustainable groundwater management.

Namami Gange Programme

- Focuses on river conservation and pollution abatement.

SIGNIFICANCE

For Sustainable Development

- I. Supports achievement of:
 - A. Water-related development goals
 - B. Environmental sustainability

For Agriculture

- I. Promotes:
 - A. Efficient irrigation and water-use practices

For Industry

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Water-efficient manufacturing and recycling

For Society

- I. Improves:
 - A. Access to safe and clean water

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Theme:** Water research and innovation.
- **Stakeholders:** Government, industry, and academia.
- **Focus:** Water security and sustainable management.
- **Approach:** Collaborative research and technology development.
- **Challenges addressed:** Water scarcity, pollution, and climate impacts.
- **Importance:** Strengthening India's water resilience.
- **Way Forward:** Build integrated water innovation ecosystems and accelerate adoption of indigenous technologies.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Water Security:** Reliable access to adequate safe water.
- **Key Issues:** Scarcity, pollution, groundwater depletion.
- **Stakeholders:** Government, academia, industry.
- **Technology Areas:** Water treatment, monitoring, conservation.
- **Relevant Schemes:** Jal Jeevan Mission, Atal Bhujal Yojana.
- **Goal:** Sustainable water resource management.
- **Importance:** Economic growth and environmental sustainability.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Water security includes both the availability and quality of water resources.
2. Industry–academia collaboration can facilitate technology transfer and innovation in water management.
3. Groundwater depletion is one of the major water-related challenges facing 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: (d)

2. INDIAN AIR FORCE AIRLIFTS SACRED BUDDHIST RELICS TO MONGOLIA



Key Highlights

- Sacred Buddhist relics were transported by the Indian Air Force to Mongolia.
- The event reflects the deep historical and spiritual links between the two countries.
- The relics are expected to be displayed for public veneration and cultural outreach.

Objectives

- I. Promote:
 - A. Shared Buddhist heritage.
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. India–Mongolia cultural relations.
- III. Enhance:
 - A. Soft power diplomacy and civilizational engagement.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Mongolia Relations

India – Mongolia Relations

- I. India and Mongolia share:
 - A. Historic Buddhist connections.
 - B. Strong cultural and spiritual ties.
- II. In 2015, relations were elevated to a:
 - A. **Strategic Partnership.**

Buddhism and Cultural Diplomacy

Buddhism

- I. Originated in India and spread across Asia.
- II. Acts as an important bridge in India's cultural diplomacy.
- III. Buddhist heritage diplomacy helps:
 - A. Foster mutual understanding.
 - B. Strengthen international cultural cooperation.

Role of the Indian Air Force

Indian Air Force

- I. Besides defence responsibilities, the IAF undertakes:
 - A. Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).
 - B. Strategic airlift operations.
 - C. Cultural and diplomatic missions of national importance.

SIGNIFICANCE

Cultural Significance

- I. Reinforces:
 - A. Shared spiritual traditions between India and Mongolia.

Diplomatic Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Bilateral goodwill and people-to-people ties.

Strategic Significance

- I. Demonstrates:
 - A. India's use of soft power in international relations.

Civilizational Significance

- I. Highlights:
 - A. India's role as the birthplace of Buddhism.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organisation:** Indian Air Force.
- **Destination:** Mongolia.
- **Cargo:** Sacred Buddhist relics.
- **Purpose:** Cultural and spiritual outreach.
- **Theme:** Buddhist heritage diplomacy.
- **Importance:** Strengthening India–Mongolia relations.
- **Approach:** Soft power and civilizational engagement.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Country involved:** Mongolia.
- **Transporting agency:** Indian Air Force.
- **Theme:** Cultural diplomacy.
- **Religion:** Buddhism.
- **India–Mongolia relations:** Strategic Partnership.
- **Soft power tool:** Shared civilizational heritage.
- **Significance:** People-to-people and cultural ties.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Buddhism originated in India and spread to several parts of Asia.
2. India and Mongolia share historical and cultural links rooted in Buddhism.
3. Cultural diplomacy can be an instrument of a country's soft power.

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: (d)

3.ECI CONVENES NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ECI COUNSELS 2026 FOR FURTHER STRENGTHENING ITS LEGAL FRAMEWORK



Key Objectives

- I. Strengthen:
 - A. ECI's legal and institutional framework
- II. Improve:
 - A. Coordination among legal counsels across the country
- III. Discuss:
 - A. Recent court judgments affecting elections
- IV. Enhance:
 - A. Capacity to address emerging legal issues in electoral management

Focus Areas

- Constitutional provisions relating to elections
- Representation of the People Acts
- Election dispute resolution
- Electoral reforms
- Legal implications of technological advancements in elections

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Election Commission of India (ECI)

Election Commission of India

- I. An autonomous constitutional body established under:
Article 324
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Conducting elections to Parliament
 - B. State Legislatures
 - C. Offices of the President and Vice-President

Constitutional Status

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Free and fair elections
- II. Acts as the guardian of:
 - A. Electoral integrity in India

Representation of the People Acts

Representation of the People Act, 1950

- I. Deals with:
 - A. Allocation of seats
 - B. Electoral rolls

Representation of the People Act, 1951

- I. Deals with:
 - A. Conduct of elections
 - B. Election disputes
 - C. Qualifications and disqualifications

Need for a Strong Legal Framework

- I. Electoral processes increasingly face:
 - A. Complex legal questions

- B. Technological challenges
 - C. Litigation and judicial scrutiny
 - II. A robust legal framework helps:
 - A. Maintain electoral credibility
 - B. Ensure compliance with constitutional principles

SIGNIFICANCE

For Electoral Governance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Consistency in legal interpretation
- II. Improves:
 - A. Election administration

For Democracy

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Public trust in electoral institutions
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Fairness and transparency in elections

For Electoral Reforms

- I. Facilitates:
 - A. Adaptation to evolving legal and technological developments

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organizer:** Election Commission of India.
- **Event:** National Conference of ECI Counsels 2026.
- **Focus:** Strengthening electoral legal framework.
- **Constitutional Basis:** Article 324.
- **Relevant Laws:** Representation of the People Acts, 1950 & 1951.

- **Objective:** Capacity building and legal preparedness.
- **Importance:** Free, fair, and credible elections.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Topic	Key Fact
ECI	Constitutional body
Constitutional Provision	Article 324
RPA 1950	Electoral rolls and seat allocation
RPA 1951	Conduct of elections and disputes
Function	Conduct free and fair elections
Conference Purpose	Strengthen legal framework
Significance	Electoral integrity

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Election Commission of India (ECI):

1. The Election Commission of India is a constitutional body established under Article 324.
2. The Representation of the People Act, 1950 primarily deals with electoral rolls and allocation of seats.
3. The Representation of the People Act, 1951 deals with the conduct of elections and election disputes.

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: (d)

4. DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS REVIEWS IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY REFORMS IN NORTHERN STATES AND UTs



Key Objectives of the Review

- I. Assess:
 - A. Progress of legal metrology reforms across states and UTs
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. Consumer confidence in weights and measures
- III. Promote:
 - A. Transparency and regulatory efficiency
- IV. Ensure:
 - A. Standardized implementation of legal metrology provisions

Areas of Focus

- Verification and stamping of weighing and measuring instruments
- Digitalization of regulatory services
- Enforcement of packaged commodity rules
- Capacity building of enforcement officials
- Reduction of compliance burden on businesses

WHAT IS LEGAL METROLOGY?

Definition

Legal Metrology

- I. Legal Metrology deals with:
 - A. Accuracy of weights and measures used in trade and commerce.
- II. It ensures:
 - A. Fair transactions between buyers and sellers.

Legal Framework

Legal Metrology Act, 2009

- I. Regulates:
 - A. Weights and measures
 - B. Measuring instruments
 - C. Packaged commodities
- II. Objective:
 - A. Protect consumers and ensure fair trade practices.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Importance of Legal Metrology

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Accuracy in commercial transactions
- II. Prevents:
 - A. Fraudulent trade practices
- III. Protects:
 - A. Consumer interests

Packaged Commodities Rules

Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011

- I. Mandate disclosure of:
 - A. Maximum Retail Price (MRP)
 - B. Net quantity
 - C. Manufacturer details
 - D. Consumer care information

Digital Reforms

- I. Introduction of:
 - A. Online licensing systems
 - B. Electronic verification processes
 - C. Digital compliance mechanisms
- II. Benefits:
 - A. Reduced paperwork
 - B. Faster service delivery
 - C. Improved transparency

SIGNIFICANCE

For Consumers

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Correct quantity and measurement of goods
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Consumer trust and protection

For Businesses

- I. Simplifies:

- A. Compliance procedures
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Ease of doing business

For Governance

- I. Improves:
 - A. Regulatory efficiency
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Uniform implementation across states

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Department:** Department of Consumer Affairs.
- **Subject:** Legal Metrology reforms.
- **Region:** Northern States and UTs.
- **Law:** Legal Metrology Act, 2009.
- **Focus:** Consumer protection and regulatory modernization.
- **Tools:** Digital and technology-enabled compliance systems.
- **Goal:** Fair trade and accurate measurements.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Topic	Key Fact
Legal Metrology	Regulation of weights and measures
Governing Law	Legal Metrology Act, 2009
Ministry	Department of Consumer Affairs
Objective	Consumer protection and fair trade

Packaged
Commodities
Rules

MRP, quantity and
labeling requirements

Reform Focus

Digitalization and ease of
doing business

Benefit

Accurate transactions

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding
Legal Metrology in India:

1. Legal Metrology deals with regulation of weights and measures used in trade and commerce.
2. The Legal Metrology Act, 2009 aims to protect consumers and ensure fair trade practices.
3. The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules require disclosure of information such as MRP and net quantity on packaged goods.

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: (d)

5.PM SVANidhi Completes Six Years of Empowering Street Vendors Through Access to Affordable Credit and Social Security



Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

About PM SVANidhi

- I. Launched on **1 June 2020** by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- II. A **Central Sector Scheme** providing:
 - A. Collateral-free working capital loans
 - B. Interest subsidies
 - C. Digital transaction incentives
 - D. Access to social security benefits

Objectives

- I. Facilitate:
 - A. Affordable institutional credit for street vendors
- II. Promote:
 - A. Digital and cashless transactions
- III. Enhance:
 - A. Financial literacy and inclusion
- IV. Improve:
 - A. Livelihood security and resilience

KEY FEATURES

Collateral-Free Working Capital Loans

Eligible vendors can avail:

- First loan: Up to ₹10,000
- Second loan: Up to ₹20,000
- Third loan: Up to ₹50,000

(Subject to timely repayment and eligibility.)

Interest Subsidy

- 7% annual interest subsidy on timely loan repayment.

Digital Payment Incentives

- I. Cashback incentives for:
 - A. UPI transactions
 - B. QR-code payments
 - C. Digital financial adoption

Credit Progression

- I. Timely repayment enables:
 - A. Higher loan eligibility
 - B. Better credit history

Social Security Linkages

The scheme facilitates access to welfare programmes such as:

- Insurance schemes
- Pension schemes
- Other social protection initiatives

SIGNIFICANCE

Financial Inclusion

- I. Integrates previously unbanked vendors into:
 - A. Banking services
 - B. Formal credit networks

Reduction in Informal Borrowing

- I. Reduces dependence on:
 - A. Moneylenders charging high interest rates

Digital Empowerment

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Cashless transactions
 - B. Financial technology adoption

Urban Livelihoods

- I. Supports:
 - A. Self-employment
 - B. Micro-enterprises
 - C. Economic resilience of urban poor

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Nodal Ministry

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

- Oversees implementation and monitoring.

Role of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)

- Identification of vendors
- Verification of beneficiaries

- Facilitation of applications

Financial Institutions

- Commercial Banks
- Regional Rural Banks
- Small Finance Banks
- NBFCs
- Microfinance Institutions

CHALLENGES

- Identification of all eligible street vendors
- Digital literacy constraints
- Documentation and awareness gaps
- Ensuring long-term financial sustainability

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme:** PM SVANidhi.
- **Launch Date:** 1 June 2020.
- **Completion:** Six years.
- **Type:** Central Sector Scheme.
- **Target Group:** Street Vendors.
- **Benefits:** Credit, digital payments, social security.
- **Goal:** Financial inclusion and livelihood enhancement.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Topic	Key Fact
Full Form	PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi
Launch	1 June 2020
Ministry	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Scheme Type	Central Sector Scheme
First Loan	Up to ₹10,000
Interest Subsidy	7%
Focus	Financial Inclusion & Social Security

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding PM SVANidhi:

1. PM SVANidhi is a Central Sector Scheme launched in 2020.
2. It provides collateral-free working capital loans to street vendors.
3. The scheme promotes digital payments through incentive mechanisms.

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: (d)

1. UIDAI–NFSU COLLABORATION TO BOOST CYBERSECURITY & DIGITAL FORENSICS



- B. Stronger cyber resilience
- V. Overall, supports **secure digital governance infrastructure**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

UIDAI

- I. Unique Identification Authority of India:
 - A. Issues Aadhaar
 - B. Ensures secure identity authentication

NFSU

- I. National Forensic Sciences University:
 - A. Specialized university in forensic science and cybersecurity

Digital Forensics

- I. Involves:
 - A. Investigation of digital crimes
 - B. Analysis of electronic evidence

Importance

- I. Increasing cyber threats require:
 - A. Advanced security mechanisms
- II. Protects:
 - A. Sensitive personal data

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Partners:** UIDAI & NFSU.
- **Focus:** Cybersecurity and forensics.
- **Area:** Digital identity protection.
- **Approach:** Research and training.
- **Impact:** Stronger data security.
- **Challenge:** Evolving cyber threats.

- I. The collaboration focuses on:
 - A. Enhancing **data security and privacy protection**
 - B. Developing expertise in **digital forensics**
- II. Key initiatives:
 - A. Joint research and training programmes
 - B. Capacity building for cybersecurity professionals
- III. Areas of focus:
 - A. Cyber threat detection
 - B. Fraud prevention
 - C. Secure digital identity systems
- IV. Benefits:
 - A. Improved protection of Aadhaar ecosystem

- **Way Forward:** Continuous innovation and capacity building.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **UIDAI:** Aadhaar authority
- **NFSU:** Forensic university
- **Concept:** Digital forensics
- **Focus:** Cybersecurity
- **Goal:** Data protection
- **Sector:** Digital governance
- **Impact:** Cyber resilience

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. UIDAI is responsible for Aadhaar.
2. Digital forensics involves analysis of electronic evidence.
3. Cybersecurity is irrelevant to digital identity systems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.BHARAT INNOVATES 2026: GLOBAL ROADSHOW IN PARIS



- I. The roadshow is part of preparations for **Bharat Innovates 2026**, a flagship innovation event.
- II. Key goals:
 - A. Showcase India's **innovation and startup ecosystem**
 - B. Attract **foreign investment and partnerships**
- III. Focus sectors:
 - A. Deep tech (AI, semiconductors, etc.)
 - B. Research & Development (R&D)
 - C. Higher education collaboration
- IV. Promotes:
 - A. Industry-academia partnerships
 - B. Global knowledge exchange
- V. Enhances India's image as a **global innovation destination**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Bharat Innovates Initiative

- I. Platform to:
 - A. Connect startups, academia, investors
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Innovation-driven growth

Role of Ministry of Education

- I. Ministry of Education:
 - A. Promotes research, innovation, and higher education reforms

Global Outreach

- I. International roadshows:
 - A. Build collaborations
 - B. Facilitate technology transfer

Policy Linkages

- Startup India
- National Education Policy 2020

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** Bharat Innovates 2026 (roadshow).
- **Location:** Paris.
- **Organizer:** Ministry of Education.
- **Focus:** Innovation ecosystem.
- **Participants:** Investors, corporates, academia.
- **Impact:** Global partnerships.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen R&D and international collaboration.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Initiative:** Bharat Innovates
- **Ministry:** Education
- **Policy:** NEP 2020
- **Focus:** Innovation & startups
- **Location:** Paris
- **Concept:** R&D collaboration
- **Goal:** Global engagement

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Bharat Innovates focuses on innovation and startup ecosystems.
2. International roadshows help attract global investment and partnerships.
3. The National Education Policy 2020 discourages research and innovation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. INDIAN OCEAN SHIP SAGAR ARRIVES AT YANGON, MYANMAR



India–Myanmar Relations

- I. Strategic importance:
 - A. Gateway to Southeast Asia
- II. Cooperation in:
 - A. Defence
 - B. Connectivity

Indian Ocean Region (IOR)

- I. Critical for:
 - A. Trade and energy routes
- II. Focus on:
 - A. Stability and security

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ship:** IOS SAGAR.
- **Location:** Yangon, Myanmar.
- **Focus:** Maritime cooperation.
- **Policy:** SAGAR doctrine.
- **Impact:** Regional engagement.
- **Sector:** Defence diplomacy.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen maritime partnerships

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **SAGAR:** Security and Growth for All in the Region
- **Region:** Indian Ocean
- **Country:** Myanmar
- **City:** Yangon
- **Concept:** Maritime diplomacy
- **Goal:** Regional cooperation
- **Impact:** Security

PadhAI–GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

- I. The deployment of **IOS SAGAR** is part of India's:
 - A. Maritime diplomacy initiatives
- II. Key objectives:
 - A. Strengthen ties with Myanmar
 - B. Enhance cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region
- III. Activities include:
 - A. Joint interactions
 - B. Capacity-building engagements
- IV. Promotes:
 - A. Goodwill and trust among regional partners
- V. Supports:
 - A. India's role as a **net security provider**
- VI. Overall, strengthens **India–Myanmar maritime relations**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

SAGAR Doctrine

- I. Stands for:
 - A. **Security and Growth for All in the Region**
- II. Emphasizes:
 - A. Cooperative maritime security

1. SAGAR stands for Security and Growth for All in the Region.
2. Myanmar is part of Southeast Asia.
3. The Indian Ocean has no strategic importance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. CABINET APPROVES 3 MULTITRACKING RAIL PROJECTS (≈901 KM EXPANSION)



- IV. What is multitracking?
 - A. Addition of **extra rail lines (doubling/tripling)** along existing routes
- V. Key benefits:
 - A. Faster passenger and freight movement
 - B. Reduced congestion and delays
 - C. Better logistics efficiency
- VI. Economic impact:
 - A. Supports industrial growth
 - B. Enhances supply chain connectivity

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Why Multitracking is Needed

- I. Existing rail lines face:
 - A. Heavy traffic congestion
- II. Leads to:
 - A. Delays and reduced efficiency
- III. Multitracking helps:
 - A. Increase throughput
 - B. Improve punctuality

Role of Indian Railways

- I. Indian Railways:
 - A. Backbone of India's transport system
- II. Critical for:
 - A. Freight (coal, cement, food grains)
 - B. Passenger mobility

Policy Linkages

- PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan
- National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- I. States covered:
 - A. Madhya Pradesh
 - B. Rajasthan
 - C. Uttar Pradesh
 - D. Karnataka
 - E. Andhra Pradesh
 - F. Telangana
- II. Implementing agency:
 - A. Indian Railways
- III. Key objectives:
 - A. Increase **line capacity** on high-traffic routes
 - B. Improve **operational efficiency**

- **Projects:** 3 multitracking projects
- **Length:** ~901 km
- **Coverage:** 19 districts, 6 states
- **Focus:** Capacity expansion
- **Impact:** Reduced congestion, faster trains
- **Sector:** Rail infrastructure
- **Way Forward:** Accelerate modernization and network expansion

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Concept:** Multitracking (doubling/tripling lines)
- **Agency:** Indian Railways
- **Length:** ~901 km
- **States:** MP, Rajasthan, UP, Karnataka, AP, Telangana
- **Benefit:** Efficiency & capacity
- **Policy:** PM Gati Shakti
- **Goal:** Connectivity

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Multitracking involves adding additional railway lines alongside existing ones.
2. It helps increase railway capacity and reduce congestion.
3. Multitracking reduces freight movement efficiency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. CABINET APPROVES INCREASE IN SUPREME COURT JUDGE STRENGTH



- I. The proposal aims to:
 - A. Address **rising pendency of cases**
 - B. Improve **speed of justice delivery**
- II. New sanctioned strength:
 - A. **37 judges (including the Chief Justice of India)**
- III. Expected outcomes:
 - A. Faster disposal of cases
 - B. Reduced backlog
- IV. Reflects the need for:
 - A. Strengthening judicial capacity
- V. Overall, it enhances **the efficiency of the highest judicial body.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Supreme Court of India

- I. Supreme Court of India:
 - A. Apex judicial authority
- II. Functions:
 - A. Constitutional interpretation
 - B. Appellate jurisdiction
 - C. Protection of fundamental rights

Judge Strength

- I. Determined by:
 - A. Parliament through legislation
- II. Increased periodically to:
 - A. Meet growing caseload

Issue of Pendency

- I. Large number of pending cases:
 - A. Leads to delays in justice
- II. Increasing judges helps:
 - A. Improve case disposal rate

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Institution:** Supreme Court of India.
- **Old Strength:** 33 judges.
- **New Strength:** 37 judges.
- **Increase:** +4 judges.
- **Reason:** Reduce pendency.
- **Impact:** Faster justice delivery.
- **Way Forward:** Judicial reforms and digitization.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Court:** Supreme Court
- **Strength:** 37 judges
- **Function:** Apex judiciary

- **Issue:** Case backlog
- **Solution:** Increase judges
- **Goal:** Speedy justice
- **Concept:** Judicial efficiency

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The strength of the Supreme Court is determined by Parliament.
2. Increasing the number of judges helps reduce case pendency.
3. The Supreme Court has only original jurisdiction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. PSA OFFICE–FICCI MoU TO BOOST INDIA'S R&D ECOSYSTEM



- I. The MoU focuses on:
 - A. Strengthening **industry-academia collaboration**
 - B. Promoting **innovation-driven growth**
- II. Key areas:
 - A. Research commercialization
 - B. Technology transfer
 - C. Capacity building
- III. Encourages:
 - A. Private sector participation in R&D
- IV. Supports:
 - A. Development of emerging technologies
- V. Overall, aims to enhance **India's innovation capacity and global competitiveness.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA)

- I. Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India:
 - A. Advises government on science and technology policies
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Innovation and research

FICCI

- I. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry:
 - A. Leading industry body
- II. Represents:
 - A. Business and industry interests

Importance of R&D

- I. Drives:
 - A. Economic growth
 - B. Technological advancement
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Global competitiveness

Challenges in India

- Low private investment in R&D
- Gap between research and commercialization

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Parties:** PSA Office & FICCI
- **Focus:** R&D ecosystem
- **Approach:** Industry-academia collaboration
- **Objective:** Innovation and commercialization
- **Impact:** Stronger research ecosystem

- **Challenge:** Funding and coordination
- **Way Forward:** Increase private sector participation

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PSA:** Scientific advisory body
- **FICCI:** Industry association
- **Focus:** R&D
- **Concept:** Innovation ecosystem
- **Challenge:** Low R&D investment
- **Goal:** Global competitiveness
- **Approach:** Collaboration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

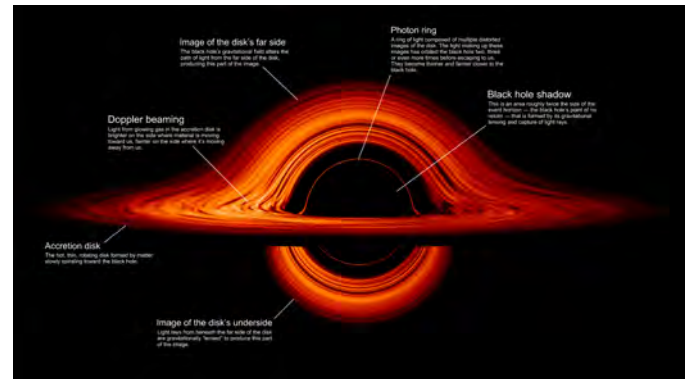
1. The Principal Scientific Adviser advises the government on science and technology.
2. FICCI is an industry body representing businesses.
3. R&D has no role in economic growth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.SCIENTISTS STUDY DIFFERENT APPEARANCES OF EXTRAGALACTIC JETS



- Extragalactic jets:**
 - A. Powerful streams of matter and energy ejected from regions near **black holes**
- Observations show:
 - A. Some jets are **bright and narrow**
 - B. Others are **diffuse and irregular**
- Key factors influencing differences:
 - A. Surrounding environment (density of intergalactic medium)
 - B. Magnetic fields
 - C. Speed and energy of particles
- Research helps:
 - A. Understand galaxy evolution
 - B. Study extreme physics conditions
- Overall, it improves knowledge of **cosmic phenomena and space physics.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Black Holes

- Regions in space with:
 - A. Extremely strong gravity
- Not even light can escape

Extragalactic Jets

- I. Originate from:
 - A. Active galactic nuclei (AGN)
- II. Travel:
 - A. Thousands of light-years

Scientific Importance

- I. Helps in:
 - A. Understanding high-energy physics
 - B. Studying structure of galaxies

Key Concepts

- Plasma physics
- Relativistic speeds
- Magnetic field interactions

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Phenomenon:** Extragalactic jets.
- **Source:** Black holes.
- **Variation:** Shape and brightness differ.
- **Factors:** Environment, magnetic fields.
- **Field:** Astrophysics.
- **Impact:** Better understanding of the universe.
- **Way Forward:** Advanced observations and simulations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Object:** Black hole
- **Phenomenon:** Jets
- **Origin:** AGN
- **Concept:** Relativistic particles
- **Field:** Astrophysics
- **Scale:** Light-years
- **Goal:** Understand universe

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Extragalactic jets originate near black holes.
2. Their appearance can vary due to environmental factors.
3. Black holes emit light directly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.INDIA TO HOST INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE (IBCA) SUMMIT 2026



- I. The summit will bring together:
 - A. Member countries
 - B. Conservation experts
 - C. International organizations
- II. Objective:

- A. Strengthen cooperation for **protection of big cats**
- III. Species covered:
 - A. Tiger
 - B. Lion
 - C. Leopard
 - D. Snow leopard
 - E. Cheetah
 - F. Jaguar
 - G. Puma
- IV. Key themes:
 - A. Habitat conservation
 - B. Anti-poaching efforts
 - C. Wildlife research and monitoring
- V. India's role:
 - A. Leader in wildlife conservation initiatives
- VI. Overall, it enhances **global collaboration for biodiversity protection**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

- I. International Big Cat Alliance:
 - A. Launched by India
- II. Focus:
 - A. Conservation of seven big cat species

India's Conservation Efforts

- I. Notable programmes:
 - A. Project Tiger
 - B. Project Lion
- II. India hosts:
 - A. Largest population of wild tigers

Importance

- I. Big cats are:
 - A. Apex predators
- II. Maintain:
 - A. Ecological balance

Global Linkages

- I. Aligns with:
 - A. Biodiversity conservation goals
 - B. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** IBCA Summit 2026.
- **Location:** New Delhi.
- **Focus:** Big cat conservation.
- **Organizer:** India.
- **Species:** 7 big cats.
- **Impact:** Global cooperation.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen conservation strategies.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Alliance:** IBCA
- **Species:** 7 big cats
- **Location:** New Delhi
- **Concept:** Biodiversity
- **Programme:** Project Tiger
- **Role:** Apex predators
- **Goal:** Conservation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. IBCA focuses on conservation of big cats.
2. India hosts the largest population of wild tigers.
3. Big cats are herbivores.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. SWASTH BHARAT PORTAL UNVEILED: BOOST TO DIGITAL HEALTH ECOSYSTEM



- I. The portal provides a **unified digital platform** for:
 - A. Health data management
 - B. Service delivery integration
- II. Key features:
 - A. Interoperability between healthcare systems
 - B. Centralized access to health records
 - C. Improved coordination among stakeholders
- III. Benefits:

- A. Better patient care and continuity
 - B. Enhanced efficiency of healthcare services
- IV. Supports:
 - A. Data-driven decision-making
 - V. Overall, it strengthens India's **digital health infrastructure**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Digital Health in India

- I. Increasing use of:
 - A. Technology in healthcare delivery
- II. Focus on:
 - A. Accessibility and efficiency

Policy Linkage

- I. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM):
 - A. Aims to create a **digital health ecosystem**
- II. Swasth Bharat Portal complements:
 - A. ABDM initiatives

Challenges Addressed

- Fragmented health data systems
- Lack of interoperability
- Inefficiencies in service delivery

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Platform:** Swasth Bharat Portal.
- **Focus:** Digital health integration.
- **Feature:** Interoperability.
- **Benefit:** Better patient care.
- **Policy:** ABDM.
- **Impact:** Efficient healthcare system.
- **Way Forward:** Scale adoption nationwide.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Portal:** Swasth Bharat
- **Mission:** ABDM
- **Concept:** Digital health
- **Feature:** Interoperability
- **Goal:** Unified system
- **Sector:** Healthcare
- **Impact:** Efficiency

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Swasth Bharat Portal aims to integrate health systems.
2. ABDM focuses on the digital health ecosystem.
3. Fragmentation improves healthcare efficiency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. CABINET APPROVES EMERGENCY CREDIT LINE GUARANTEE SCHEME (ECLGS) 5.0



- I. **ECLGS 5.0** builds upon earlier versions of the scheme.
- II. Key features:
 - A. Collateral-free loans to businesses
 - B. Government-backed credit guarantees
- III. Target beneficiaries:
 - A. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
 - B. Other stressed sectors
- IV. Objectives:
 - A. Ensure liquidity support
 - B. Promote economic recovery
- V. Benefits:
 - A. Prevent business closures
 - B. Safeguard jobs
- VI. Overall, strengthens **credit flow and economic resilience**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

ECLGS Scheme

- I. Launched during:
 - A. COVID-19 pandemic
- II. Implemented by:
 - A. Ministry of Finance

How It Works

- I. Government provides:
 - A. Guarantee to banks for loans
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Lending without collateral

Importance

- I. MSMEs are:
 - A. Backbone of India's economy
- II. Provide:
 - A. Employment and industrial growth

Policy Linkages

- Atmanirbhar Bharat Package
- MSME support initiatives

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme:** ECLGS 5.0.
- **Ministry:** Finance.
- **Target:** MSMEs.
- **Feature:** Credit guarantee.
- **Benefit:** Liquidity support.
- **Impact:** Economic recovery.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen MSME financing.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Scheme:** ECLGS
- **Type:** Credit guarantee
- **Target:** MSMEs
- **Feature:** Collateral-free loans
- **Ministry:** Finance
- **Goal:** Liquidity
- **Impact:** Jobs

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. ECLGS provides collateral-free loans backed by government guarantees.
2. It mainly targets MSMEs.
3. It discourages lending by banks.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. UTTAR PRADESH EMERGING AS HUB FOR PREMIUM FRUIT PRODUCTION & EXPORTS



- I. Focus on promoting:
 - A. High-value horticulture and fruit exports
- II. Key objectives:
 - A. Increase farmers' income
 - B. Improve export competitiveness
- III. Priority areas:
 - A. Modern farming techniques
 - B. Post-harvest infrastructure
 - C. Cold storage and supply chains
- IV. Encourages:
 - A. Value addition and food processing
- V. Benefits:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Rural economic growth
- VI. Overall, supports diversification of agriculture toward **high-value horticulture**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Horticulture in India

- I. Includes:
 - A. Fruits, vegetables, flowers, spices
- II. Important for:
 - A. Nutritional security and exports

Uttar Pradesh's Potential

- I. Favorable:
 - A. Climate and fertile soil
- II. Major fruit crops:
 - A. Mango
 - B. Guava
 - C. Amla

Export Significance

- I. Premium fruit exports:
 - A. Increase foreign exchange earnings
- II. Require:
 - A. Quality standards and cold chain logistics

Government Initiatives

- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
- Agriculture export promotion measures

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** Fruit Horizon 2026.
- **Location:** Lucknow.
- **Focus:** Premium fruit production.
- **State:** Uttar Pradesh.
- **Objective:** Boost exports and farmer income.
- **Sector:** Horticulture.

- **Way Forward:** Strengthen value chains and infrastructure.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Sector:** Horticulture
- **State:** Uttar Pradesh
- **Event:** Fruit Horizon 2026
- **Minister:** Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- **Mission:** MIDH
- **Focus:** Fruit exports
- **Goal:** Farmer income

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Horticulture includes fruit cultivation.
2. Cold chain infrastructure is important for fruit exports.
3. Premium fruit exports reduce farmers' income.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.INDIA AT THE 61st INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION – LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA 2026



- I. The **India Pavilion** will present:
 - A. Contemporary Indian art and cultural narratives
- II. Objectives:
 - A. Promote India's creative industries globally
 - B. Encourage cultural exchange
- III. Highlights:
 - A. Participation of Indian artists and curators
 - B. Blend of traditional and modern artistic expressions
- IV. Enhances:
 - A. India's soft power and cultural diplomacy
- V. Provides:
 - A. International exposure to Indian art
- VI. Overall, it strengthens India's role in the **global cultural ecosystem**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

- **Focus:** Contemporary art
- **Goal:** Soft power

La Biennale di Venezia

- I. Held in:
 - A. Venice
- II. One of the world's most prestigious:
 - A. International art exhibitions
- III. Organized every:
 - A. Two years (biennale)

India's Participation

- I. India uses the pavilion to:
 - A. Showcase artistic diversity
 - B. Promote cultural diplomacy

Importance of Cultural Diplomacy

- I. Art and culture help:
 - A. Build global understanding
 - B. Enhance international relations

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** La Biennale di Venezia 2026.
- **Country:** India.
- **Venue:** Venice, Italy.
- **Focus:** Contemporary Indian art.
- **Purpose:** Cultural diplomacy.
- **Impact:** Global artistic engagement.
- **Way Forward:** Expand international cultural collaborations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Event:** La Biennale di Venezia
- **Location:** Venice
- **Type:** International art exhibition
- **Frequency:** Biennial
- **Concept:** Cultural diplomacy

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. La Biennale di Venezia is an international art exhibition.
2. Cultural diplomacy can strengthen international relations.
3. The event is held annually.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.DFS INSURANCE DIVISION TOPS GRAI RANKINGS FOR MARCH 2026



वित्तीय सेवाएं विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF
FINANCIAL SERVICES

- I. The ranking reflects:
 - A. Efficient handling of public grievances
 - B. Improved citizen service delivery
- II. GRAI evaluates:
 - A. Timeliness of grievance resolution
 - B. Quality of responses
 - C. Citizen satisfaction
- III. Achievement highlights:

- A. Strengthened accountability mechanisms
- B. Effective governance practices
- IV. Focus areas:
 - A. Transparency
 - B. Responsiveness
 - C. Digital grievance management
- V. Overall, demonstrates progress in **citizen-centric governance and administrative efficiency.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Department of Financial Services (DFS)

- I. Department of Financial Services:
 - A. Functions under the Ministry of Finance
- II. Oversees:
 - A. Banking
 - B. Insurance
 - C. Financial institutions

GRAI (Grievance Redressal Assessment and Index)

- I. Measures:
 - A. Performance of departments in grievance handling
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Faster and better public service delivery

Importance of Grievance Redressal

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Transparency and accountability
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Public trust in governance

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Department:** DFS Insurance Division.
- **Ranking:** Top in Group A.
- **Index:** GRAI.
- **Focus:** Grievance redressal.
- **Impact:** Better citizen services.
- **Approach:** Transparency and responsiveness.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen digital grievance systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Department:** DFS
- **Sector:** Insurance
- **Index:** GRAI
- **Concept:** Grievance redressal
- **Goal:** Citizen-centric governance
- **Focus:** Accountability
- **Impact:** Public trust

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. GRAI assesses grievance redressal performance of departments.
2. DFS functions under the Ministry of Finance.
3. Efficient grievance redressal reduces transparency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. NATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATION CONCLAVE HELD FOR MAJOR GLOBAL SPORTS PREPARATIONS



- I. The conclave brought together:
 - A. National Sports Federations (NSFs)
 - B. Sports administrators and stakeholders
- II. Main objective:
 - A. Strengthen India's long-term sports planning and athlete preparation
- III. Key focus areas:
 - A. Athlete-centric training
 - B. Sports infrastructure
 - C. Scientific coaching and sports medicine
 - D. Talent identification
- IV. Emphasis on:
 - A. Coordination among federations and government agencies
- V. Goal:
 - A. Improve India's performance in international sporting events
- VI. Overall, supports the vision of transforming India into a **global sporting nation**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National Sports Federations (NSFs)

- I. Responsible for:
 - A. Management and promotion of specific sports disciplines
- II. Recognized by:
 - A. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

Major International Events

Asian Games

- Continental multi-sport event in Asia

Commonwealth Games

- International event among Commonwealth nations

Olympic Games

- World's premier international sporting event

India's Sports Policy Focus

- I. Programmes:
 - A. Khelo India
 - B. Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)
- II. Aim:
 - A. Build world-class athletes and infrastructure

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** National Sports Federation Conclave.
- **Minister:** Mansukh Mandaviya.
- **Focus:** International sports preparation.
- **Events targeted:** Asian, Commonwealth & Olympics.
- **Approach:** Athlete-centric planning.
- **Impact:** Better coordination and performance.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen grassroots talent and sports science.

Answer: (a)

5.INDIA'S PENSION LANDSCAPE



PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NSF:** National Sports Federation
- **Programme:** Khelo India
- **Scheme:** TOPS
- **Focus:** Athlete preparation
- **Events:** Olympics, Asian Games
- **Sector:** Sports governance
- **Goal:** Sporting excellence

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. National Sports Federations manage specific sports disciplines in India.
2. TOPS aims to support elite athletes for international competitions.
3. Khelo India is unrelated to sports development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- I. India's pension landscape includes:
 - A. Government pensions
 - B. Social security schemes
 - C. Market-linked pension systems
- II. Major pension schemes:
 - A. National Pension System (NPS)
 - B. Atal Pension Yojana (APY)
 - C. Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS)
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Provide income security after retirement
 - B. Expand pension coverage to unorganized workers
- IV. Key reforms:
 - A. Digital onboarding and portability
 - B. Financial inclusion initiatives
- V. Challenges:
 - A. Low pension penetration
 - B. Informal workforce dominance
- VI. Overall, India is moving toward a **more inclusive and sustainable pension system.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Need for Pension Systems

- I. Rising life expectancy:
 - A. Increases need for retirement security
- II. Pensions help:
 - A. Reduce old-age vulnerability

National Pension System (NPS)

- I. National Pension System:
 - A. Market-linked contributory pension scheme
- II. Regulated by:
 - A. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)

Atal Pension Yojana (APY)

- I. Atal Pension Yojana:
 - A. Targets workers in the unorganized sector
- II. Provides:
 - A. Guaranteed pension after 60 years

Challenges

- I. Large informal workforce:
 - A. Limited formal retirement savings
- II. Need for:
 - A. Financial literacy and wider participation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Focus:** Retirement security.

- **Key schemes:** NPS, APY, EPS.
- **Regulator:** PFRDA.
- **Challenge:** Low coverage.
- **Approach:** Digital and financial inclusion.
- **Impact:** Social security expansion.
- **Way Forward:** Universal pension access.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NPS:** Market-linked pension
- **APY:** Pension for unorganized workers
- **Regulator:** PFRDA
- **Concept:** Social security
- **Challenge:** Informal sector
- **Goal:** Retirement income
- **Focus:** Financial inclusion

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NPS is regulated by PFRDA.
2. Atal Pension Yojana targets unorganized sector workers.
3. Pension systems are unrelated to social security.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

I. INDIA HOSTS ISO SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS ON 'SPACE SYSTEMS AND OPERATIONS' FOR THE FIRST TIME



- I. The meetings focused on:
 - A. Developing and harmonizing global standards for:
 1. Space missions
 2. Satellite systems
 3. Space operations
- II. Participants included:
 - A. International experts
 - B. Space agencies
 - C. Industry representatives
- III. Key objectives:
 - A. Promote interoperability and safety in space activities
 - B. Facilitate international cooperation in emerging space technologies
- IV. India showcased:
 - A. Its expanding capabilities in:
 1. Satellite launches
 2. Space exploration
 3. Commercial space services
- V. Overall, it strengthens India's role in **global space governance and technological collaboration.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

- I. International Organization for Standardization:
 - A. Develops international standards for quality, safety, and efficiency

Space Systems and Operations

- I. Covers:
 - A. Satellite communication
 - B. Launch vehicles
 - C. Space mission management
 - D. Space safety protocols

India's Space Programme

- I. Led by:
 - A. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- II. India has achieved:
 - A. Cost-effective satellite launches
 - B. Lunar and interplanetary missions
 - C. Expanding commercial space activities

Importance of Global Standards

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Compatibility between international systems
 - B. Safe and sustainable use of outer space

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** ISO.
- **Theme:** Space Systems and Operations.
- **Host Country:** India.
- **Agency:** ISRO.
- **Focus:** International standards.
- **Impact:** Stronger role in space governance.
- **Way Forward:** Enhance global cooperation in space technology.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **ISO:** International standards organization
- **ISRO:** India's space agency
- **Field:** Space systems
- **Concept:** Interoperability
- **Focus:** Space safety
- **Goal:** Global cooperation
- **Impact:** Standardized operations

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. ISO develops international standards across sectors.
2. ISRO is India's national space agency.
3. International standards are irrelevant for space cooperation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.SOMNATH: THE ETERNAL FLAME OF BHARAT



- I. Somnath Temple is one of the:
 - A. Most revered pilgrimage sites in India
- II. Dedicated to:
 - A. Lord Shiva as the **first Jyotirlinga**
- III. Symbolizes:
 - A. Faith, resilience, and national pride
- IV. The temple has:
 - A. Been rebuilt multiple times after invasions and destruction
- V. Represents:
 - A. Revival of India's cultural identity after Independence
- VI. Located at:
 - A. Prabhas Patan near Veraval in Gujarat

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Somnath Temple

- I. Ancient temple on the:
 - A. Arabian Sea coast
- II. Historically renowned for:
 - A. Wealth and architecture

Jyotirlinga Significance

- I. One of the:
 - A. 12 sacred Jyotirlingas of Shiva
- II. Important center of:
 - A. Shaivite worship

Historical Importance

- I. Attacked and rebuilt several times:
 - A. Most notably after raids by:
 1. Mahmud of Ghazni
- II. Reconstruction after Independence supported by:
 - A. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Cultural Symbolism

- I. Seen as:
 - A. Symbol of resilience and continuity of Indian civilization

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Temple:** Somnath Temple.
- **State:** Gujarat.
- **Deity:** Lord Shiva.
- **Importance:** First Jyotirlinga.
- **Symbolism:** Cultural resilience.
- **Historical figure:** Sardar Patel.
- **Way Forward:** Preserve cultural heritage and pilgrimage tourism.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Location:** Gujarat
- **Temple:** Somnath
- **Deity:** Shiva
- **Type:** Jyotirlinga
- **Coast:** Arabian Sea
- **Leader linked:** Sardar Patel
- **Concept:** Cultural heritage

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Somnath Temple is associated with Lord Shiva.
2. It is regarded as the first Jyotirlinga.
3. Somnath Temple is located on the eastern coast of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.DRDO & IAF SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCT MAIDEN FLIGHT-TRIAL OF TACTICAL ADVANCED RANGE AUGMENTATION (TARA) WEAPON



- I. The TARA weapon system is designed to:
 - A. Enhance strike range and operational capability
- II. Key features:
 - A. Precision targeting
 - B. Advanced guidance systems
 - C. Improved tactical effectiveness
- III. The successful trial validated:
 - A. Flight performance
 - B. Navigation and control systems
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Strengthens India's self-reliance in defence technology
- V. Supports:
 - A. Modernization of air combat capabilities
- VI. Overall, boosts India's **indigenous weapons development programme**.
 - A. Dependence on imports
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Strategic autonomy and national security

Policy Linkages

- Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence
- Defence indigenization initiatives

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organizations:** DRDO & IAF.
- **Weapon:** TARA.
- **Event:** Maiden flight-trial.
- **Focus:** Precision and range enhancement.
- **Impact:** Indigenous capability boost.
- **Sector:** Defence technology.
- **Way Forward:** Further testing and induction.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

DRDO

- I. Defence Research and Development Organisation:
 - A. India's premier defence R&D agency
- II. Develops:
 - A. Missiles, aircraft systems, radars, and weapon technologies

Indian Air Force (IAF)

- I. Indian Air Force:
 - A. Air arm of India's armed forces
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Air defence and aerial warfare

Importance of Indigenous Defence Systems

- I. Reduces:

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **DRDO:** Defence R&D agency
- **IAF:** Air force of India
- **Weapon:** TARA
- **Focus:** Tactical strike capability
- **Policy:** Atmanirbhar Bharat
- **Goal:** Defence self-reliance
- **Impact:** Strategic autonomy

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. DRDO is India's defence research agency.
2. Indigenous weapon systems enhance strategic autonomy.

3. The Indian Air Force is responsible only for naval warfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.INDIA ADVANCES BRICS MSME COOPERATION UNDER ITS 2026 CHAIRSHIP



- I. India emphasized:
 - A. Greater MSME cooperation among BRICS members
- II. Key areas of collaboration:
 - A. Digital transformation
 - B. Innovation and technology sharing
 - C. Market access for MSMEs
 - D. Sustainable and inclusive growth
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Improve global competitiveness of MSMEs
 - B. Strengthen cross-border partnerships
- IV. Importance:

- A. MSMEs are major contributors to employment and GDP
- V. Overall, the initiative promotes stronger **economic cooperation within BRICS.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

BRICS

- I. BRICS includes:
 - A. Brazil
 - B. Russia
 - C. India
 - D. China
 - E. South Africa
- II. Expanded grouping now includes additional members.

MSMEs in India

- I. MSMEs play a vital role in:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Manufacturing and exports
- II. Important for:
 - A. Inclusive economic growth

India's Chairship

- I. India's BRICS Chairship in 2026 focuses on:
 - A. Economic cooperation
 - B. Innovation and entrepreneurship

Significance of MSME Cooperation

- I. Facilitates:
 - A. Technology transfer
 - B. Investment opportunities
 - C. Global value chain integration

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Forum:** BRICS.
- **Focus:** MSME cooperation.
- **Chairship:** India 2026.
- **Areas:** Innovation, digitalization, trade.
- **Impact:** Inclusive economic growth.
- **Sector:** MSMEs.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen business collaboration among BRICS nations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **BRICS:** Emerging economies grouping
- **MSME:** Small business sector
- **Focus:** Economic cooperation
- **Goal:** Inclusive growth
- **Area:** Technology and trade
- **Importance:** Employment generation
- **Chairship:** India 2026

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. BRICS is a grouping of emerging economies.
2. MSMEs contribute significantly to employment generation.
3. MSME cooperation discourages technology sharing.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.UIDAI DATA HACKATHON 2026 SHOWCASES DATA-DRIVEN INNOVATIONS FOR INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE



- I. The hackathon encouraged:
 - A. Students
 - B. Researchers
 - C. Innovators
 - D. Technology professionals
- II. Focus areas:
 - A. Data analytics
 - B. Artificial Intelligence (AI)
 - C. Governance solutions
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Develop innovative digital governance tools
 - B. Improve efficiency and transparency in public services
- IV. Themes included:
 - A. Inclusion
 - B. Accessibility
 - C. Citizen-centric service delivery
- V. Supports:

- A. India's digital governance ecosystem
- VI. Overall, promotes innovation-driven approaches for **better public administration**.

- **Way Forward:** Expand digital public infrastructure.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

UIDAI

- I. Unique Identification Authority of India:
 - A. Issues Aadhaar numbers
- II. Functions under:
 - A. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Importance of Data-Driven Governance

- I. Helps governments:
 - A. Make evidence-based decisions
 - B. Improve targeting of welfare schemes
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Transparency and efficiency

Hackathons

- I. Platforms for:
 - A. Collaborative innovation and problem-solving
- II. Encourage:
 - A. Practical technology solutions

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organizer:** UIDAI.
- **Event:** Data Hackathon 2026.
- **Focus:** Inclusive governance.
- **Technology:** AI and data analytics.
- **Goal:** Citizen-centric innovation.
- **Impact:** Better governance solutions.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **UIDAI:** Aadhaar authority
- **Technology:** Data analytics
- **Focus:** Inclusive governance
- **Concept:** Digital public infrastructure
- **Goal:** Transparency and efficiency
- **Event:** Hackathon
- **Sector:** E-governance

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. UIDAI is responsible for Aadhaar.
2. Data-driven governance can improve public service delivery.
3. Hackathons discourage innovation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. APEDA FACILITATES FIRST-EVER EXPORT OF ODOP HONEY FROM ASSAM TO USA



- I. Product exported:
 - A. Honey under the **One District One Product (ODOP)** initiative
- II. Export origin:
 - A. Baksa district, an Aspirational District in Assam
- III. Quantity:
 - A. 20 metric tons
- IV. Objectives:
 - A. Promote local products in international markets
 - B. Increase farmers' and beekeepers' income
- V. Significance:
 - A. Encourages value-added agricultural exports
 - B. Strengthens rural economy and livelihoods
- VI. Overall, supports India's efforts toward **agri-export promotion and inclusive development.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

APEDA

- I. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority:
 - A. Functions under Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Export of agricultural and processed food products

ODOP (One District One Product)

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Identifying and promoting unique district products
- II. Aims to:
 - A. Boost local manufacturing and exports

Aspirational Districts Programme

- I. Launched by:
 - A. NITI Aayog
- II. Targets:
 - A. Rapid socio-economic development of underdeveloped districts

Importance of Honey Exports

- I. Supports:
 - A. Beekeeping and allied agriculture
- II. Contributes to:
 - A. Rural employment and biodiversity

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** APEDA.
- **Product:** ODOP honey.
- **State:** Assam.
- **District:** Baksa.
- **Destination:** USA.
- **Quantity:** 20 metric tons.
- **Way Forward:** Expand exports of local products.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **APEDA:** Agri-export promotion body
- **Scheme:** ODOP
- **District:** Baksa
- **State:** Assam
- **Programme:** Aspirational Districts
- **Product:** Honey
- **Goal:** Export promotion

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. APEDA promotes exports of agricultural and processed food products.
2. ODOP aims to promote unique products from each district.
3. Baksa district is located in Rajasthan.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.INDIA SUCCESSFULLY TESTS ADVANCED AGNI MISSILE WITH MIRV TECHNOLOGY



- I. The missile trial demonstrated:
 - A. Capability to carry multiple warheads
- II. MIRV technology allows:
 - A. Independent targeting of different locations using a single missile
- III. Key features:
 - A. Advanced guidance and navigation systems
 - B. Enhanced strategic deterrence capability
- IV. Developed by:
 - A. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- V. Significance:
 - A. Strengthens India's nuclear deterrence posture
 - B. Enhances long-range missile capability
- VI. Overall, it reflects progress in India's **indigenous strategic missile programme.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Agni Missile Series

- I. Developed under:
 - A. India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme
- II. Strategic ballistic missile system:
 - A. Designed for long-range deterrence

MIRV Technology

- I. Multiple warheads:
 - A. Released from one missile
- II. Each warhead can:
 - A. Strike separate targets independently

Strategic Importance

- I. Improves:
 - A. Missile effectiveness and survivability
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Credible minimum deterrence doctrine

DRDO

- I. Defence Research and Development Organisation:
 - A. India's premier defence research agency

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Missile:** Agni.
- **Technology:** MIRV.
- **Agency:** DRDO.
- **Capability:** Multiple target engagement.

- **Impact:** Strategic deterrence enhancement.
- **Sector:** Defence and missile technology.
- **Way Forward:** Continued modernization of strategic forces.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Agni:** Ballistic missile series
- **MIRV:** Multiple warheads
- **Agency:** DRDO
- **Concept:** Strategic deterrence
- **Programme:** IGMDP
- **Goal:** National security
- **Feature:** Independent targeting

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. MIRV technology enables a missile to strike multiple targets independently.
2. Agni missiles are part of India's strategic missile programme.
3. DRDO is responsible only for civilian space missions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.CAQM CONDUCTS INSPECTION DRIVE IN NOIDA; ORDERS STRICT MITIGATION MEASURES



BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

CAQM

- I. Commission for Air Quality Management:
 - A. Statutory body for air quality management in NCR and adjoining areas
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Coordinating anti-pollution measures

Air Pollution in NCR

- I. Major sources:
 - A. Vehicular emissions
 - B. Construction dust
 - C. Industrial pollution
 - D. Biomass burning

Importance of Mitigation

- I. Poor air quality affects:
 - A. Public health
 - B. Environment
- II. Measures include:
 - A. Dust suppression
 - B. Monitoring and enforcement

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Body:** CAQM.
- **Location:** Noida.
- **Issue:** Air pollution.
- **Focus:** Mitigation and enforcement.
- **Sources targeted:** Dust and emissions.
- **Impact:** Improved air quality management.
- **Way Forward:** Continuous monitoring and compliance.

- I. The inspection focused on:
 - A. Air pollution hotspots
 - B. Construction and dust control measures
- II. CAQM directed:
 - A. Stronger enforcement against violations
 - B. Better implementation of pollution-control norms
- III. Key areas of concern:
 - A. Dust emissions
 - B. Vehicular pollution
 - C. Waste burning
- IV. Objectives:
 - A. Improve air quality in NCR region
 - B. Reduce health risks from pollution
- V. Overall, it reflects efforts toward **cleaner urban air and environmental compliance**.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CAQM:** Air quality body
- **Region:** NCR
- **Issue:** Air pollution
- **Sources:** Dust, vehicles
- **Goal:** Cleaner air
- **Measure:** Enforcement
- **Impact:** Public health protection

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. CAQM is responsible for air quality management in NCR.
2. Construction dust is a major source of urban air pollution.
3. Air pollution has no impact on public health.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.THREE JAN SURAKSHA SCHEMES COMPLETE 11 YEARS OF SOCIAL SECURITY COVER



1. PMSBY

- I. Accident insurance scheme
- II. Provides:
 - A. Insurance cover against accidental death/disability
- III. Affordable premium-based scheme

2. PMJJBY

- I. Life insurance scheme
- II. Provides:
 - A. Coverage in case of death due to any reason

3. APY

- I. Pension scheme for workers in the unorganized sector
- II. Provides:
 - A. Guaranteed pension after 60 years

Overall Impact

- I. Expanded:
 - A. Social security access for low-income groups
- II. Strengthened:
 - A. Financial inclusion ecosystem
- III. Beneficiaries include:
 - A. Rural households
 - B. Informal sector workers

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Jan Suraksha Schemes

- I. Launched in:
 - A. 2015
- II. Aim:
 - A. Affordable insurance and pension access for all

Financial Inclusion Linkages

- I. Complement:
 - A. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
- II. Promote:
 - A. Banking penetration and social protection

Importance

- I. Reduces:
 - A. Financial vulnerability of poor households
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Long-term savings and insurance culture

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Schemes:** PMSBY, PMJJBY, APY.
- **Focus:** Social security.
- **Completion:** 11 years.
- **Target:** Low-income and unorganized sector.
- **Benefits:** Insurance and pension coverage.
- **Impact:** Financial inclusion.
- **Way Forward:** Universal social protection coverage.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PMSBY:** Accident insurance
- **PMJJBY:** Life insurance
- **APY:** Pension scheme
- **Launch year:** 2015
- **Target:** Unorganized sector
- **Linked scheme:** PMJDY
- **Goal:** Social security

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. PMSBY provides accidental insurance coverage.
2. APY targets workers in the unorganized sector.
3. PMJJBY is a pension scheme.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE (NMSA)



NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

- I. NMSA is a mission under:
 - A. National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)
- II. Objective:
 - A. Make agriculture more sustainable and climate resilient

Key Focus Areas

- Efficient water use
- Soil health management
- Rainfed area development
- Climate-resilient farming practices
- Agroforestry and resource conservation

Major Goals

- Increase farm productivity sustainably
- Reduce dependence on rainfall variability
- Improve livelihood security for farmers

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Long-term food security
 - B. Adaptation to climate change

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)

- I. Launched by Government of India
- II. Includes:
 - A. Eight national missions related to climate action
- III. The National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture is one of them.

Need for Sustainable Agriculture

- I. Agriculture faces:
 - A. Erratic monsoons
 - B. Soil degradation
 - C. Water scarcity
- II. Sustainable practices help:
 - A. Conserve natural resources

Components of NMSA

- Rainfed Area Development (RAD)
- Soil Health Management (SHM)
- On-Farm Water Management (OFWM)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Mission:** NMSA.
- **Focus:** Climate-resilient agriculture.
- **Framework:** NAPCC.
- **Areas:** Water, soil, rainfed farming.
- **Goal:** Sustainable productivity.
- **Challenge:** Climate change.
- **Way Forward:** Promote resource-efficient farming.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NMSA:** Sustainable agriculture mission

- **Parent framework:** NAPCC
- **Focus:** Climate resilience
- **Component:** Soil Health Management
- **Issue:** Water scarcity
- **Goal:** Food security
- **Approach:** Sustainable farming

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NMSA is part of the National Action Plan on Climate Change.
2. The mission promotes climate-resilient agriculture.
3. NMSA discourages efficient water management.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. INS SAGARDHWANI ENHANCES INDIA–VIETNAM MARITIME & SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION



- I. INS Sagardhwani is a specialized vessel used for:
 - A. Oceanographic and acoustic research
- II. Objectives of the mission:
 - A. Enhance bilateral maritime cooperation
 - B. Promote scientific collaboration in marine studies
- III. Activities include:
 - A. Joint scientific interactions
 - B. Maritime engagement and outreach
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Strengthens India–Vietnam strategic partnership
 - B. Supports regional maritime security and research cooperation
- V. Overall, reinforces India’s role in the **Indo-Pacific maritime framework**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

INS Sagardhwani

- I. Operated by:
 - A. Indian Navy
- II. Used for:
 - A. Acoustic trials and oceanographic studies

India–Vietnam Relations

- I. Strategic partners in:
 - A. Defence and maritime cooperation
- II. Shared interest in:
 - A. Freedom of navigation and regional stability

Indo-Pacific Importance

- I. Critical region for:
 - A. Global trade routes
 - B. Maritime security
- II. Cooperation helps:
 - A. Strengthen regional partnerships

Scientific Cooperation

- I. Marine research supports:
 - A. Ocean studies
 - B. Climate understanding
 - C. Naval operations

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Vessel:** INS Sagardhwani.
- **Countries:** India and Vietnam.
- **Focus:** Maritime and scientific cooperation.
- **Region:** Indo-Pacific.
- **Agency:** Indian Navy.
- **Impact:** Stronger strategic partnership.
- **Way Forward:** Expand collaborative maritime research.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Ship:** INS Sagardhwani
- **Type:** Research vessel
- **Partner country:** Vietnam
- **Region:** Indo-Pacific
- **Focus:** Maritime cooperation
- **Agency:** Indian Navy
- **Goal:** Scientific collaboration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. INS Sagardhwani is associated with oceanographic research.
2. India and Vietnam cooperate in maritime security.
3. The Indo-Pacific region has no strategic importance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2. UNION HOME MINISTER REVIEWS INDIA'S PREPAREDNESS FOR FLOODS & HEAT WAVES



- I. The meeting reviewed:
 - A. National and state-level disaster preparedness mechanisms
- II. Key focus areas:
 - A. Early warning systems
 - B. Inter-agency coordination
 - C. Relief and rescue preparedness
- III. Emphasis on:
 - A. Minimizing loss of life and property
 - B. Timely response during extreme weather events
- IV. Directions included:
 - A. Better coordination among states and agencies
 - B. Strengthening awareness and mitigation strategies
- V. Overall, highlights India's efforts toward **climate resilience and disaster preparedness.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Floods in India

- I. Caused by:
 - A. Heavy rainfall
 - B. River overflow
 - C. Urban drainage issues
- II. Major impacts:
 - A. Loss of life, crops, and infrastructure

Heat Waves

- I. Prolonged periods of:
 - A. Extremely high temperatures
- II. Increasing due to:
 - A. Climate change and urbanization

Disaster Management Framework

- I. Guided by:
 - A. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- II. Includes:
 - A. Preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery

Importance of Early Warning Systems

- I. Help:
 - A. Reduce casualties
 - B. Improve response planning

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Minister:** Amit Shah.
- **Issues reviewed:** Floods and heat waves.
- **Location:** New Delhi.
- **Focus:** Disaster preparedness.
- **Agency:** NDMA.

- **Concern:** Climate-related disasters.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen early warning and coordination systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NDMA:** Disaster management authority
- **Hazards:** Floods and heat waves
- **Concept:** Early warning systems
- **Issue:** Climate resilience
- **Focus:** Disaster preparedness
- **Goal:** Minimize losses
- **Approach:** Coordination and mitigation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NDMA is responsible for disaster management in India.
2. Early warning systems help reduce disaster impacts.
3. Heat waves are unrelated to climate change.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. "WATER CONSERVATION SHOULD BECOME A MASS MOVEMENT" — NITIN GADKARI



Water Conservation Measures

- I. Rainwater harvesting
- II. Check dams and watershed development
- III. Efficient irrigation techniques:
 - A. Drip and sprinkler irrigation

Government Initiatives

- I. Jal Shakti Abhiyan
- II. Atal Bhujal Yojana
- III. Campaigns promoting:
 - A. Water-use efficiency and sustainability

Importance of Public Participation

- I. Community involvement helps:
 - A. Improve local water management
 - B. Ensure sustainability of conservation efforts

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Minister:** Nitin Gadkari.
- **Theme:** Water conservation.
- **Approach:** Mass movement and public participation.
- **Focus:** Rainwater harvesting and reuse.
- **Challenge:** Water scarcity.
- **Goal:** Sustainable water security.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen awareness and local conservation efforts.

- I. The Minister stressed:
 - A. Collective responsibility in conserving water resources
- II. Key focus areas:
 - A. Rainwater harvesting
 - B. Watershed management
 - C. Reuse and recycling of water
- III. Importance:
 - A. Ensuring long-term water security
 - B. Supporting agriculture and livelihoods
- IV. Encouraged:
 - A. Community participation and awareness campaigns
- V. Overall, the message promotes **sustainable water management and environmental stewardship.**

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Water Stress in India

- I. India faces:
 - A. Declining groundwater levels
 - B. Uneven rainfall distribution
- II. Increasing pressure due to:
 - A. Population growth and urbanization

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Issue:** Water scarcity
- **Technique:** Rainwater harvesting
- **Scheme:** Jal Shakti Abhiyan
- **Programme:** Atal Bhujal Yojana
- **Goal:** Water security
- **Approach:** Community participation
- **Focus:** Sustainable management

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Rainwater harvesting is a method of water conservation.
2. Atal Bhujal Yojana is related to groundwater management.
3. Water conservation has no role in sustainable development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. UNION MINISTER SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN LAUNCHES PMGSY-IV IN MADHYA PRADESH



- I. **PMGSY-IV** aims to:
 - A. Strengthen rural road connectivity
 - B. Improve access to remote villages
- II. Focus areas:
 - A. All-weather road infrastructure
 - B. Connectivity to economic and social services
- III. Expected benefits:
 - A. Better transport and market access
 - B. Improved healthcare and education accessibility
 - C. Rural economic development
- IV. Development package includes:
 - A. Infrastructure and regional development projects
- V. Overall, supports inclusive growth and rural transformation in Madhya Pradesh.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

- I. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana:
 - A. Launched to provide all-weather rural road connectivity
- II. Objective:
 - A. Connect unconnected habitations

Importance of Rural Connectivity

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Agricultural market access
 - B. Employment opportunities
 - C. Delivery of public services

Madhya Pradesh

- I. Large rural population:
 - A. Requires extensive infrastructure development
- II. Rural roads play a key role in:
 - A. Socio-economic progress

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme:** PMGSY-IV.
- **Launch location:** Bhairunda, Sehore.
- **State:** Madhya Pradesh.
- **Focus:** Rural connectivity.
- **Benefit:** Infrastructure-led development.
- **Sector:** Rural development.
- **Way Forward:** Expand all-weather road networks.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PMGSY:** Rural roads scheme
- **Objective:** Village connectivity
- **State:** Madhya Pradesh
- **Focus:** All-weather roads
- **Benefit:** Rural development
- **Sector:** Infrastructure
- **Goal:** Inclusive growth

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. PMGSY focuses on rural road connectivity.
2. Rural connectivity improves access to markets and services.
3. PMGSY is related only to urban transport infrastructure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. UNION MINISTER DR. JITENDRA SINGH REVIEWS “SATHI” FACILITY AT BHU, VARANASI



- I. **SATHI** stands for:
 - A. Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institutes
- II. Objective:
 - A. Provide shared advanced scientific infrastructure for researchers and startups
- III. Key features:
 - A. High-end analytical instruments
 - B. Interdisciplinary research support
 - C. Access for academia, industry, and innovators
- IV. Benefits:
 - A. Promotes cutting-edge research
 - B. Encourages innovation and technology development
 - C. Supports startups and young scientists
- V. Overall, it strengthens India's scientific ecosystem and research capacity.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

SATHI Programme

- I. Launched by:
 - A. Department of Science and Technology
- II. Aim:
 - A. Create professionally managed shared research facilities
- III. Focus areas:
 - A. Nanotechnology
 - B. Materials science
 - C. Biotechnology
 - D. Advanced instrumentation

Banaras Hindu University (BHU)

- I. Banaras Hindu University:
 - A. One of India's premier central universities
- II. Known for:
 - A. Research and higher education excellence

Importance of Shared Research Facilities

- I. Reduce duplication of expensive equipment
- II. Improve:
 - A. Research accessibility and collaboration

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Facility:** SATHI.
- **Location:** BHU, Varanasi.
- **Support:** DST.
- **Focus:** Advanced scientific infrastructure.
- **Users:** Researchers, startups, academia.
- **Impact:** Innovation and interdisciplinary research.
- **Way Forward:** Expand shared R&D infrastructure nationwide.

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **SATHI:** Shared research facility programme
- **Ministry support:** DST
- **Institution:** BHU
- **Focus:** Advanced instrumentation
- **Goal:** Research accessibility
- **Sector:** Science & Technology
- **Benefit:** Innovation ecosystem

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. SATHI facilities are supported by the Department of Science and Technology.
2. The initiative promotes shared access to advanced scientific instruments.
3. BHU is located in Rajasthan.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1 only

1. INDIA BOLSTERS FERTILIZER STOCKS AHEAD OF KHARIF SEASON



- I. Adequate fertilizer stocks have been positioned before:
 - A. Peak Kharif sowing season
- II. Key fertilizers include:
 - A. Urea
 - B. DAP (Di-Ammonium Phosphate)
 - C. NPK fertilizers
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Ensure uninterrupted supply to farmers
 - B. Prevent shortages during sowing season
- IV. Government focus:
 - A. Efficient distribution and logistics
 - B. Monitoring availability across states
- V. Significance:
 - A. Supports agricultural productivity
 - B. Enhances crop yield and food security
- VI. Overall, strengthens India's preparedness for the monsoon-driven agricultural cycle.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Kharif Season

- I. Crops sown during:
 - A. Southwest monsoon season
- II. Major Kharif crops:
 - A. Rice
 - B. Maize
 - C. Cotton
 - D. Soybean

Importance of Fertilizers

- I. Supply essential nutrients:
 - A. Nitrogen (N)
 - B. Phosphorus (P)
 - C. Potassium (K)
- II. Improve:
 - A. Soil fertility and crop productivity

Government Measures

- Subsidy support for fertilizers
- Real-time monitoring of stocks and movement
- Promotion of balanced nutrient usage

Challenges

- Dependence on imports for some fertilizers
- Global supply disruptions and price volatility

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Season:** Kharif.
- **Preparedness:** 51% fertilizer requirement met.
- **Key fertilizers:** Urea, DAP, NPK.
- **Focus:** Timely supply to farmers.
- **Impact:** Improved crop production.
- **Challenge:** Global fertilizer volatility.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen domestic production and efficient distribution.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Kharif crops:** Monsoon crops
- **Major fertilizer:** Urea
- **NPK:** Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium
- **Goal:** Food security
- **Issue:** Import dependence
- **Approach:** Fertilizer subsidies
- **Benefit:** Higher productivity

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Kharif crops are generally sown during the monsoon season.
2. Urea is a nitrogenous fertilizer.
3. Fertilizers have no role in improving crop productivity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.DIRECT RECRUITMENT TO VARIOUS POSTS IN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



- I. Recruitment will be conducted for:
 - A. Multiple categories of government posts
- II. Objectives:
 - A. Fill vacant positions
 - B. Improve governance and service delivery
- III. Recruitment process may include:
 - A. Written examinations
 - B. Skill tests
 - C. Interviews depending on the post
- IV. Benefits:
 - A. Employment opportunities for youth
 - B. Improved functioning of government institutions
- V. Recruitment generally follows:
 - A. Reservation policies and eligibility criteria prescribed by the government

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Direct Recruitment

- I. Method of appointing candidates:
 - A. Through open competitive selection
- II. Conducted by:
 - A. Agencies such as:
 1. Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
 2. Staff Selection Commission (SSC)
 3. Other recruitment bodies

Importance

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Merit-based selection
 - B. Administrative efficiency
- II. Provides:
 - A. Equal employment opportunity

Constitutional Linkages

- I. Recruitment and public employment linked to:
 - A. Equality of opportunity under Article 16 of the Constitution

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Process:** Direct recruitment.
- **Sector:** Government employment.
- **Agencies:** UPSC, SSC, others.
- **Goal:** Fill vacancies efficiently.
- **Benefit:** Employment generation.
- **Principle:** Merit-based selection.
- **Way Forward:** Transparent and technology-driven recruitment.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **UPSC:** Constitutional recruitment body

- **SSC:** Recruitment agency
- **Article 16:** Equality in public employment
- **Method:** Competitive examination
- **Goal:** Administrative efficiency
- **Benefit:** Employment opportunities
- **Concept:** Meritocracy

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. UPSC is a constitutional body responsible for recruitment to civil services.
2. Article 16 of the Constitution deals with equality of opportunity in public employment.
3. Direct recruitment discourages merit-based selection.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.NATIONAL JUTE BOARD & THE JUTE CROP INFORMATION SYSTEM

(JCIS)



National Jute Board (NJB)

- I. National Jute Board:
 - A. Functions under the Ministry of Textiles
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Jute cultivation, trade, and industry development

Jute in India

- I. Known as:
 - A. "Golden Fibre"
- II. Major producing states:
 - A. West Bengal
 - B. Assam
 - C. Bihar

Importance of Jute

- I. Eco-friendly and biodegradable fibre
- II. Used in:
 - A. Packaging
 - B. Textiles
 - C. Handicrafts

Need for Digital Systems

- I. Helps:
 - A. Improve productivity and supply-chain management
- II. Supports:
 - A. Evidence-based policymaking

- I. **JCIS** is a digital platform designed for:
 - A. Monitoring jute cultivation and production trends
- II. Objectives:
 - A. Improve transparency and efficiency in the jute supply chain
 - B. Support farmers with better information and planning
- III. Key features:
 - A. Crop mapping
 - B. Real-time data collection
 - C. Production estimation
- IV. Benefits:
 - A. Better policy planning
 - B. Improved market intelligence
 - C. Support for sustainable jute production
- V. Overall, it strengthens India's efforts toward **digital agriculture and modernization of the jute industry**.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** National Jute Board.
- **System:** JCIS.
- **Focus:** Digital crop monitoring.
- **Sector:** Jute industry.
- **Benefit:** Better planning and transparency.
- **Concept:** Digital agriculture.
- **Way Forward:** Expand technology use in agri-value chains.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NJB:** Jute promotion body
- **JCIS:** Jute Crop Information System
- **Fibre:** Jute (“Golden Fibre”)
- **Major state:** West Bengal
- **Nature:** Biodegradable fibre
- **Goal:** Modernize jute sector
- **Approach:** Digital monitoring

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Jute is known as the “Golden Fibre.”
2. The National Jute Board functions under the Ministry of Textiles.
3. Jute is a non-biodegradable synthetic fibre.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.DR. A.K. PANDA TAKES CHARGE AS CMD OF SAIL



- I. Dr. A.K. Panda assumes leadership of:
 - A. One of India’s largest steel-producing public sector enterprises
- II. Responsibilities include:
 - A. Strengthening steel production capacity
 - B. Improving operational efficiency
 - C. Supporting infrastructure and industrial growth
- III. SAIL plays a key role in:
 - A. Supplying steel for construction, railways, defence, and manufacturing sectors
- IV. The leadership transition is expected to:
 - A. Support modernization and competitiveness of the steel sector

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

- **Way Forward:** Modernization and higher production efficiency.

SAIL

- I. Steel Authority of India Limited:
 - A. Maharatna Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)
- II. Under:
 - A. Ministry of Steel
- III. Major integrated steel plants located at:
 - A. Bhilai
 - B. Bokaro
 - C. Rourkela
 - D. Durgapur
 - E. Burnpur

Importance of Steel Sector

- I. Core industry for:
 - A. Infrastructure development
 - B. Manufacturing growth
 - C. Urbanization
- II. Steel demand linked with:
 - A. Economic growth and industrialization

Public Sector Enterprises

- I. PSUs contribute to:
 - A. Strategic industries and employment generation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Person:** Dr. A.K. Panda.
- **Organization:** SAIL.
- **Position:** CMD.
- **Sector:** Steel industry.
- **Type:** Maharatna PSU.
- **Importance:** Infrastructure and industrial growth.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **SAIL:** Steel PSU
- **Status:** Maharatna
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Steel
- **Sector:** Core industry
- **Major plant:** Bhilai
- **Role:** Infrastructure support
- **Goal:** Industrial growth

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. SAIL is a Maharatna Public Sector Undertaking.
2. SAIL functions under the Ministry of Steel.
3. Steel has no role in infrastructure development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. KEY EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN INDIA: URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT DECLINES, RURAL NON-FARM JOBS RISE



1. Declining Urban Unemployment Rate

- I. Urban unemployment has shown:
 - A. A downward trend
- II. Indicates:
 - A. Improved employment opportunities in urban areas

2. Rise in Rural Secondary & Tertiary Sector Jobs

- I. Rural employment is diversifying beyond agriculture
- II. Growth seen in:
 - A. Manufacturing
 - B. Construction
 - C. Services sectors

3. Increase in Rural Regular Wage/Salaried Employment

- I. More workers moving toward:
 - A. Stable and formal employment arrangements
- II. Suggests:

- A. Better income security and economic transition

Overall Significance

- I. Reflects:
 - A. Economic recovery and labour market transformation
- II. Indicates gradual shift from:
 - A. Agrarian dependence to diversified livelihoods

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Urban Unemployment Rate (UR)

- I. Measures:
 - A. Percentage of unemployed persons in urban labour force
- II. Decline indicates:
 - A. Better labour absorption capacity

Secondary & Tertiary Sectors

Secondary Sector

- Manufacturing and industrial activities

Tertiary Sector

- I. Services such as:
 - A. Trade
 - B. Transport
 - C. IT
 - D. Healthcare

Rural Employment Transition

- I. Traditionally dominated by:
 - A. Agriculture (Primary sector)
- II. Structural transformation leads to:
 - A. Diversification into non-farm employment

Importance of Regular Wage Employment

- I. Provides:
 - A. Stable income
 - B. Social security benefits
- II. Indicator of:
 - A. Formalization of economy

3. Regular wage employment generally provides greater income stability than casual labour.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Trend:** Decline in urban unemployment.
- **Rural shift:** Rise in non-farm jobs.
- **Sector growth:** Secondary and tertiary sectors.
- **Employment type:** Regular salaried jobs increasing.
- **Impact:** Economic diversification.
- **Indicator:** Labour market improvement.
- **Way Forward:** Promote quality employment and skill development.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **UR:** Unemployment Rate
- **Primary sector:** Agriculture
- **Secondary sector:** Manufacturing
- **Tertiary sector:** Services
- **Trend:** Rural diversification
- **Goal:** Formal employment
- **Concept:** Structural transformation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The secondary sector includes manufacturing activities.
2. Tertiary sector employment refers to services-based jobs.

1. CCI APPROVES ADANI POWER'S ACQUISITION OF GVK ENERGY LTD



Fair Competition
For Greater Good

- I. Adani Power Limited will acquire complete ownership of:
 - A. GVK Energy Limited
- II. The acquisition received approval from:
 - A. Competition Commission of India under competition law provisions
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Strengthen operational capacity in the power sector
 - B. Improve efficiency and asset utilization
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Reflects increasing consolidation in infrastructure and energy sectors
 - B. May enhance generation and distribution capabilities

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Competition Commission of India (CCI)

- I. Competition Commission of India:
 - A. Statutory body established under the Competition Act, 2002
- II. Functions:
 - A. Prevent anti-competitive practices
 - B. Regulate mergers and acquisitions
 - C. Promote fair competition

Adani Power Limited

- I. Adani Power Limited:
 - A. Major private thermal power producer in India

GVK Energy Limited

- I. GVK Energy Limited:
 - A. Involved in power and infrastructure projects

Importance of Mergers & Acquisitions

- I. Can lead to:
 - A. Better economies of scale
 - B. Increased efficiency
 - C. Sectoral restructuring
- II. Subject to regulatory scrutiny to:
 - A. Prevent monopolistic practices

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Regulator:** CCI.
- **Acquirer:** Adani Power Ltd.
- **Target company:** GVK Energy Ltd.
- **Sector:** Power and infrastructure.
- **Type:** 100% acquisition.
- **Impact:** Industry consolidation.
- **Way Forward:** Ensure fair competition and efficient energy growth.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CCI:** Competition regulator
- **Law:** Competition Act, 2002
- **Sector:** Power
- **Company:** Adani Power
- **Concept:** Merger & acquisition
- **Goal:** Fair competition
- **Impact:** Infrastructure consolidation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Competition Commission of India regulates mergers and acquisitions.
2. CCI was established under the Competition Act, 2002.
3. Mergers and acquisitions are never examined for anti-competitive concerns.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.PRESS RELEASE OF CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) ON BASE 2024=100 FOR APRIL 2026



- I. CPI tracks:
 - A. Changes in prices of goods and services consumed by households
- II. Base year revised to:
 - A. **2024=100** for improved representation of current consumption patterns
- III. The index is important for:
 - A. Inflation monitoring
 - B. Monetary policy decisions
 - C. Wage and allowance revisions
- IV. Categories covered include:
 - A. Food and beverages
 - B. Housing
 - C. Clothing
 - D. Fuel and light
 - E. Miscellaneous services
- V. The release helps policymakers:
 - A. Assess inflationary trends and purchasing power

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

- I. Measures:
 - A. Average change in retail prices over time
- II. Used as:
 - A. Main indicator of retail inflation in India

Base Year Revision

- I. Base year periodically revised to:
 - A. Reflect changing consumption behavior
 - B. Improve statistical accuracy
- II. New base:
 - A. 2024=100

Agencies Involved

- I. Released by:
 - A. National Statistical Office (NSO)
- II. Under:
 - A. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Importance of CPI

- I. Used by:
 - A. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for inflation targeting
- II. Influences:
 - A. Interest rates
 - B. Economic policy decisions

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Indicator:** CPI.
- **Base year:** 2024=100.
- **Month released:** April 2026.
- **Purpose:** Measure retail inflation.
- **Agency:** NSO.
- **Policy relevance:** RBI monetary policy.
- **Way Forward:** Improve inflation monitoring and economic planning.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CPI:** Retail inflation indicator
- **Base year:** 2024=100
- **Agency:** NSO
- **Policy institution:** RBI
- **Concept:** Inflation targeting
- **Measures:** Consumer prices
- **Importance:** Monetary policy

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. CPI measures changes in retail prices faced by consumers.
2. RBI uses CPI data for inflation targeting.
3. Revising the CPI base year helps reflect current consumption patterns.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. FIRST CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR SEYCHELLES CIVIL SERVANTS COMMENCES AT NCGG, MUSSOORIE



- I. The programme is designed for:
 - A. Capacity enhancement of Seychelles civil servants
- II. Key focus areas:
 - A. Good governance
 - B. Public administration
 - C. Digital governance
 - D. Policy implementation
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Share India's governance best practices
 - B. Strengthen institutional and administrative capabilities
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Enhances bilateral cooperation between India and Seychelles
 - B. Promotes knowledge exchange in governance reforms
- V. Overall, the initiative strengthens India's role in international capacity-building partnerships.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)

- I. National Centre for Good Governance:
 - A. Autonomous institution under the Government of India
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Governance reforms
 - B. Administrative capacity building
 - C. Public policy training

India–Seychelles Relations

- I. Cooperation areas include:
 - A. Maritime security
 - B. Development partnership
 - C. Capacity building
- II. Seychelles is strategically important in:
 - A. Indian Ocean Region (IOR)

Importance of Capacity Building

- I. Helps improve:
 - A. Administrative efficiency
 - B. Public service delivery
 - C. Institutional governance

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Programme:** Capacity Building Programme.
- **Participants:** Civil servants of Seychelles.
- **Institution:** NCGG.
- **Location:** Mussoorie.
- **Focus:** Good governance and administration.
- **Impact:** Strengthened bilateral cooperation.
- **Way Forward:** Expand international governance partnerships.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NCGG:** Governance training institution
- **Location:** Mussoorie
- **Country involved:** Seychelles
- **Focus:** Capacity building
- **Region:** Indian Ocean
- **Concept:** Good governance
- **Goal:** Administrative reforms

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NCGG is associated with governance and administrative training.
2. Seychelles is located in the Indian Ocean region.
3. Capacity-building programmes weaken institutional governance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.MINISTRY OF MINES LAUNCHES 2nd TRANCHE OF LIMESTONE BLOCK AUCTIONS IN JAMMU & KASHMIR



- I. Limestone blocks are being auctioned for:
 - A. Scientific and commercial mineral extraction
- II. Objectives:
 - A. Promote investment in mining sector
 - B. Support cement and infrastructure industries
 - C. Generate employment and regional development
- III. Importance of limestone:
 - A. Key raw material for cement production
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Encourages transparent mineral allocation through auctions
 - B. Strengthens mineral-based economic growth in Jammu & Kashmir
- V. Overall, supports India's push for:
 - A. Resource utilization
 - B. Industrialization
 - C. Self-reliance in mineral resources

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Limestone

- I. Sedimentary rock rich in:
 - A. Calcium carbonate
- II. Used in:
 - A. Cement industry
 - B. Steel production
 - C. Construction

Mineral Auctions in India

- I. Conducted under:
 - A. Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR Act)
- II. Aim:
 - A. Ensure transparency and efficient resource allocation

Jammu & Kashmir's Mineral Potential

- I. Rich in:
 - A. Limestone
 - B. Sapphire
 - C. Gypsum
 - D. Marble
- II. Mining development can:
 - A. Boost local economy and infrastructure

Importance of Mining Sector

- I. Contributes to:
 - A. Industrial growth
 - B. Employment generation
 - C. Infrastructure development

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Mines.

- **Resource:** Limestone.
- **Location:** Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.
- **Process:** 2nd tranche of auctions.
- **Sector:** Mining and infrastructure.
- **Impact:** Industrial and regional development.
- **Way Forward:** Sustainable and transparent mineral exploitation.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Mineral:** Limestone
- **Use:** Cement production
- **Law:** MMDR Act
- **Region:** Jammu & Kashmir
- **Method:** Mineral auctions
- **Goal:** Industrial growth
- **Approach:** Transparent allocation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Limestone is an important raw material for the cement industry.
2. Mineral block auctions in India are conducted to improve transparency in allocation.
3. Jammu & Kashmir has no significant mineral resources.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.INDIA & IFAD LAUNCH NEW COSOP (2026–2033) TO STRENGTHEN RURAL ECONOMY



Investing in rural people

- I. Duration:
 - A. Eight years (2026–2033)
- II. Focus areas:
 - A. Rural livelihoods
 - B. Agricultural productivity
 - C. Climate resilience
 - D. Women and youth empowerment
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Enhance income opportunities in rural areas
 - B. Promote sustainable agriculture and inclusive growth
 - C. Improve resilience of vulnerable communities
- IV. Key beneficiaries:
 - A. Small and marginal farmers
 - B. Rural women
 - C. Farmer producer organizations and self-help groups
- V. Significance:
 - A. Supports poverty reduction and rural transformation
 - B. Aligns with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

IFAD

- I. International Fund for Agricultural Development:
 - A. Specialized UN agency focused on rural poverty reduction
- II. Works in:
 - A. Agricultural development and rural finance

COSOP

- I. Country-level strategic framework between:
 - A. IFAD and partner country governments
- II. Defines:
 - A. Development priorities and cooperation areas

Importance of Rural Economy

- I. Rural India supports:
 - A. Agriculture
 - B. Food security
 - C. Employment generation
- II. Challenges include:
 - A. Climate vulnerability
 - B. Low incomes
 - C. Infrastructure gaps

Sustainable Rural Development

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Inclusive growth
 - B. Natural resource management
 - C. Financial inclusion

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Programme:** COSOP 2026–2033.
- **Partners:** India and IFAD.
- **Focus:** Rural development and livelihoods.
- **Beneficiaries:** Farmers and rural communities.
- **Themes:** Climate resilience and inclusion.
- **Impact:** Poverty reduction and economic empowerment.
- **Way Forward:** Sustainable and inclusive rural transformation.

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

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **IFAD:** UN rural development agency
- **COSOP:** Country strategy framework
- **Focus:** Rural economy
- **Beneficiaries:** Small farmers
- **Theme:** Climate resilience
- **Goal:** Poverty reduction
- **Approach:** Inclusive development

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. IFAD is a United Nations agency focused on rural development.
2. COSOP is a strategic cooperation framework between IFAD and partner countries.
3. Climate resilience is unrelated to rural development planning.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. NHRC ORGANISES CORE GROUP MEETING ON PROTECTING MIGRANT WORKERS' RIGHTS



- I. The meeting emphasized:
 - A. Joint responsibility of government and private sector in protecting migrant workers
- II. Key issues discussed:
 - A. Social security
 - B. Safe working conditions
 - C. Access to healthcare and housing
 - D. Legal protection and welfare schemes
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Ensure dignity and human rights of migrant labourers
 - B. Improve labour welfare and policy implementation
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Highlights challenges faced by migrant workers
 - B. Encourages inclusive and humane labour governance

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

NHRC

- I. National Human Rights Commission:
 - A. Statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
- II. Mandate:
 - A. Protection and promotion of human rights

Migrant Workers in India

- I. Migrant workers move:
 - A. Across states or regions for employment
- II. Common sectors:
 - A. Construction
 - B. Manufacturing
 - C. Domestic work
 - D. Services

Challenges Faced

- Informal employment
- Lack of social protection
- Poor living and working conditions
- Limited access to welfare schemes

Importance of Labour Rights

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Dignity and safe working environment
- II. Supports:
 - A. Inclusive economic development

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organizer:** NHRC.
- **Theme:** Migrant workers' rights.
- **Focus:** Government and private sector responsibility.
- **Issues:** Safety, welfare, social security.
- **Sector:** Labour and human rights.
- **Impact:** Better worker protection.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen labour welfare mechanisms.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NHRC:** Human rights body
- **Law:** Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
- **Group:** Migrant workers
- **Issues:** Social security and safety
- **Sector:** Labour welfare
- **Goal:** Human dignity
- **Approach:** Shared responsibility

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NHRC was established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
2. Migrant workers are commonly employed in sectors such as construction and manufacturing.
3. Labour rights are unrelated to human rights protection.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only

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

Answer: (a)

2.AI-POWERED FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN INDIA



- I. AI technologies are being used in:
 - A. Digital banking
 - B. Fintech services
 - C. Insurance and credit systems

Key Applications

- AI-based credit scoring
- Fraud detection and cybersecurity
- Chatbots and customer support
- Personalized financial services

Benefits

- Expands banking access in rural and underserved areas
- Improves efficiency and reduces operational costs
- Enhances financial literacy and service delivery

Supporting Ecosystem

- I. Growth of:
 - A. UPI
 - B. Digital public infrastructure
 - C. Fintech startups
- II. Overall, AI is helping India move toward:
 - A. Inclusive and technology-driven financial systems

- Digital divide
- Data privacy concerns
- Cybersecurity risks
- Need for digital literacy

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Financial Inclusion

- I. Means:
 - A. Access to affordable financial services for all citizens
- II. Includes:
 - A. Banking
 - B. Credit
 - C. Insurance
 - D. Digital payments

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- I. AI enables:
 - A. Data analysis and predictive decision-making
- II. Widely used in:
 - A. Automation and customer engagement

India's Digital Financial Ecosystem

- I. Supported by initiatives such as:
 - A. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
 - B. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
 - C. UPI digital payments system

Challenges

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Technology:** Artificial Intelligence.
- **Sector:** Financial inclusion.
- **Applications:** Credit scoring and fraud detection.
- **Support system:** UPI and fintech ecosystem.
- **Benefit:** Wider banking access.
- **Challenge:** Cybersecurity and digital divide.
- **Way Forward:** Responsible and inclusive AI adoption.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **AI:** Artificial Intelligence
- **UPI:** Digital payment system
- **NPCI:** Payment infrastructure body
- **Goal:** Financial inclusion
- **Scheme:** PMJDY
- **Issue:** Digital divide
- **Benefit:** Inclusive banking

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. AI can be used for fraud detection in financial systems.
2. UPI is part of India's digital payment ecosystem.
3. Financial inclusion refers only to access to stock markets.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.NATIONAL QUIZ FOR VIKSIT VIBRANT VILLAGES PROGRAMME 2026 LAUNCHED



- I. The quiz aims to:
 - A. Spread awareness about the Vibrant Villages Programme
 - B. Encourage participation and knowledge about border area development
- II. Focus areas include:
 - A. Rural development
 - B. Border infrastructure
 - C. Culture and heritage of border villages
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Promote national integration
 - B. Highlight strategic importance of border regions

- C. Encourage youth awareness and participation
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Supports inclusive development in remote villages
 - B. Enhances awareness regarding government initiatives

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP)

- I. Vibrant Villages Programme:
 - A. Centrally sponsored scheme for development of border villages
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Infrastructure
 - B. Connectivity
 - C. Livelihood generation
 - D. Tourism and cultural preservation

Border Villages

- I. Located in:
 - A. Northern border regions including Himalayan areas
- II. Challenges:
 - A. Remoteness
 - B. Migration
 - C. Limited infrastructure

Importance of Border Area Development

- I. Enhances:
 - A. National security
 - B. Economic opportunities
 - C. Population retention in border areas

Role of Public Awareness

- I. Quizzes and outreach programmes help:
 - A. Increase citizen participation
 - B. Promote awareness of national initiatives

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Programme:** Vibrant Villages Programme.
- **Event:** National Quiz 2026.
- **Focus:** Border village development.
- **Target group:** Youth and citizens.
- **Themes:** Infrastructure and national integration.
- **Impact:** Awareness and participation.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen inclusive border development.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **VVP:** Border village development scheme
- **Focus:** Remote border areas
- **Objective:** Inclusive growth
- **Region:** Himalayan border villages
- **Themes:** Connectivity and livelihoods
- **Goal:** National integration
- **Approach:** Citizen awareness

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Vibrant Villages Programme focuses on development of border villages.
2. Border area development contributes to national security and local livelihoods.

3. The programme is unrelated to infrastructure development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.CENTRE RELEASES FIRST INSTALMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT & SUBORDINATE COURTS



- I. Funds released under:
 - A. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Judicial Infrastructure Development
- II. Amount sanctioned:
 - A. ₹401.50 crore (first instalment for FY 2026–27)
- III. Purpose:
 - A. Construction and modernization of court infrastructure
 - B. Better facilities for judges, lawyers, and litigants

- IV. Key focus areas:
- Court halls
 - Residential units for judicial officers
 - Digital and administrative infrastructure
- V. Significance:
- Enhances efficiency of judiciary
 - Supports timely delivery of justice
 - Improves access to judicial services at grassroots level

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

District & Subordinate Courts

- Form the:
 - Foundation of India's judicial system
- Handle:
 - Civil and criminal cases at local levels

Need for Judicial Infrastructure

- Many courts face:
 - Infrastructure shortages
 - Case backlog pressures
 - Inadequate digital facilities
- Better infrastructure helps:
 - Improve judicial efficiency and accessibility

Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)

- Financial support shared between:
 - Centre and States/UTs
- Objective:
 - Strengthen judicial infrastructure nationwide

Importance of Access to Justice

- Judicial accessibility is linked with:
 - Rule of law
 - Constitutional governance
 - Citizen rights protection

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Scheme:** CSS for judicial infrastructure.
- Amount:** ₹401.50 crore.
- Year:** FY 2026–27.
- Focus:** District and subordinate courts.
- Objective:** Better judicial infrastructure.
- Impact:** Improved access to justice.
- Way Forward:** Expand modern and digital court facilities.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- Level:** District & subordinate courts
- Scheme type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- Goal:** Judicial infrastructure development
- Importance:** Access to justice
- Challenge:** Case backlog and inadequate facilities
- Focus:** Modernization and digitization
- Concept:** Rule of law

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

- District and subordinate courts form the grassroots level of India's judicial system.
- Judicial infrastructure development helps improve access to justice.

3. Centrally Sponsored Schemes involve no financial participation from states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. CHILE FOREIGN MINISTER LEADS HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION TO INDIA



- I. The delegation focused on:
 - A. Expanding trade and investment ties
 - B. Enhancing economic cooperation
- II. Key discussion areas:
 - A. Minerals and critical resources
 - B. Agriculture
 - C. Technology and innovation
 - D. Trade partnerships
- III. Objectives:
 - A. Promote stronger bilateral commercial relations
 - B. Explore new investment opportunities
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Strengthens India's engagement with Latin America
 - B. Supports diversification of economic partnerships

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Chile Relations

- I. Diplomatic relations based on:
 - A. Trade cooperation and multilateral engagement
- II. Chile is important for:
 - A. Critical minerals such as lithium and copper

Economic Cooperation

- I. Areas of collaboration include:
 - A. Mining
 - B. Renewable energy
 - C. Agriculture
 - D. Pharmaceuticals

Strategic Importance of Chile

- I. Located on western coast of South America
- II. Key partner for:
 - A. Resource security and Indo-Pacific outreach

Trade Agreements

- I. India and Chile have:
 - A. Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)
- II. Aim:
 - A. Increase bilateral trade flows

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Country:** Chile.
- **Visitor:** Francisco Pérez Mackenna.
- **Purpose:** Economic and commercial cooperation.
- **Focus sectors:** Trade, minerals, technology.
- **Region:** Latin America partnership.
- **Importance:** Strategic economic engagement.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen bilateral trade and investment ties.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Country:** Chile
- **Region:** South America
- **Key resource:** Lithium
- **Agreement:** Preferential Trade Agreement
- **Focus:** Trade and investment
- **Importance:** Critical minerals cooperation
- **Goal:** Bilateral economic partnership

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Chile is an important global source of lithium.
2. India and Chile have a Preferential Trade Agreement.
3. Chile is located in Southeast Asia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

I. EMPOWERING THE GRASSROOTS ECONOMY: PUSH FOR RURAL & SEMI-URBAN MSMEs



- I. The initiative aims to:
 - A. Empower grassroots enterprises and local industries

Key Focus Areas

- Access to credit and finance
- Skill development and entrepreneurship
- Digital and market connectivity
- Promotion of local products and value chains

Target Beneficiaries

- Rural entrepreneurs
- Women-led enterprises
- Artisans and self-help groups
- Small manufacturers and service providers

Expected Benefits

- I. Job creation in non-farm sectors
- II. Reduction in rural migration
- III. Strengthening local economies
- IV. Overall, supports:
 - A. Inclusive and decentralized economic development

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

MSMEs in India

- I. MSMEs are critical for:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Manufacturing output
 - C. Exports
- II. Contribute significantly to:
 - A. GDP and local livelihoods

Rural & Semi-Urban MSMEs

- I. Often linked with:
 - A. Agriculture-based industries
 - B. Handicrafts
 - C. Food processing
 - D. Rural services
- II. Face challenges such as:
 - A. Limited credit access
 - B. Technology gaps
 - C. Market constraints

Government Support Measures

- Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)
- MUDRA Yojana
- Skill and entrepreneurship programmes

Importance of Grassroots Economy

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Balanced regional development
 - B. Financial inclusion
 - C. Local value addition

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Sector:** MSMEs.
- **Focus areas:** Rural and semi-urban regions.
- **Goals:** Employment and entrepreneurship.
- **Support:** Credit, skills, market access.
- **Beneficiaries:** Small entrepreneurs and SHGs.
- **Impact:** Inclusive economic growth.
- **Way Forward:** Technology-enabled local enterprise development.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **MSME:** Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- **Scheme:** PMEGP
- **Programme:** MUDRA Yojana
- **Focus:** Rural entrepreneurship
- **Goal:** Employment generation
- **Challenge:** Credit and technology gaps
- **Concept:** Inclusive growth

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

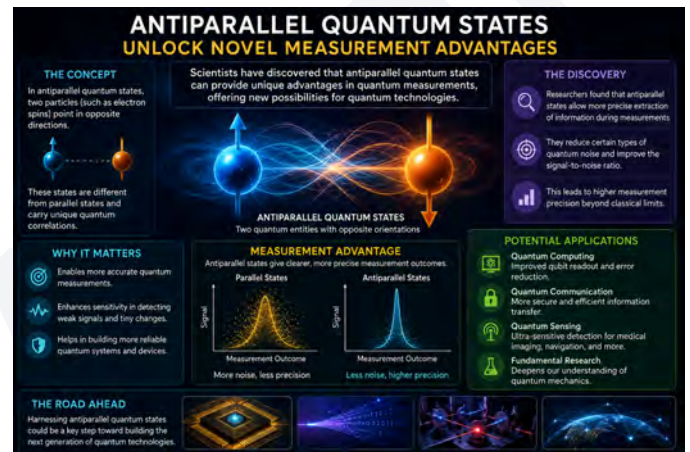
1. MSMEs play an important role in employment generation in India.
2. MUDRA Yojana supports small entrepreneurs and businesses.
3. Rural MSMEs have no connection with local value addition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.ANTIPARALLEL QUANTUM STATES UNLOCK NOVEL MEASUREMENT ADVANTAGES



- I. Antiparallel quantum states refer to:
 - A. Quantum particles oriented in opposite directions
- II. Researchers found that these states:
 - A. Improve the extraction of information during measurements
- III. Potential applications:
 - A. More accurate quantum sensors
 - B. Enhanced quantum information processing
 - C. Better quantum communication protocols
- IV. Significance:
 - A. Advances understanding of quantum mechanics
 - B. May improve future quantum technologies

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Quantum States

- I. Describe:
 - A. Physical condition of particles at quantum scale
- II. Governed by:
 - A. Principles of quantum mechanics

Antiparallel States

- I. Two quantum entities:
 - A. Aligned in opposite directions
- II. Can encode information differently from parallel states

Quantum Measurement

- I. Observation in quantum systems can:
 - A. Affect the system itself
- II. Accurate measurement is crucial for:
 - A. Quantum computing and sensing

Applications of Quantum Technology

- Quantum computers
- Quantum cryptography
- Ultra-sensitive measurement devices

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Concept:** Antiparallel quantum states.
- **Field:** Quantum physics.
- **Advantage:** Improved measurement capability.
- **Applications:** Computing and sensing.
- **Importance:** Better information extraction.
- **Technology area:** Quantum information science.

- **Way Forward:** Develop advanced quantum devices.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Quantum mechanics:** Physics at atomic/subatomic scale
- **Qubit:** Basic unit of quantum information
- **Quantum sensing:** High-precision measurement
- **State type:** Antiparallel states
- **Application:** Quantum computing
- **Concept:** Measurement in quantum systems
- **Goal:** Advanced information processing

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Quantum states describe the condition of particles at the quantum scale.
2. Quantum technologies include quantum computing and quantum cryptography.
3. Quantum measurements have no effect on quantum systems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.INDIA STRENGTHENS GLOBAL TELECOM LEADERSHIP AT ITU COUNCIL 2026 IN GENEVA



- I. India highlighted its achievements in:
 - A. Digital public infrastructure
 - B. Telecom expansion
 - C. Digital inclusion initiatives

Key Focus Areas

- I. Universal and affordable connectivity
- II. Emerging technologies:
 - A. 5G
 - B. AI
 - C. IoT
 - D. Quantum communication
- III. Cybersecurity and trusted telecom networks
- IV. Capacity building for developing countries

India's Contributions

- I. Shared experiences from:
 - A. Digital India
 - B. UPI
 - C. Aadhaar
 - D. CoWIN

- II. Advocated:
 - A. Inclusive and sustainable digital transformation

Significance

- I. Strengthens India's position in:
 - A. Global telecom governance
- II. Enhances:
 - A. International partnerships and digital diplomacy

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

- I. International Telecommunication Union:
 - A. Specialized agency of the United Nations for information and communication technologies
- II. Functions:
 - A. Telecom standard-setting
 - B. Spectrum management
 - C. Digital cooperation

ITU Council

- I. Governing body that:
 - A. Oversees ITU activities between plenipotentiary conferences
- II. Discusses:
 - A. Global telecom policies and digital development priorities

India's Digital Transformation

- I. Major initiatives include:
 - A. Digital India
 - B. UPI digital payments
 - C. BharatNet connectivity programme

- II. India is emerging as:
- A. A global leader in digital public infrastructure

- 2. ITU deals with global telecom and ICT-related cooperation.
- 3. Geneva is the headquarters of the ITU.

Importance of Telecom Diplomacy

- I. Telecom governance impacts:
- A. Economic growth
 - B. Cybersecurity
 - C. Global digital inclusion

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** ITU Council 2026.
- **Location:** Geneva.
- **Organization:** ITU.
- **Focus:** Global telecom governance.
- **India's priorities:** Inclusion, affordability, cybersecurity.
- **Technology areas:** 5G, AI, IoT, Quantum.
- **Way Forward:** Build secure and inclusive global digital ecosystems.

4.EU INCLUDES INDIA IN REVISED DRAFT LIST FOR CONTINUED EXPORT OF AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS FROM SEPTEMBER 2026



PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **ITU:** UN telecom agency
- **Headquarters:** Geneva
- **Focus:** ICT and telecom governance
- **India initiative:** Digital India
- **Technology:** 5G and AI
- **Goal:** Universal connectivity
- **Concept:** Digital public infrastructure

- I. India will continue exporting:
- A. Aquaculture and seafood products to EU markets

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is a specialized agency of the United Nations.

Key Products

- Shrimp
- Fish products
- Other farmed aquatic products

Significance

- Ensures stability for Indian seafood exporters
- Strengthens India's position in global seafood trade
- Supports employment in coastal and aquaculture sectors

Requirements

- I. Compliance with:
 - A. Food safety standards
 - B. Quality control measures
 - C. Traceability norms

Impact

- Boosts foreign exchange earnings
- Supports fishermen, farmers, and processing industries

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Aquaculture in India

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Farming of fish, shrimp, and other aquatic organisms
- II. India is among:
 - A. Leading global seafood exporters

European Union Market

- I. EU is a major destination for:
 - A. Indian marine product exports
- II. Imports regulated through:
 - A. Sanitary and phytosanitary standards

Importance of Seafood Exports

- I. Contributes to:
 - A. Rural livelihoods
 - B. Coastal economy

C. Export earnings

Challenges

- Maintaining international quality standards
- Disease management in aquaculture
- Sustainability and environmental concerns

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Region:** European Union.
- **Country:** India.
- **Sector:** Aquaculture exports.
- **Products:** Seafood and shrimp.
- **Importance:** Trade continuity.
- **Requirement:** Food safety compliance.
- **Way Forward:** Sustainable and high-quality aquaculture production.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Aquaculture:** Farming of aquatic organisms
- **Major export:** Shrimp
- **Market:** European Union
- **Requirement:** SPS standards
- **Sector:** Marine exports
- **Benefit:** Foreign exchange earnings
- **Challenge:** Quality compliance

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Aquaculture refers to farming of aquatic organisms such as fish and shrimp.

2. The European Union imposes food safety and quality standards on imported seafood products.
3. India has no role in global seafood exports.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.INDIA ASSUMES CHAIR OF COMMON CRITERIA DEVELOPMENT BOARD (CCDB)



- I. India's leadership in CCDB highlights:
 - A. Its increasing contribution to international cybersecurity standards

Key Focus Areas

- Cybersecurity certification
- Secure digital products and systems
- Global standards for IT security evaluation

Significance

- I. Strengthens India's role in:
 - A. Global cyber governance
 - B. Trusted digital ecosystems
- II. Encourages:
 - A. International cooperation in cybersecurity

Potential Benefits

- Boosts confidence in secure digital infrastructure
- Supports India's digital economy and technology ecosystem
- Enhances cybersecurity capabilities and standardization efforts

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Common Criteria (CC)

- I. International standard for:
 - A. Computer security certification
- II. Officially known as:
 - A. Common Criteria for Information Technology Security Evaluation

CCDB

- I. Oversees:
 - A. Development and maintenance of Common Criteria standards
- II. Works with:
 - A. Member countries and cybersecurity agencies

Importance of Cybersecurity Standards

- I. Ensure:

- A. Reliability and security of digital systems
- II. Important for:
 - A. Banking
 - B. Defence
 - C. E-governance
 - D. Telecom sectors

India's Digital Expansion

- I. Rapid digitalization through:
 - A. Digital India
 - B. Expanding fintech and e-governance systems
- II. Requires:
 - A. Strong cyber resilience and secure digital infrastructure

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** CCDB.
- **Role assumed by India:** Chairmanship.
- **Focus:** Cybersecurity standards.
- **Area:** IT security evaluation.
- **Importance:** Trusted digital systems.
- **Sector impact:** Banking, telecom, governance.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen global cyber cooperation and standards.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CC:** Cybersecurity certification standard
- **CCDB:** Common Criteria Development Board
- **Focus:** IT security evaluation
- **India initiative:** Digital India
- **Need:** Cyber resilience
- **Importance:** Secure digital ecosystem
- **Sector:** Cyber governance

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Common Criteria is related to information technology security evaluation.
2. Cybersecurity standards help improve trust in digital systems.
3. CCDB is unrelated to cybersecurity governance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. PERIODIC LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (PLFS) MONTHLY BULLETIN – APRIL 2026



Key Indicators Covered

- Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)
- Worker Population Ratio (WPR)
- Unemployment Rate (UR)

Major Trends

- I. Urban unemployment showed:
 - A. A declining trend
- II. Rural employment diversification increased:
 - A. Secondary and tertiary sector jobs
- III. Rise observed in:
 - A. Regular wage/salaried employment

Importance

- I. Helps policymakers:
 - A. Monitor labour market conditions
 - B. Design employment-related policies
- II. Useful for:
 - A. Economic planning and social welfare programmes

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

PLFS

- I. Conducted by:
 - A. National Statistical Office
- II. Started in:
 - A. 2017
- III. Objective:
 - A. Provide timely labour market data

Key Terms

LFPR

- Percentage of population participating in labour force

WPR

- Percentage of employed persons in population

UR

- Percentage of unemployed persons in labour force

Importance of Labour Data

- I. Helps assess:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Economic health
 - C. Structural transformation of economy

Challenges in Labour Market

- Informal employment
- Skill mismatch
- Regional disparities
- Gender gaps in workforce participation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Survey:** PLFS.
- **Agency:** NSO.
- **Month:** April 2026.
- **Indicators:** LFPR, WPR, UR.
- **Trend:** Declining urban unemployment.
- **Shift:** Growth in non-farm employment.
- **Way Forward:** Promote quality and inclusive employment opportunities.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PLFS:** Labour market survey
- **NSO:** Statistical agency
- **LFPR:** Labour force participation rate
- **WPR:** Worker population ratio
- **UR:** Unemployment rate
- **Trend:** Rural diversification
- **Goal:** Employment monitoring

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. PLFS is conducted by the National Statistical Office.
2. LFPR measures the share of the population participating in the labour force.
3. Worker Population Ratio refers to the percentage of unemployed people in the labour force.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only

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

Answer: (a)

2. UNION MINISTER SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY REPRESENTS INDIA AT UGANDA PRESIDENTIAL SWEARING-IN CEREMONY



- I. India's representation at the ceremony highlights:
 - A. Strong bilateral ties with Uganda

Focus Areas of India-Uganda Cooperation

- Trade and investment
- Capacity building
- Healthcare and education
- Defence and development partnership

Significance

- Reinforces India's engagement with Africa
- Promotes diplomatic goodwill and strategic cooperation

Broader Context

- I. India has been expanding partnerships with:
 - A. African Union members
 - B. East African countries

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Uganda Relations

- I. Historical ties strengthened through:
 - A. Trade and diaspora connections
- II. Cooperation includes:
 - A. Agriculture
 - B. Pharmaceuticals
 - C. Infrastructure
 - D. Skill development

Uganda

- I. Landlocked country in:
 - A. East Africa
- II. Capital:
 - A. Kampala

India–Africa Engagement

- I. Guided by:
 - A. South–South cooperation
 - B. Development partnership model
- II. Areas of focus:
 - A. Technology transfer
 - B. Capacity building
 - C. Sustainable development

Diplomatic Significance of State Ceremonies

- I. Such representation:
 - A. Enhances political trust and bilateral goodwill

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Representative:** Jayant Chaudhary.
- **Country visited:** Uganda.
- **Occasion:** Presidential swearing-in ceremony.
- **Focus:** Diplomatic engagement.
- **Region:** East Africa.
- **Importance:** Strengthened India–Africa ties.
- **Way Forward:** Expand cooperation in trade and development sectors.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Country:** Uganda
- **Region:** East Africa
- **Capital:** Kampala
- **India's approach:** South–South cooperation
- **Areas of cooperation:** Trade and capacity building
- **Importance:** Diplomatic outreach
- **Goal:** Stronger India–Africa partnership

PadhAI–GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Uganda is located in East Africa.
2. Kampala is the capital of Uganda.
3. India's engagement with Africa includes capacity building and development cooperation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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

Answer: (a)

3. NHAI ENCOURAGES WOMEN-FOCUSED SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH 'PROJECT SAKSHAM'



Skill India

कौशल भारत - कुशल भारत

- I. **Project Saksham** focuses on:
- A. Skill development and livelihood enhancement for women

Key Objectives

- Improve employability of women
- Promote economic independence
- Encourage participation in infrastructure-related sectors

Training Areas

- Vocational and technical skills
- Digital literacy
- Entrepreneurship and self-employment support

Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced livelihood opportunities
- Greater workforce participation by women
- Social and economic empowerment

Significance

- Supports inclusive growth and gender empowerment
- Aligns with India's broader skilling and women empowerment initiatives

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

NHAI

- I. National Highways Authority of India:
- A. Autonomous agency under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- II. Responsible for:
- A. Development and maintenance of national highways

Women Skill Development

- I. Skill enhancement helps:
- A. Improve employment opportunities
- B. Increase financial inclusion
- II. Important for:
- A. Inclusive economic development

Skill India Mission

- I. Skill India Mission aims to:
- A. Build a skilled workforce for emerging sectors

Importance of Women Workforce Participation

- I. Higher participation contributes to:
 - A. Economic growth
 - B. Social empowerment
 - C. Poverty reduction

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Initiative:** Project Saksham.
- **Organization:** NHA.
- **Focus:** Women skill development.
- **Areas:** Vocational and digital skills.
- **Goal:** Economic empowerment.
- **Impact:** Improved employability and inclusion.
- **Way Forward:** Expand women-focused skilling ecosystems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NHA:** Highway development authority
- **Project:** Saksham
- **Focus:** Women empowerment
- **Programme linkage:** Skill India Mission
- **Goal:** Employment generation
- **Sector:** Skill development
- **Benefit:** Inclusive growth

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NHA functions under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
2. Skill development programmes can improve women's workforce participation.

3. Women empowerment has no relation to economic inclusion.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.IITM PUNE INAUGURATES INCUBATION CENTER & HOSTS 'WISE-2026' FOR CLIMATE ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Key Objectives

- Promote climate entrepreneurship
- Support startups working on climate and weather technologies
- Encourage innovation-driven sustainability solutions

Incubation Center Focus

- Climate-tech startups
- Weather and environmental solutions
- Research commercialization

- Industry-academia collaboration

WISE-2026 Meet

- I. Platform for:
 - A. Scientists
 - B. Entrepreneurs
 - C. Policymakers
 - D. Innovators
- II. Discussions included:
 - A. Climate resilience
 - B. Green technologies
 - C. Sustainable development solutions

Significance

- Strengthens India's climate innovation ecosystem
- Encourages technology-led environmental sustainability

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

IITM Pune

- I. Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology:
 - A. Premier autonomous institute under the Ministry of Earth Sciences
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Weather forecasting
 - B. Climate science
 - C. Atmospheric research

Climate Entrepreneurship

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Startups and enterprises developing solutions for climate challenges
- II. Areas include:

- A. Renewable energy
- B. Carbon management
- C. Climate adaptation technologies

Importance of Incubation Centres

- I. Provide:
 - A. Mentorship
 - B. Infrastructure
 - C. Funding support
 - D. Networking opportunities

Climate Innovation in India

- I. Growing importance due to:
 - A. Climate change impacts
 - B. Sustainability commitments
 - C. Green economy transition

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Institution:** IITM Pune.
- **Event:** WISE-2026.
- **Focus:** Climate entrepreneurship.
- **Sector:** Climate-tech innovation.
- **Objective:** Sustainable solutions and startups.
- **Impact:** Green innovation ecosystem.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen climate-tech incubation and research commercialization.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **IITM:** Tropical meteorology institute
- **Location:** Pune
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Earth Sciences
- **Theme:** Climate entrepreneurship
- **Concept:** Climate-tech startups
- **Goal:** Sustainable innovation
- **Focus:** Climate resilience

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

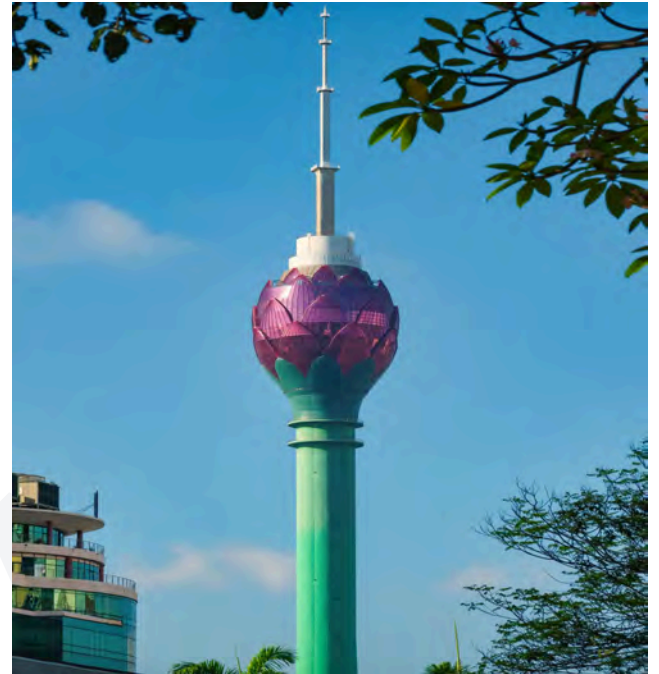
1. IITM Pune functions under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
2. Climate entrepreneurship focuses on innovation-based solutions to environmental challenges.
3. Incubation centres only provide office space and no mentorship support.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.IOS SAGAR MAKES PORT CALL AT COLOMBO, STRENGTHENING INDIA-SRI LANKA MARITIME COOPERATION



Purpose of the Port Call

- Enhance bilateral maritime cooperation
- Promote regional security and interoperability
- Strengthen diplomatic and naval engagement

Key Activities

- Professional exchanges
- Maritime coordination discussions
- Goodwill interactions between naval personnel

Significance

- I. Reinforces India's:
 - A. "Neighbourhood First" policy

- B. SAGAR vision (Security and Growth for All in the Region)
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Maritime security cooperation in the Indian Ocean

C. Economic cooperation

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

SAGAR Doctrine

- I. Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR):
 - A. India's maritime cooperation vision in the Indian Ocean Region
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Regional security
 - B. Capacity building
 - C. Sustainable maritime partnerships

India–Sri Lanka Maritime Relations

- I. Cooperation areas include:
 - A. Coastal security
 - B. Naval exercises
 - C. Humanitarian assistance
 - D. Disaster relief

Strategic Importance of Colombo

- I. Colombo:
 - A. Major port city in the Indian Ocean
- II. Important for:
 - A. Regional trade and maritime connectivity

Importance of Maritime Diplomacy

- I. Helps ensure:
 - A. Secure sea lanes
 - B. Regional stability

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ship:** IOS SAGAR.
- **Location:** Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- **Focus:** Maritime cooperation.
- **Framework:** SAGAR doctrine.
- **Region:** Indian Ocean Region.
- **Importance:** Regional security and diplomacy.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen maritime partnerships in the Indo-Pacific.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **SAGAR:** Security and Growth for All in the Region
- **Region:** Indian Ocean Region
- **Country:** Sri Lanka
- **Port city:** Colombo
- **Focus:** Maritime security
- **Policy:** Neighbourhood First
- **Goal:** Regional cooperation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. SAGAR is India's maritime cooperation vision for the Indian Ocean Region.
2. Colombo is a major port city of Sri Lanka.
3. Maritime diplomacy has no role in regional security cooperation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 only

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

Answer: (a)

PadhAI.ai

1. HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON ICAR'S EXPENDITURE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF UNION AGRICULTURE MINISTER



Key Focus of the Meeting

- I. Review of:
 - A. Financial and developmental proposals related to ICAR programmes

Objectives

- Strengthen agricultural research infrastructure
- Promote innovation and technology dissemination
- Improve productivity and farmer welfare

Areas Discussed

- Agricultural research modernization
- Climate-resilient farming technologies
- Capacity building and institutional strengthening
- Research support for food security and sustainability

Significance

- Enhances India's agricultural research ecosystem
- Supports evidence-based farming and technological advancement

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

ICAR

- I. Indian Council of Agricultural Research:
 - A. Apex body for agricultural research and education in India
- II. Functions under:
 - A. Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC)

- I. Government mechanism to:
 - A. Examine financial proposals of ministries and departments
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Efficient allocation and utilization of public expenditure

Importance of Agricultural Research

- I. Helps in:
 - A. Improving crop productivity
 - B. Developing climate-resilient varieties
 - C. Enhancing food security

Challenges in Agriculture

- Climate change
- Soil degradation
- Water scarcity
- Need for technological modernization

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** ICAR.
- **Meeting type:** Expenditure Finance Committee review.
- **Chair:** Union Agriculture Minister.
- **Focus:** Agricultural research and innovation.
- **Goal:** Productivity and sustainability.
- **Importance:** Farmer welfare and food security.
- **Way Forward:** Expand research-driven agricultural modernization.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **ICAR:** Apex agricultural research body
- **Ministry:** Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- **EFC:** Financial proposal evaluation mechanism
- **Focus:** Agricultural innovation
- **Goal:** Food security
- **Challenge:** Climate-resilient agriculture
- **Approach:** Research and technology

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. ICAR is the apex body for agricultural research and education in India.
2. Agricultural research helps in developing climate-resilient farming technologies.
3. The Expenditure Finance Committee has no role in reviewing government expenditure proposals.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.INS SAGARDHWANI DEPARTS PORT KLANG, MALAYSIA



Purpose of the Visit

- Enhance bilateral maritime cooperation
- Promote scientific and naval collaboration
- Strengthen regional engagement in the Indo-Pacific

Key Activities

- Professional exchanges
- Scientific outreach and interactions
- Goodwill engagements with Malaysian authorities

Significance

- Reinforces India's maritime diplomacy
- Supports stronger India-Malaysia strategic ties
- Enhances cooperation in marine and oceanic research

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

INS Sagardhwani

- I. INS Sagardhwani:
 - A. Oceanographic and acoustic research vessel of the Indian Navy
- II. Used for:
 - A. Scientific studies
 - B. Marine research
 - C. Naval cooperation activities

Port Klang

- I. Port Klang:
 - A. Major maritime port of Malaysia
- II. Important for:
 - A. Trade and regional maritime connectivity

India–Malaysia Relations

- I. Cooperation areas:
 - A. Maritime security
 - B. Trade
 - C. Defence collaboration
 - D. Indo-Pacific engagement

Maritime Diplomacy

- I. Naval visits and port calls help:
 - A. Build trust
 - B. Improve interoperability
 - C. Strengthen regional stability

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Vessel:** INS Sagardhwani.
- **Location:** Port Klang, Malaysia.
- **Focus:** Maritime and scientific cooperation.

- **Region:** Indo-Pacific.
- **Importance:** Naval diplomacy and regional engagement.
- **Sector:** Oceanographic research.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen maritime partnerships in Southeast Asia.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **INS Sagardhwani:** Research vessel
- **Country visited:** Malaysia
- **Port:** Port Klang
- **Focus:** Maritime cooperation
- **Region:** Indo-Pacific
- **Importance:** Naval diplomacy
- **Sector:** Oceanographic research

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. INS Sagardhwani is associated with oceanographic and scientific research.
2. Port Klang is an important maritime port in Malaysia.
3. Maritime diplomacy can strengthen regional cooperation and security.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REVIEWS STRATEGY FOR MAINSTREAMING OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN



Objectives

- Bring out-of-school children back into formal education
- Strengthen coordination among central, state, and district agencies
- Promote equitable access to learning opportunities

Key Strategies

- Flexible and open schooling models
- Identification and tracking of OoSC
- Bridge courses and special training programmes
- Community participation and local administration support

Role of NIOS

- I. Provides:
 - A. Open and distance learning opportunities
 - B. Flexible education pathways for disadvantaged children

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Universalization of education
 - B. Reduction in dropout rates
 - C. Inclusive development

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Out-of-School Children (OoSC)

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Children not enrolled in formal schooling or who have dropped out
- II. Reasons may include:
 - A. Poverty
 - B. Migration
 - C. Social barriers
 - D. Lack of access to schools

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

- I. National Institute of Open Schooling:
 - A. Autonomous institution under Ministry of Education
- II. Provides:
 - A. Flexible school education through open and distance learning

Constitutional & Policy Framework

- I. Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE Act):
 - A. Ensures free and compulsory education for children aged 6–14 years
- II. National Education Policy 2020:
 - A. Emphasizes universal access and inclusion

Importance of Mainstreaming

- I. Improves:
 - A. Literacy and skill development
 - B. Social inclusion
 - C. Human capital formation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Education.
- **Focus:** Out-of-School Children.
- **Institution:** NIOS.
- **Goal:** Universal and inclusive education.
- **Approach:** Coordination with states and districts.
- **Policy linkage:** RTE Act and NEP 2020.
- **Way Forward:** Expand flexible learning and retention mechanisms.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **OoS:** Out-of-School Children
- **NIOS:** Open schooling institution
- **Law:** RTE Act
- **Policy:** NEP 2020
- **Goal:** Inclusive education
- **Challenge:** School dropouts
- **Approach:** Flexible learning systems

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NIOS provides flexible education through open and distance learning.
2. The RTE Act guarantees free and compulsory education for children aged 6–14 years.
3. Mainstreaming out-of-school children is unrelated to inclusive development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. OPERATION RAGEPILL: NCB BUSTS INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING NETWORK



Major Outcomes

- I. Busting of:
 - A. International drug trafficking syndicate
- II. Seizure of:
 - A. Captagon tablets and related narcotics materials

About Captagon

- I. Psychotropic substance linked to:
 - A. Illegal drug networks
- II. Known for:
 - A. Stimulant effects and abuse potential

Significance

- Highlights growing sophistication of transnational narcotics trade
- Strengthens India's anti-drug enforcement efforts

Operational Importance

- I. Demonstrates:
 - A. International coordination and intelligence-led enforcement

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)

- I. Narcotics Control Bureau:
 - A. Apex drug law enforcement agency in India
- II. Functions under:
 - A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- III. Responsible for:
 - A. Combating drug trafficking and narcotics abuse

Captagon

- I. Originally developed as:
 - A. Pharmaceutical stimulant
- II. Now largely associated with:
 - A. Illicit production and trafficking
- III. Classified as:
 - A. Psychotropic substance under international narcotics control frameworks

Drug Trafficking Concerns

- I. Linked with:
 - A. Organized crime
 - B. Terror financing
 - C. Public health risks

Legal Framework

- I. India combats narcotics trafficking through:
 - A. Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS Act)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Operation:** RAGEPILL.
- **Agency:** NCB.
- **Substance seized:** Captagon.
- **Nature:** Psychotropic substance.
- **Issue:** International drug trafficking.
- **Law:** NDPS Act.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen intelligence-sharing and anti-narcotics cooperation.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NCB:** Anti-narcotics agency
- **Law:** NDPS Act
- **Substance:** Captagon

- **Category:** Psychotropic substance
- **Threat:** Transnational drug trafficking
- **Concern:** Organized crime
- **Goal:** Drug control and enforcement

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NCB is India's apex narcotics law enforcement agency.
2. Captagon is classified as a psychotropic substance.
3. The NDPS Act deals with narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. QUANTUM & AI SOVEREIGNTY TO DEFINE INDIA'S NEXT-GENERATION GROWTH: DR. JITENDRA SINGH



Key Themes

- Quantum technology sovereignty
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) leadership
- Indigenous innovation ecosystems

Objectives

- Reduce dependence on foreign technologies
- Build secure and trusted digital infrastructure
- Promote research, startups, and advanced technology development

Focus Areas

- Quantum computing and communication
- AI applications across sectors
- Semiconductor and deep-tech ecosystems
- Cybersecurity and strategic technologies

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Technological self-reliance
 - B. National security
 - C. Economic competitiveness
- II. Aligns with:
 - A. India's innovation-driven growth strategy

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Quantum Technology

- I. Uses principles of:
 - A. Quantum mechanics for computing and communication
- II. Applications include:
 - A. Quantum computing
 - B. Cryptography
 - C. Precision sensing

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- I. Enables:
 - A. Machine learning and automated decision-making
- II. Used in:
 - A. Healthcare
 - B. Agriculture
 - C. Defence
 - D. Finance
 - E. Governance

Technology Sovereignty

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Capability to develop and control critical technologies domestically
- II. Important for:
 - A. Strategic autonomy and cyber resilience

India's Technology Initiatives

- National Quantum Mission
- Digital India
- Startup and semiconductor ecosystem support programmes

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Focus:** Quantum and AI sovereignty.
- **Goal:** Indigenous technology ecosystem.
- **Sector:** Deep-tech innovation.
- **Importance:** Strategic autonomy and growth.
- **Applications:** Computing, cybersecurity, governance.
- **Policy direction:** Self-reliant technology ecosystem.
- **Way Forward:** Invest in R&D, startups, and advanced digital infrastructure.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Quantum technology:** Advanced computing and communication
- **AI:** Artificial Intelligence
- **Mission:** National Quantum Mission
- **Goal:** Technological sovereignty
- **Concept:** Strategic autonomy
- **Sector:** Deep-tech innovation
- **Approach:** Indigenous ecosystem development

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Quantum technology has applications in computing and cryptography.

2. AI can be used across sectors such as healthcare, finance, and governance.
3. Technology sovereignty refers to complete dependence on imported technologies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. LIST OF OUTCOMES: PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS



Key Outcomes of the Visit

1. Strengthening Strategic Partnership

- I. Both countries reaffirmed commitment to:
 - A. Democratic values
 - B. Rule-based international order
 - C. Stronger bilateral engagement

2. Trade & Economic Cooperation

- I. Focus on:
 - A. Investment promotion
 - B. Innovation partnerships
 - C. Supply-chain resilience
- II. The Netherlands remains an important economic partner for India in Europe.

3. Technology & Innovation

- I. Cooperation discussed in:
 - A. Semiconductors
 - B. Digital technologies
 - C. Artificial Intelligence
 - D. Start-up ecosystems

4. Water & Climate Cooperation

- I. Collaboration on:
 - A. Water management
 - B. Climate adaptation
 - C. Sustainable infrastructure
- II. The Netherlands is globally known for expertise in water engineering.

5. Agriculture & Food Processing

- I. Enhanced cooperation in:
 - A. Agri-technology
 - B. Horticulture
 - C. Food supply chains

6. Indo-Pacific & Global Issues

- I. Discussions included:
 - A. Maritime security
 - B. Indo-Pacific cooperation
 - C. Multilateral engagement

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India-Netherlands Relations

- I. Strong cooperation in:
 - A. Trade
 - B. Agriculture
 - C. Water technology
 - D. Renewable energy
- II. Netherlands is among:
 - A. Major European investors in India

Strategic Importance of Netherlands

- I. Located in:
 - A. Western Europe
- II. Key sectors:
 - A. Ports and logistics
 - B. Agriculture innovation
 - C. Water management expertise

Importance of Bilateral Visits

- I. Help:
 - A. Strengthen diplomacy
 - B. Expand trade and investment
 - C. Promote strategic cooperation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Countries:** India and Netherlands.
- **Focus areas:** Trade, technology, climate, water management.
- **Key theme:** Strategic partnership.
- **Sectoral cooperation:** Agriculture and innovation.
- **Global context:** Indo-Pacific cooperation.
- **Importance:** Economic and diplomatic engagement.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen technology and sustainability partnerships.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Country:** Netherlands
- **Region:** Europe
- **Known for:** Water management expertise
- **Focus sectors:** Technology and agriculture
- **Theme:** Strategic partnership
- **Global issue:** Indo-Pacific cooperation
- **Goal:** Stronger bilateral ties

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Netherlands is known globally for expertise in water management.

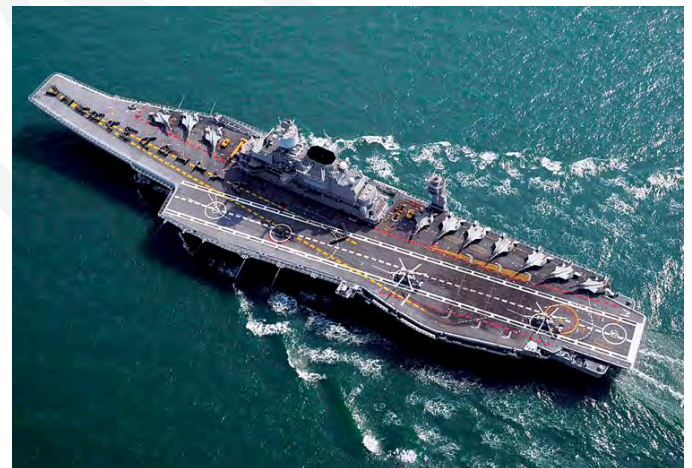
2. India and the Netherlands cooperate in sectors such as agriculture and technology.
3. Bilateral diplomatic visits have no role in economic cooperation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2. INDIAN NAVY INAUGURATES NAVAL SAILING NODE AT BHOPAL



Objectives of the Naval Sailing Node

- I. Promote:
 - A. Sailing and water sports culture
 - B. Maritime awareness among youth
 - C. Adventure and leadership skills

Key Features

- Sailing training facilities
- Water sports infrastructure

- Opportunities for naval personnel and civilians

Significance

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Discipline and teamwork
 - B. Maritime orientation in inland regions
- II. Supports:
 - A. Talent development in sailing sports

Broader Impact

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Civil-military engagement
 - B. Awareness of maritime importance in national development

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Navy

- I. Indian Navy:
 - A. Maritime arm of India's armed forces
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Maritime security and naval operations

Importance of Sailing

- I. Develops:
 - A. Navigation and seamanship skills
 - B. Physical endurance and leadership qualities
- II. Also important for:
 - A. Competitive sports and adventure activities

Bhopal

- I. Bhopal:
 - A. Known as the "City of Lakes"
- II. Suitable for:
 - A. Inland water sports and sailing activities

Maritime Awareness

- I. Important for:
 - A. Understanding India's maritime interests
 - B. Promoting blue economy awareness

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** Indian Navy.
- **Location:** Bhopal.
- **Facility:** Naval Sailing Node.
- **Purpose:** Sailing and maritime awareness.
- **Focus:** Youth and adventure training.
- **Benefit:** Leadership and teamwork skills.
- **Way Forward:** Expand maritime sports and awareness initiatives.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Force:** Indian Navy
- **Location:** Bhopal
- **Activity:** Sailing and water sports
- **Concept:** Maritime awareness
- **Importance:** Leadership and discipline
- **Related theme:** Blue economy awareness
- **Goal:** Youth engagement

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Navy is responsible for maritime security operations.
2. Sailing activities help develop navigation and leadership skills.
3. Bhopal is often referred to as the "City of Lakes."

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.NATIONAL TESTING HOUSE, GHAZIABAD TO UNVEIL STATE-OF-THE-ART SHOE TESTING LABORATORY



Objectives of the Laboratory

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Quality and safety standards in footwear manufacturing
- II. Support:
 - A. Domestic manufacturers and exporters

Key Functions

- Testing footwear quality and durability
- Compliance verification with national and international standards
- Product certification and performance evaluation

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Quality infrastructure in manufacturing sector
 - B. Export competitiveness of Indian footwear industry
- II. Supports:
 - A. "Make in India" and quality-driven industrial growth

Expected Benefits

- Improved consumer safety
- Better product reliability
- Boost to MSMEs and exporters in footwear sector

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National Testing House (NTH)

- I. National Testing House:
 - A. Premier testing and calibration institution under Government of India
- II. Provides:
 - A. Testing, calibration, and quality assurance services

Importance of Quality Infrastructure

- I. Includes:
 - A. Testing laboratories
 - B. Certification systems
 - C. Standardization mechanisms
- II. Essential for:
 - A. Industrial growth and exports

India's Footwear Industry

- I. One of the major sectors for:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Exports
 - C. MSME participation

Need for Testing Facilities

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Product quality
 - B. Durability
 - C. Compliance with global trade standards

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Institution:** National Testing House.
- **Location:** Ghaziabad.
- **Facility:** Shoe Testing Laboratory.
- **Focus:** Quality assurance and testing.

- **Sector:** Footwear manufacturing.
- **Importance:** Export competitiveness and safety.
- **Way Forward:** Expand modern testing infrastructure for manufacturing sectors.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NTH:** Testing and calibration institution
- **Sector:** Footwear manufacturing
- **Focus:** Product quality standards
- **Benefit:** Export competitiveness
- **Related initiative:** Make in India
- **Importance:** Quality infrastructure
- **Goal:** Industrial standardization

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Quality infrastructure includes testing and certification systems.
2. Footwear testing laboratories help ensure compliance with quality standards.
3. India's footwear sector has no role in employment generation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.FIELD OPERATIONS FOR HOUSELISTING & HOUSING CENSUS COMMENCE IN FIVE REGIONS



Purpose of Houselisting & Housing Census

- I. Collect data on:
 - A. Housing conditions
 - B. Household amenities
 - C. Assets and infrastructure availability

Key Activities

- Enumeration of houses and households
- Collection of socio-economic and housing-related information
- Digital data collection and verification

Significance

- I. Helps in:
 - A. Policy planning
 - B. Welfare scheme targeting

- C. Urban and rural development planning
- II. Provides baseline data for:
 - A. Population Census operations

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Census in India

- I. Conducted under:
 - A. Census Act, 1948
- II. Managed by:
 - A. Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India

Houselisting and Housing Census

- I. Conducted before:
 - A. Population Enumeration
- II. Includes data on:
 - A. Housing stock
 - B. Drinking water
 - C. Sanitation
 - D. Electricity
 - E. Household assets

Importance of Census Data

- I. Used for:
 - A. Governance and development planning
 - B. Resource allocation
 - C. Delimitation and demographic analysis

Challenges

- Large-scale data collection
- Migration and urbanization issues
- Ensuring digital accuracy and coverage

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Exercise:** Houselisting and Housing Census.
- **Regions covered:** Rajasthan, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Delhi (MCD area).
- **Law:** Census Act, 1948.
- **Agency:** Registrar General and Census Commissioner.
- **Purpose:** Housing and socio-economic data collection.
- **Importance:** Policy and welfare planning.
- **Way Forward:** Ensure accurate, technology-driven census operations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Law:** Census Act, 1948
- **Agency:** Registrar General & Census Commissioner
- **Phase:** Houselisting and Housing Census
- **Purpose:** Housing and amenities data
- **Use:** Policy planning
- **Challenge:** Large-scale enumeration
- **Importance:** Demographic governance

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Census in India is conducted under the Census Act, 1948.
2. Houselisting and Housing Census is conducted prior to population enumeration.
3. Census data is useful for policy planning and resource allocation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. UNION RAILWAY MINISTER FLAGS OFF BENGALURU-MUMBAI EXPRESS TRAIN



Key Objectives

- Strengthen inter-state rail connectivity
- Improve passenger convenience and travel efficiency
- Support economic and commercial interactions between major cities

Route Importance

- I. Connects:
 - A. Bengaluru – a major technology and innovation hub
 - B. Mumbai – India’s financial capital

Expected Benefits

- Faster and more comfortable travel
- Boost to tourism and trade
- Better mobility for business travelers and commuters

Significance

- I. Supports modernization of:
 - A. Indian Railways
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Regional connectivity and economic integration

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Railways

- I. Indian Railways:
 - A. One of the world’s largest railway networks
- II. Important for:
 - A. Passenger transportation
 - B. Freight movement
 - C. National integration

Rail Connectivity & Economic Growth

- I. Efficient transport networks:
 - A. Reduce travel time
 - B. Promote trade and investment
 - C. Improve regional development

Bengaluru–Mumbai Corridor

- I. Strategic route connecting:
 - A. Technology sector
 - B. Financial and industrial centers

Railway Modernization

- I. Includes:
 - A. New trains
 - B. Electrification
 - C. Station redevelopment
 - D. Improved passenger amenities

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Train:** Bengaluru–Mumbai Express.
- **Minister:** Ashwini Vaishnaw.
- **States connected:** Karnataka and Maharashtra.
- **Organization:** Indian Railways.
- **Focus:** Passenger connectivity and modernization.
- **Importance:** Economic integration and mobility.
- **Way Forward:** Expand high-quality rail infrastructure and services.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Cities connected:** Bengaluru and Mumbai
- **Sector:** Rail transport
- **Organization:** Indian Railways
- **Goal:** Better connectivity
- **Benefit:** Trade and tourism growth
- **Theme:** Infrastructure modernization
- **Importance:** Regional integration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Indian Railways is among the world's largest railway networks.
2. Improved rail connectivity can support regional economic growth.
3. Bengaluru is widely known as a major technology hub in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. MINISTRY OF AYUSH ISSUES PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY ON HEATWAVE & EXTREME HEAT CONDITIONS



Key Recommendations

- Stay hydrated and drink sufficient fluids
- Avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight
- Wear light and loose cotton clothing
- Consume balanced and cooling foods

Ayush-Based Preventive Measures

- I. Use of traditional wellness practices for:
 - A. Hydration
 - B. Cooling and immunity support
- II. Encouragement of:
 - A. Healthy lifestyle and seasonal routines

Vulnerable Groups Identified

- Elderly persons
- Children
- Outdoor workers
- People with chronic illnesses

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Preventive healthcare approach
 - B. Public preparedness during extreme weather events

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Heatwave

- I. Defined as:
 - A. Period of abnormally high temperatures relative to a region's normal conditions
- II. Can lead to:
 - A. Heat exhaustion
 - B. Heatstroke
 - C. Dehydration

Ministry of Ayush

- I. Ministry of Ayush promotes:
 - A. Ayurveda
 - B. Yoga
 - C. Naturopathy
 - D. Unani
 - E. Siddha
 - F. Homoeopathy

Climate & Public Health

- I. Rising temperatures linked with:
 - A. Climate variability and extreme weather events
- II. Heatwaves increasingly affect:
 - A. Public health and productivity

Importance of Public Health Advisories

- I. Help:
 - A. Reduce health risks
 - B. Increase awareness and preparedness

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Ayush.
- **Issue:** Heatwave advisory.
- **Focus:** Preventive healthcare.
- **Recommendations:** Hydration and heat protection.
- **Vulnerable groups:** Elderly, children, workers.
- **Concern:** Extreme heat conditions.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen climate-health preparedness and awareness.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **AYUSH:** Traditional systems of medicine
- **Hazard:** Heatwave
- **Risk:** Heatstroke and dehydration
- **Approach:** Preventive healthcare
- **Climate issue:** Extreme weather
- **Focus:** Public awareness
- **Goal:** Health resilience

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Heatwaves can lead to dehydration and heatstroke.

2. The Ministry of Ayush promotes traditional systems of medicine such as Ayurveda and Yoga.
3. Public health advisories are unrelated to disaster preparedness.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2. NANO-GOLD EMBEDDED IN THIN FILMS PAVES WAY FOR SELF-POWERED SENSORS & WEARABLE ELECTRONICS



What is Innovation?

- I. Thin films embedded with:
 - A. Gold nanoparticles (nano-gold)
- II. Designed to:
 - A. Generate or manage energy for electronic devices

Potential Applications

- Wearable health monitoring devices

- Smart sensors
- Flexible electronics
- Biomedical and environmental monitoring systems

Key Advantages

- Reduced dependence on external batteries
- Lightweight and flexible design
- Enhanced efficiency and miniaturization

Significance

- I. Supports development of:
 - A. Energy-efficient electronics
 - B. Next-generation portable technologies

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Nanotechnology

- I. Involves manipulation of materials at:
 - A. Nanometer scale
- II. Used in:
 - A. Electronics
 - B. Medicine
 - C. Energy systems
 - D. Sensors

Nano-Gold

- I. Gold nanoparticles possess:
 - A. Unique electrical and optical properties
- II. Useful in:
 - A. Electronics and biomedical applications

Thin Films

- I. Extremely thin material layers used in:
 - A. Electronic and optical devices
- II. Can improve:
 - A. Conductivity and device flexibility

Wearable Electronics

- I. Devices integrated into:
 - A. Clothing or accessories
- II. Used for:
 - A. Health monitoring
 - B. Fitness tracking
 - C. Smart communication systems

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Technology:** Nano-gold embedded thin films.
- **Field:** Nanotechnology.
- **Applications:** Sensors and wearable electronics.
- **Benefit:** Self-powered functionality.
- **Advantage:** Flexible and lightweight devices.
- **Sector:** Smart electronics and healthcare technology.
- **Way Forward:** Develop scalable and energy-efficient wearable systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Nanotechnology:** Manipulation at nanoscale
- **Nano-gold:** Gold nanoparticles
- **Thin films:** Ultra-thin material layers
- **Application:** Wearable electronics
- **Benefit:** Self-powered devices
- **Sector:** Smart sensors
- **Goal:** Energy-efficient electronics

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Nanotechnology deals with materials at the nanometer scale.
2. Gold nanoparticles have applications in electronics and biomedical technologies.
3. Wearable electronics are unrelated to health monitoring systems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.MoRD CHARTS ROADMAP FOR WOMEN-LED RURAL MARKETING ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH SHE-MARTs



ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
**MINISTRY OF RURAL
DEVELOPMENT**
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

What are SHE-MARTs?

- I. Dedicated marketing platforms for:
 - A. Women-led rural products and enterprises

Objectives

- Strengthen rural women entrepreneurship
- Improve market linkages for SHGs
- Promote local products and livelihoods

Focus Areas

- Handicrafts and handloom products
- Agro-based and food products
- Digital and physical marketing channels

Expected Benefits

- Higher income opportunities for rural women
- Greater financial inclusion
- Strengthened rural economy and local value chains

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Women-led development
 - B. Inclusive rural growth
 - C. Sustainable livelihoods

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)

- I. Ministry of Rural Development:
 - A. Responsible for rural development and livelihood programmes

Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

- I. Community-based groups promoting:
 - A. Savings

- B. Credit access
 - C. Entrepreneurship
- II. Important component of:
- A. Rural livelihood missions

- **Goal:** Rural women empowerment
- **Benefit:** Market access and livelihoods
- **Theme:** Inclusive rural growth

DAY-NRLM

- I. Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission:
 - A. Focuses on poverty reduction through SHG-based livelihoods

Importance of Rural Marketing Ecosystems

- I. Help:
 - A. Connect rural producers to wider markets
 - B. Increase product visibility and income generation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ministry:** MoRD.
- **Initiative:** SHE-MARTs.
- **Focus:** Women-led rural marketing.
- **Beneficiaries:** SHGs and rural women entrepreneurs.
- **Sector:** Rural livelihoods and local products.
- **Importance:** Financial and economic empowerment.
- **Way Forward:** Expand digital and market connectivity for rural enterprises.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Self-Help Groups promote savings and entrepreneurship among rural communities.
2. DAY-NRLM focuses on livelihood enhancement through SHGs.
3. Rural marketing ecosystems have no role in improving income opportunities for local producers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **MoRD:** Ministry of Rural Development
- **SHE-MARTs:** Women-led marketing platforms
- **SHGs:** Self-Help Groups
- **Mission:** DAY-NRLM

4.HINDUSTAN ZINC'S RAJASTHAN OPERATIONS REFLECT INDIA'S VISION FOR VIKSIT BHARAT: G. KISHAN REDDY



Key Themes Highlighted

- Sustainable mining and mineral development
- Industrial modernization
- Employment generation and economic growth

Importance of Hindustan Zinc Operations

- I. Contribute to:
 - A. Domestic mineral production
 - B. Industrial value chains
 - C. Export potential

Focus Areas

- Advanced mining technologies
- Environmental sustainability
- Resource efficiency
- Community development initiatives

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Self-reliance in critical minerals
 - B. Manufacturing and infrastructure sectors
 - C. Vision of developed India ("Viksit Bharat")

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Hindustan Zinc Limited

- I. Hindustan Zinc Limited:
 - A. Major producer of zinc, lead, and silver
- II. Operations concentrated in:
 - A. Rajasthan

Importance of Zinc

- I. Used in:
 - A. Galvanization of steel
 - B. Infrastructure
 - C. Batteries and industrial manufacturing

Mining Sector in India

- I. Important for:
 - A. Industrial growth
 - B. Energy transition minerals
 - C. Employment and exports

Viksit Bharat Vision

- I. Refers to:
 - A. India's long-term goal of becoming a developed nation through:
 1. Economic growth
 2. Innovation

- Infrastructure and sustainability

- 1 and 2 only
- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Company:** Hindustan Zinc Limited.
- **State:** Rajasthan.
- **Sector:** Mining and minerals.
- **Focus:** Sustainable industrial development.
- **Minerals:** Zinc, lead, silver.
- **National vision:** Viksit Bharat.
- **Way Forward:** Promote technology-driven and environmentally responsible mining.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Company:** Hindustan Zinc Limited
- **State:** Rajasthan
- **Mineral:** Zinc
- **Use:** Steel galvanization and industry
- **Theme:** Sustainable mining
- **National goal:** Viksit Bharat
- **Importance:** Industrial growth and self-reliance

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

- Zinc is widely used in galvanization of steel.
- Rajasthan is an important mining state in India.
- Sustainable mining practices are unrelated to industrial development.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Answer: (a)

5. BRICS MEETING FOCUSES ON STRENGTHENING ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)



Key Focus Areas

- Promotion of:
 - Mediation
 - Arbitration
 - Institutional capacity building

Objectives

- Improve access to efficient dispute resolution
- Reduce burden on traditional court systems
- Enhance international legal cooperation

Areas of Cooperation

- Training and skill development
- Exchange of best practices

- Strengthening ADR institutions

Significance

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Faster and cost-effective dispute settlement
 - B. Better business and investment climate
- II. Supports:
 - A. International commercial cooperation among BRICS nations

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

BRICS

- I. BRICS:
 - A. Grouping of:
 1. Brazil
 2. Russia
 3. India
 4. China
 5. South Africa
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Economic, political, and institutional cooperation

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Mechanisms outside conventional courts for resolving disputes

Major ADR Methods

- Arbitration
- Mediation
- Conciliation

Importance of ADR

- I. Advantages:
 - A. Faster resolution
 - B. Lower costs
 - C. Reduced judicial burden
 - D. Confidential proceedings

ADR in India

- I. Supported under:
 - A. Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996
- II. Increasingly important for:
 - A. Commercial and international disputes

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Forum:** BRICS Justice Ministers' Meeting.
- **Theme:** Alternative Dispute Resolution.
- **Methods:** Mediation and arbitration.
- **Goal:** Capacity building and cooperation.
- **Importance:** Faster dispute resolution.
- **Benefit:** Improved business environment.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen institutional ADR frameworks globally.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **BRICS:** Multilateral grouping
- **ADR:** Alternative Dispute Resolution
- **Methods:** Arbitration and mediation
- **Indian law:** Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996
- **Benefit:** Reduced court burden
- **Focus:** Legal cooperation
- **Goal:** Efficient dispute settlement

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Arbitration and mediation are forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).
2. ADR mechanisms can reduce the burden on traditional courts.
3. BRICS is a grouping focused only on military cooperation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. COAL PRODUCTION COMMENCES FROM URTAN & DHIRAULI MINES IN MADHYA PRADESH



Key Highlights

- I. Commercial coal production started at:
 - A. Urtan Mine
 - B. Dhirauli Mine

Objectives

- Increase domestic coal production
- Reduce dependence on imported coal
- Support power generation and industrial demand

Expected Benefits

- Enhanced fuel supply for thermal power plants
- Employment generation in mining regions
- Economic development and infrastructure growth

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Energy security

- B. Industrial growth
- C. Self-reliance in the coal sector

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Coal Sector in India

- I. Coal remains a major source of:
 - A. Electricity generation in India
- II. Important for:
 - A. Thermal power plants
 - B. Steel and cement industries

Commercial Coal Mining

- I. Government reforms introduced:
 - A. Commercial coal mining auctions
 - B. Greater private sector participation
- II. Aim:
 - A. Enhance efficiency and domestic production

Madhya Pradesh and Coal

- I. Madhya Pradesh has significant:
 - A. Coal reserves and mining activity

Energy Security

- I. Ensuring reliable domestic energy supply is critical for:
 - A. Economic growth
 - B. Industrial development
 - C. Infrastructure expansion

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Mines:** Urtan and Dhirauli.
- **State:** Madhya Pradesh.
- **Sector:** Coal mining.
- **Purpose:** Domestic coal production.

- **Importance:** Energy security and industrial supply.
- **Benefit:** Employment and economic activity.
- **Way Forward:** Promote efficient and sustainable mining practices.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Resource:** Coal
- **Sector:** Energy and mining
- **State:** Madhya Pradesh
- **Use:** Thermal power generation
- **Policy trend:** Commercial coal mining
- **Goal:** Energy self-reliance
- **Challenge:** Sustainable mining practices

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Coal is a major source of electricity generation in India.
2. Commercial coal mining reforms aim to increase domestic coal production.
3. Madhya Pradesh has no significant coal reserves.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.NHRC, INDIA HOLDS CONFERENCE OF SHRCs, SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS & SPECIAL MONITORS



Key Objectives

- Enhance coordination among human rights institutions
- Discuss challenges in protection and promotion of human rights
- Improve monitoring and grievance redressal mechanisms

Participants

- SHRC representatives
- NHRC Special Rapporteurs
- Special Monitors and officials

Key Discussion Areas

- Human rights protection frameworks
- Best practices in monitoring and reporting
- Vulnerable groups and rights protection
- Institutional cooperation and accountability

Significance

- I. Strengthens:

- A. Human rights governance ecosystem in India
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Better coordination between national and state-level institutions
 - C. Rule of law and democratic governance

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

- I. National Human Rights Commission:
 - A. Statutory body established for protection and promotion of human rights
- II. Established under:
 - A. Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993

State Human Rights Commissions (SHRCs)

- I. Function at state level to:
 - A. Address human rights issues and complaints

Special Rapporteurs & Special Monitors

- I. Experts appointed to:
 - A. Monitor specific human rights issues
 - B. Conduct investigations and reporting

Importance of Human Rights Institutions

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Accountability
 - B. Protection of vulnerable groups

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** NHRC.
- **Mode:** Virtual conference.
- **Participants:** SHRCs, Special Rapporteurs, Special Monitors.
- **Focus:** Human rights protection and coordination.
- **Law:** Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- **Importance:** Institutional strengthening and accountability.
- **Way Forward:** Improve coordination and responsiveness of human rights bodies.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NHRC:** National Human Rights Commission
- **Law:** Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
- **SHRC:** State Human Rights Commission
- **Role:** Human rights monitoring
- **Focus:** Accountability and protection
- **Mechanism:** Investigation and reporting
- **Goal:** Rights-based governance

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NHRC was established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
2. State Human Rights Commissions function at the state level to address human rights issues.

3. Special Rapporteurs may be appointed to monitor and report on specific human rights concerns.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.PROMOTING 'GRASSROOTS INNOVATORS' CAN STRENGTHEN RURAL ECONOMY & REDUCE REGIONAL IMBALANCE: DR. JITENDRA SINGH



National Innovation Foundation

Who are Grassroots Innovators?

- I. Individuals or communities developing:
 - A. Local, low-cost, and practical solutions to everyday problems

Key Objectives

- Encourage rural innovation and entrepreneurship
- Support locally relevant technologies
- Promote self-reliance and livelihood generation

Areas of Innovation

- Agriculture and irrigation
- Renewable energy
- Rural healthcare and sanitation
- Small-scale machinery and local technologies

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Rural productivity
 - B. Employment opportunities
 - C. Regional economic balance
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Inclusive and sustainable development

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Grassroots Innovation

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Innovation originating from ordinary citizens, farmers, artisans, and local communities
- II. Often based on:
 - A. Indigenous knowledge and local experience

Role in Rural Development

- I. Helps address:
 - A. Local development challenges
 - B. Productivity and resource constraints
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Decentralized economic growth

Institutional Support

- I. Organizations such as:
 - A. National Innovation Foundation support grassroots innovators
- II. Promote:
 - A. Documentation
 - B. Scaling and commercialization of innovations

Regional Imbalance in India

- I. Differences in:
 - A. Infrastructure
 - B. Industrialization
 - C. Income and opportunities across regions
- II. Rural innovation can help:
 - A. Bridge developmental gaps

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Theme:** Grassroots innovation.
- **Focus:** Rural economy strengthening.
- **Goal:** Reduce regional imbalance.
- **Approach:** Local innovation and entrepreneurship.
- **Sector:** Rural development and technology.
- **Institutional support:** National Innovation Foundation.
- **Way Forward:** Expand funding, incubation, and market access for rural innovators.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Grassroots innovation:** Local problem-solving innovation
- **Institution:** National Innovation Foundation
- **Focus:** Rural entrepreneurship

- **Benefit:** Inclusive development
- **Sector:** Rural technology
- **Goal:** Balanced regional growth
- **Approach:** Indigenous and low-cost solutions

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Grassroots innovations often emerge from local communities and practical experiences.
2. Grassroots innovation can contribute to rural development and employment generation.
3. Regional imbalance refers only to climatic differences between states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. "INDIA REMAINS ONE OF THE SAFEST AND MOST INCLUSIVE HOMES FOR MINORITIES": UNION MINISTER KIREN RIJJU



Key Themes Highlighted

- Protection of minority rights
- Cultural and religious diversity
- Inclusive governance and social harmony

India's Approach

- Equal rights and constitutional protections for all citizens
- Promotion of pluralism and multicultural coexistence

Significance

- I. Reinforces India's image as:
 - A. A democratic and diverse society
- II. Emphasizes:
 - A. Unity in diversity as a core national principle

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Minorities in India

- I. Minority communities may include:
 - A. Religious and linguistic minorities
- II. Protected under:
 - A. Constitutional and legal safeguards

Constitutional Provisions

Article 14

- Equality before law

Article 15

- Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth

Article 29 & 30

- Protection of cultural and educational rights of minorities

India's Diversity

- I. India is home to:
 - A. Multiple religions
 - B. Languages
 - C. Ethnic and cultural groups
- II. The concept of:

- A. "Unity in Diversity" is central to Indian society

Inclusive Governance

- I. Government programmes aim to:
- Promote social justice
 - Educational opportunities
 - Welfare and empowerment of marginalized communities

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Minister:** Kiren Rijiju.
- **Theme:** Minority inclusion and safety.
- **Focus:** Constitutional values and diversity.
- **Key principle:** Unity in Diversity.
- **Constitutional safeguards:** Articles 14, 15, 29, 30.
- **Importance:** Social harmony and democratic values.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen inclusive development and equal opportunity frameworks.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Article 14:** Equality before law
- **Article 15:** Non-discrimination
- **Articles 29 & 30:** Minority cultural and educational rights
- **Theme:** Unity in Diversity
- **Focus:** Inclusive governance
- **Concept:** Constitutional protection of minorities
- **Goal:** Social harmony and equality

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Article 14 of the Indian Constitution guarantees equality before law.
2. Articles 29 and 30 relate to cultural and educational rights of minorities.
3. India's constitutional framework discourages cultural diversity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.PROJECT CHEETAH: INDIA'S LANDMARK WILDLIFE RESTORATION INITIATIVE SHOWS STRONG PROGRESS



What is Project Cheetah?

- I. India's programme to:

- A. Reintroduce cheetahs into suitable habitats
- II. Implemented primarily at:
 - A. Kuno National Park

- II. Involves relocation of cheetahs from:
 - A. African countries such as Namibia and South Africa

Objectives

- Restore ecological balance
- Enhance grassland ecosystems
- Promote biodiversity conservation

Key Progress

- Successful adaptation of relocated cheetahs
- Improved habitat management and monitoring
- Growth in conservation infrastructure and scientific tracking

Significance

- First intercontinental translocation of large wild carnivores into India
- Boosts wildlife conservation and eco-tourism potential

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Cheetahs in India

- I. Cheetah were declared extinct in India in:
 - A. 1952
- II. Main reasons:
 - A. Hunting
 - B. Habitat loss
 - C. Decline of prey base

Project Cheetah

- I. Launched in:
 - A. 2022

Kuno National Park

- I. Located in:
 - A. Madhya Pradesh
- II. Selected due to:
 - A. Suitable habitat and prey availability

Importance of Wildlife Reintroduction

- I. Helps:
 - A. Restore ecosystems
 - B. Improve biodiversity
 - C. Revive ecological functions

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Project:** Project Cheetah.
- **Location:** Kuno National Park.
- **Animal:** Cheetah.
- **Goal:** Wildlife restoration and biodiversity conservation.
- **Approach:** Species reintroduction.
- **Importance:** Ecological balance and grassland conservation.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen habitat management and long-term monitoring.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Species:** Cheetah
- **Status in India:** Extinct in 1952 (historically)
- **Project launch:** 2022
- **Park:** Kuno National Park
- **State:** Madhya Pradesh
- **Focus:** Wildlife reintroduction

- **Goal:** Biodiversity restoration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Project Cheetah aims to reintroduce cheetahs into India.
2. Kuno National Park is located in Madhya Pradesh.
3. Cheetahs were officially declared extinct in India in 1952.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. INDIA-ITALY JOINT DECLARATION



Key Areas of Cooperation

1. Strategic Partnership

- I. Both countries reaffirmed commitment to:
 - A. Democratic values
 - B. Rule-based international order
 - C. Multilateral cooperation

2. Trade & Investment

- I. Focus on:
 - A. Expanding bilateral trade
 - B. Industrial collaboration
 - C. Investment partnerships
- II. Encouragement for:
 - A. Business-to-business cooperation

3. Technology & Innovation

- I. Cooperation in:
 - A. Artificial Intelligence
 - B. Digital technologies
 - C. Startups and innovation ecosystems
 - D. Research and development

4. Defence & Security

- I. Enhanced engagement in:
 - A. Defence manufacturing
 - B. Maritime security
 - C. Counter-terrorism cooperation

5. Energy & Sustainability

- I. Collaboration on:
 - A. Renewable energy
 - B. Green transition
 - C. Climate action and sustainable development

6. Education & Cultural Exchange

- I. Promotion of:
 - A. Academic cooperation
 - B. Mobility of students and researchers
 - C. Cultural partnerships

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India-Italy Relations

- I. Bilateral relations include cooperation in:
 - A. Trade
 - B. Manufacturing
 - C. Defence
 - D. Clean energy
 - E. Science and technology

Italy

- I. Located in:
 - A. Southern Europe
- II. Member of:
 - A. European Union
 - B. G7

Strategic Importance

- I. Italy is an important partner for India in:
 - A. Europe and the Mediterranean region
- II. Cooperation aligns with:
 - A. India's engagement with Europe and Indo-Pacific partners

Importance of Joint Declarations

- I. Provide:
 - A. Framework for bilateral cooperation
 - B. Policy direction and diplomatic coordination

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Countries:** India and Italy.
- **Nature:** Joint Declaration.
- **Focus areas:** Trade, technology, defence, sustainability.
- **Global dimension:** Multilateral and strategic cooperation.
- **Importance:** Strengthened bilateral partnership.
- **Sectoral cooperation:** Innovation and clean energy.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen strategic and economic engagement.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Country:** Italy
- **Region:** Southern Europe
- **Organizations:** EU and G7
- **Themes:** Technology and sustainability
- **Focus:** Strategic partnership
- **Sector:** Defence and trade cooperation
- **Goal:** Stronger India-Europe engagement

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Italy is a member of the European Union.
2. India-Italy cooperation includes technology, defence, and renewable energy sectors.
3. Joint declarations between countries can provide a framework for bilateral cooperation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.INDIA'S EVOLVING METROLOGY ECOSYSTEM



CERTIFIED BY BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS

What is Metrology?

- I. Science of:
 - A. Measurement and standards
- II. Ensures:

- A. Accuracy, uniformity, and reliability in measurements

Key Areas of India's Metrology Ecosystem

- Scientific metrology
- Industrial metrology
- Legal metrology

Major Objectives

- Strengthen quality infrastructure
- Improve industrial precision and calibration systems
- Support manufacturing and exports
- Enhance consumer protection and standardization

Significance

- I. Essential for:
 - A. Manufacturing
 - B. Healthcare
 - C. Defence
 - D. Space and scientific research
 - E. Trade and commerce
- II. Supports:
 - A. "Make in India" and advanced manufacturing initiatives

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Scientific Metrology

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Development of national measurement standards
- II. Important for:
 - A. Research and innovation
- I. Ensures:

- A. Precision in industrial production and quality control
- II. Used in:
 - A. Engineering
 - B. Automotive
 - C. Electronics sectors

Legal Metrology

- I. Deals with:
 - A. Regulation of weights and measures used in trade
- II. Protects:
 - A. Consumer interests and fair trade practices

Key Institutions

National Physical Laboratory

- India's premier institute for measurement standards

Bureau of Indian Standards

- National standards body of India

Importance in Modern Economy

- I. Accurate measurement systems are critical for:
 - A. International trade
 - B. Product certification
 - C. Technological innovation
 - D. Industrial competitiveness

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Field:** Metrology.
- **Focus:** Measurement science and standards.
- **Types:** Scientific, industrial, legal metrology.

- **Institutions:** NPL and BIS.
- **Importance:** Quality infrastructure and precision manufacturing.
- **National goal:** Industrial modernization and competitiveness.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen digital and advanced measurement capabilities.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Metrology:** Science of measurement
- **Scientific metrology:** National standards
- **Industrial metrology:** Manufacturing precision
- **Legal metrology:** Weights and measures regulation
- **Institution:** National Physical Laboratory
- **Standards body:** BIS
- **Goal:** Quality infrastructure and trade facilitation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Metrology is the science of measurement.
2. Legal metrology deals with regulation of weights and measures used in trade.
3. Industrial metrology is unrelated to manufacturing quality control.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. DEMOGRAPHIC STRENGTH GIVES BRICS COUNTRIES AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF WORK: DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA



Key Themes Highlighted

- Demographic dividend of BRICS nations
- Future of work and digital transformation
- Skills, innovation, and employment generation

Opportunities for BRICS Countries

- Large youth population
- Expanding digital economy
- Growing startup and innovation ecosystems

Focus Areas

- Skill development and reskilling
- Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies
- Entrepreneurship and gig economy
- Inclusive and sustainable employment

Significance

- I. BRICS nations can:
 - A. Influence global labour and economic trends

- B. Shape technology-driven employment models
- II. Supports:
 - A. Sustainable economic growth and social inclusion

- Technological disruption
- Informal employment
- Need for social protection systems

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

BRICS

- I. BRICS consists of:
 - A. Brazil
 - B. Russia
 - C. India
 - D. China
 - E. South Africa
- II. Represents a significant share of:
 - A. Global population and economic output

Demographic Dividend

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Economic growth potential arising from a large working-age population
- II. Requires:
 - A. Education
 - B. Skills
 - C. Employment opportunities

Future of Work

- I. Driven by:
 - A. Automation
 - B. AI
 - C. Digital platforms
 - D. Remote and flexible work systems

Challenges

- Skill mismatch

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Forum:** BRICS.
- **Theme:** Future of work.
- **Focus:** Demographic strength and skills.
- **Key driver:** Youth population.
- **Sector:** Digital economy and employment.
- **Importance:** Inclusive and sustainable growth.
- **Way Forward:** Invest in skilling, innovation, and workforce readiness.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **BRICS:** Emerging economies grouping
- **Concept:** Demographic dividend
- **Future of work:** AI and digital transformation
- **Focus:** Skill development
- **Challenge:** Automation and reskilling
- **Opportunity:** Youth workforce
- **Goal:** Inclusive employment growth

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Demographic dividend refers to the economic potential arising from a large working-age population.
2. BRICS countries together account for a significant share of the global population.
3. The future of work is unaffected by automation and digital technologies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. ICAR LEADS NATIONWIDE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON BALANCED USE OF FERTILISERS AHEAD OF KHARIF 2026



Ministry of Agriculture
& Farmers Welfare



Objectives of the Campaign

- I. Promote:
 - A. Scientific and balanced fertiliser application
- II. Encourage:
 - A. Soil health management
 - B. Efficient nutrient use

Key Focus Areas

- I. Optimum use of:
 - A. Nitrogen (N)
 - B. Phosphorus (P)
 - C. Potassium (K)
 - D. Micronutrients

- II. Soil testing and nutrient-based fertiliser application

Expected Benefits

- Improved crop yield and productivity
- Reduced input costs for farmers
- Prevention of soil degradation and nutrient imbalance

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Sustainable agriculture
 - B. Long-term soil fertility
 - C. Food security objectives

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

ICAR

- I. Indian Council of Agricultural Research:
 - A. Apex body for agricultural research and education in India
- II. Operates under:
 - A. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Balanced Fertilisation

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Appropriate and scientific use of nutrients based on crop and soil requirements
- II. Helps:
 - A. Maintain soil productivity and environmental sustainability

Kharif Season

- I. Crops sown during:
 - A. Southwest monsoon season
- II. Major Kharif crops:
 - A. Rice
 - B. Maize
 - C. Cotton
 - D. Soybean

Soil Health Concerns

- I. Excessive use of chemical fertilisers can lead to:
 - A. Soil degradation
 - B. Nutrient imbalance
 - C. Reduced productivity over time

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** ICAR.
- **Campaign:** Balanced fertiliser use awareness.
- **Season:** Kharif 2026.
- **Focus:** Soil health and nutrient efficiency.
- **Approach:** Scientific fertiliser management.
- **Importance:** Sustainable agriculture and productivity.
- **Way Forward:** Expand soil testing and precision nutrient management.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **ICAR:** Agricultural research apex body
- **Season:** Kharif
- **Concept:** Balanced fertilisation
- **Major nutrients:** NPK
- **Goal:** Soil health management
- **Challenge:** Nutrient imbalance
- **Benefit:** Sustainable crop productivity

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. ICAR is the apex body for agricultural research and education in India.
2. Balanced fertilisation involves scientific nutrient application based on soil and crop needs.
3. Excessive fertiliser use can negatively affect soil health.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. UNION ENVIRONMENT MINISTER INTERACTS WITH MID-CAREER TRAINING PARTICIPANTS OF INDIAN FOREST SERVICE



Key Themes Highlighted

- Conservation of forests and biodiversity

- Climate action and ecological sustainability
- Role of forest officers in environmental governance

Focus of the Interaction

- Capacity building and leadership development
- Strengthening conservation-oriented administration
- Community participation in environmental protection

Importance of Indian Forest Service Officers

- I. Protection of:
 - A. Forest ecosystems
 - B. Wildlife habitats
 - C. Biodiversity resources
- II. Implementation of:
 - A. Environmental and forest laws

Significance

- I. Reinforces:
 - A. India's commitment to sustainable development and ecological conservation

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Forest Service (IFS)

- I. Indian Forest Service:
 - A. One of the All India Services
- II. Established in:
 - A. 1966
- III. Responsible for:
 - A. Forest administration
 - B. Wildlife protection

- C. Environmental management

Role of Forest Officers

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Conservation of natural resources
 - B. Prevention of illegal activities like poaching and deforestation
- II. Support:
 - A. Climate resilience and ecological balance

Environmental Governance in India

- I. Guided by:
 - A. Sustainable development principles
 - B. Biodiversity conservation commitments

Importance of Training Programmes

- I. Enhance:
 - A. Administrative capabilities
 - B. Scientific understanding
 - C. Policy implementation skills

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Minister:** Bhupender Yadav.
- **Service:** Indian Forest Service.
- **Theme:** Environmental conservation and leadership.
- **Focus:** Forest and wildlife protection.
- **Importance:** Biodiversity and ecological sustainability.
- **Training:** Mid-career capacity building.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen conservation governance and ecological stewardship.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **IFS:** Indian Forest Service
- **Type:** All India Service
- **Established:** 1966
- **Role:** Forest and wildlife conservation
- **Focus:** Biodiversity protection
- **Theme:** Sustainable development
- **Goal:** Ecological balance and climate resilience

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Forest Service is one of the All India Services.
2. Forest officers play a role in biodiversity and wildlife conservation.
3. The Indian Forest Service was established before independence.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. UNINCORPORATED ESTABLISHMENTS SURGE BEYOND 9 CRORE, POWERING ECONOMIC GROWTH

What are Unincorporated Establishments?

- I. Small business units operating without formal company incorporation.
- II. Includes:
 - A. Proprietorships
 - B. Household enterprises
 - C. Small shops and service units

Key Drivers of Growth

- Rising entrepreneurship
- Expansion of digital and local markets
- Government support for MSMEs and self-employment
- Increasing participation of women and youth entrepreneurs

Economic Importance

- I. Major source of:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Local economic activity
 - C. Livelihood support
- II. Significant contribution to:
 - A. Manufacturing
 - B. Trade
 - C. Services sector

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Grassroots economy
 - B. Inclusive economic growth

- C. Rural and semi-urban development

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Unincorporated Sector

- I. Consists mainly of:
 - A. Informal and micro enterprises
- II. Usually characterized by:
 - A. Small scale operations
 - B. Limited capital base
 - C. Family or self-employment model

MSME Ecosystem

- I. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises supports:
 - A. Small businesses and entrepreneurship development

Challenges Faced

- I. Limited access to:
 - A. Formal credit
 - B. Technology
 - C. Social security
 - D. Market infrastructure

Importance for India

- I. Helps:
 - A. Absorb labour force
 - B. Reduce unemployment
 - C. Promote decentralized growth

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Sector:** Unincorporated establishments.
- **Scale:** More than 9 crore units.
- **Contribution:** Employment and local economic activity.

- **Nature:** Informal and small enterprises.
- **Drivers:** Entrepreneurship and MSME growth.
- **Importance:** Inclusive development and livelihoods.
- **Way Forward:** Improve access to finance, digitalization, and formalization support.

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

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Sector:** Informal/unincorporated enterprises
- **Nature:** Small-scale businesses
- **Contribution:** Employment generation
- **Support ecosystem:** MSMEs
- **Challenge:** Credit and technology access
- **Benefit:** Grassroots economic growth
- **Goal:** Inclusive and decentralized development

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Unincorporated establishments are generally small-scale enterprises operating without formal incorporation.
2. Such establishments contribute significantly to employment generation in India.
3. The unincorporated sector is completely unrelated to the MSME ecosystem.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only

2. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION CONVENES 'BHARAT INNOVATES INVESTOR SHOWCASE' IN BENGALURU



DPIIT
#startupindia

Key Objectives

- Support deep-tech innovation and startups
- Facilitate investor-startup collaboration
- Encourage commercialization of research and technology

What are Deep-Tech Startups?

- I. Startups based on:
 - A. Advanced scientific and engineering innovations
- II. Areas include:
 - A. Artificial Intelligence (AI)
 - B. Robotics
 - C. Semiconductors
 - D. Biotechnology
 - E. Quantum technologies

F. Clean energy

Importance of the Showcase

- I. Provides:
 - A. Funding and networking opportunities
- II. Connects:
 - A. Innovators with venture capitalists and global investors

Expected Outcomes

- Strengthened startup ecosystem
- Increased innovation-driven investments
- Boost to research commercialization and high-tech entrepreneurship

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Startup Ecosystem in India

- I. India has emerged as:
 - A. One of the world's largest startup ecosystems
- II. Supported through initiatives like:
 - A. Startup India

Deep-Tech Sector

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. High-impact technologies requiring strong R&D capabilities
- II. Often linked with:
 - A. Universities
 - B. Research institutions
 - C. Innovation hubs

Bengaluru as Innovation Hub

- I. Bengaluru is known for:

- A. Technology and startup ecosystem
- B. Research and innovation infrastructure

Importance of Investor Showcases

- I. Help startups:
 - A. Access capital
 - B. Scale technologies
 - C. Expand market reach

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organizer:** Ministry of Education.
- **Event:** Bharat Innovates Investor Showcase.
- **Location:** Bengaluru.
- **Participants:** 24 deep-tech startups.
- **Focus:** Innovation and investment.
- **Sector:** Advanced technology entrepreneurship.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen R&D commercialization and startup financing ecosystems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Deep-tech:** Science-based advanced technologies
- **Hub:** Bengaluru
- **Initiative:** Startup India
- **Focus sectors:** AI, robotics, biotech, semiconductors
- **Goal:** Innovation-led growth
- **Importance:** Technology commercialization
- **Benefit:** Startup funding and scaling

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Deep-tech startups are generally based on advanced scientific and engineering innovations.
2. Bengaluru is one of India's major technology and startup hubs.
3. Investor showcases can help startups access funding and market opportunities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.RAKSHA MANTRI & REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S MINISTER OF PATRIOTS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS INAUGURATE INDIAN WAR MEMORIAL IN SEOUL



Purpose of the Memorial

- I. Honour Indian troops who participated in:
 - A. Humanitarian and peacekeeping efforts during the Korean War
- II. Recognize:
 - A. India's contribution to global peace and stability

Key Themes Highlighted

- India–South Korea friendship
- Shared democratic values
- Defence and strategic cooperation
- Tribute to veterans and peacekeepers

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Bilateral ties between India and South Korea
- II. Reinforces:
 - A. Historical and people-to-people connections
- III. Highlights:
 - A. India's role in international peace efforts

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Korean War (1950–1953)

- I. Conflict between:
 - A. North Korea and South Korea
- II. Involved:
 - A. United Nations-supported forces

India's Role in the Korean War

- I. India contributed:
 - A. Medical and humanitarian assistance

- B. Custodian Force India for prisoner-of-war repatriation
- II. Played an important diplomatic role in:
 - A. Peace and ceasefire efforts

India–South Korea Relations

- I. Bilateral ties include cooperation in:
 - A. Trade
 - B. Technology
 - C. Defence
 - D. Culture and strategic affairs

Importance of War Memorials

- I. Preserve:
 - A. Historical memory and military heritage
- II. Promote:
 - A. Peace, diplomacy, and respect for veterans

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Countries:** India and South Korea.
- **Location:** Seoul.
- **Event:** Inauguration of Indian War Memorial.
- **Historical context:** Korean War.
- **Theme:** Peace, sacrifice, and bilateral friendship.
- **Importance:** Strategic and historical ties.
- **Way Forward:** Deepen India–South Korea defence and cultural cooperation.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **War:** Korean War (1950–1953)
- **Location:** Seoul, South Korea
- **India’s contribution:** Medical and peacekeeping support
- **Force:** Custodian Force India

- **Theme:** Veterans and peace memorialization
- **Bilateral ties:** India–South Korea strategic partnership
- **Goal:** Peace and international cooperation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. India played a humanitarian and diplomatic role during the Korean War.
2. Seoul is the capital of South Korea.
3. War memorials help preserve historical memory and honour veterans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.PROPOSED ANTI-DOPING LAW AMENDMENTS TO CRIMINALISE ORGANISED DOPING ACTIVITIES PLACED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION



Key Objective

- I. Target and penalize:
 - A. Organized doping networks
 - B. Illegal supply and facilitation of banned substances

Focus Areas of the Amendments

- I. Stronger legal action against:
 - A. Coaches
 - B. Support staff
 - C. Traffickers and organized syndicates involved in doping
- II. Enhance:
 - A. Transparency and accountability in sports

Importance

- I. Protects:
 - A. Integrity of sports and fair competition
- II. Helps:
 - A. Safeguard athlete health and credibility of sporting institutions

Public Consultation

- I. Stakeholders invited to provide:
 - A. Feedback and suggestions before finalization of amendments

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Doping in Sports

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Use of prohibited substances or methods to enhance athletic performance

Anti-Doping Framework in India

National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)

- I. Responsible for:
 - A. Doping control and awareness programmes

Global Framework

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

- I. Develops:
 - A. International anti-doping standards and prohibited lists

Concerns with Organised Doping

- I. Involves:
 - A. Networks supplying banned substances systematically
- II. Threatens:
 - A. Fair play
 - B. Athlete welfare
 - C. Reputation of sports

Need for Legal Reforms

- I. Strengthening legal provisions can:
 - A. Improve deterrence
 - B. Enhance international compliance
 - C. Promote ethical sporting culture

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Issue:** Organised doping in sports.
- **Proposal:** Criminalisation through legal amendments.
- **Institution:** NADA.
- **Global body:** WADA.
- **Focus:** Fair play and athlete protection.

- **Approach:** Stronger enforcement and consultation.
- **Way Forward:** Build robust anti-doping awareness and enforcement systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Doping:** Use of banned performance-enhancing substances
- **Indian agency:** NADA
- **Global body:** WADA
- **Focus:** Sports ethics and integrity
- **Concern:** Organised doping networks
- **Goal:** Fair competition
- **Approach:** Legal and institutional strengthening

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NADA is India's anti-doping regulatory body.
2. WADA develops international anti-doping standards.
3. Doping undermines the principle of fair play in sports.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.TDB-DST SUPPORTS ANSOZ CREATIONS, BHOPAL FOR COMMERCIALIZATION OF ELECTRONICS & IT-BASED STEM ACTIVITY KIT



What is the STEM Activity Kit?

- I. Educational kit focused on:
 - A. Electronics
 - B. Information Technology
 - C. Practical science and engineering learning

Objectives

- Promote experiential and activity-based learning
- Enhance scientific temperament among students
- Encourage innovation and problem-solving skills

Expected Benefits

- Improved STEM education access
- Skill development among school students

- Support for innovation-led learning ecosystems

Significance

- I. Aligns with:
 - A. Digital education and innovation goals
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Startup-led educational technology solutions

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Technology Development Board (TDB)

- I. Technology Development Board:
 - A. Statutory body functioning under DST
- II. Supports:
 - A. Commercialization of indigenous technologies and innovations

Department of Science and Technology (DST)

- I. Department of Science and Technology:
 - A. Promotes scientific research, innovation, and technology development

STEM Education

- I. STEM stands for:
 - A. Science
 - B. Technology
 - C. Engineering
 - D. Mathematics
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Analytical and practical learning approaches

Importance of STEM Kits

- I. Provide:
 - A. Hands-on experimentation and project-based learning
- II. Help students:
 - A. Develop creativity, coding, and technical skills

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organizations:** TDB and DST.
- **Company:** Ansoz Creations, Bhopal.
- **Focus:** STEM activity kit commercialization.
- **Sector:** Electronics and IT education.
- **Goal:** Innovation-driven learning.
- **Importance:** Skill development and scientific temperament.
- **Way Forward:** Expand affordable STEM learning solutions nationwide.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **TDB:** Technology Development Board
- **DST:** Department of Science and Technology
- **STEM:** Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics
- **Approach:** Activity-based learning
- **Focus:** Innovation and skill development
- **Benefit:** Hands-on technical education
- **Goal:** Scientific and digital literacy

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. STEM education promotes practical and analytical learning.

2. The Technology Development Board functions under the Department of Science and Technology.
3. Activity-based STEM kits can help improve technical and problem-solving skills among students.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. CTIL & FICCI ORGANISE CONFERENCE ON INDIA–EUROPE TRADE PARTNERSHIPS UNDER NEXT-GENERATION FTAs



Key Themes Discussed

- Next-generation FTAs and evolving trade architecture
- Market access and investment opportunities
- Digital trade and sustainability standards
- Supply chain resilience and economic cooperation

What are Next-Generation FTAs?

- I. Modern trade agreements covering:
 - A. Goods and services
 - B. Digital economy
 - C. Intellectual property
 - D. Sustainable development
 - E. Investment facilitation

Importance for India

- I. Expands:
 - A. Export opportunities
 - B. Technology and investment flows
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Economic integration with Europe

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Trade diversification
 - B. Global value chain participation
 - C. Long-term strategic partnerships

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

CTIL

- I. Centre for Trade and Investment Law:
 - A. Think tank and advisory institution on international trade law and policy

FICCI

- I. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry:
 - A. Major industry and business chamber in India

India–Europe Trade Relations

- I. Europe is an important trade and investment partner for India.
- II. Cooperation spans:
 - A. Manufacturing
 - B. Green technology
 - C. Digital economy
 - D. Services and innovation

Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)

- I. Agreements between countries to:
 - A. Reduce tariffs and trade barriers
 - B. Promote investment and economic cooperation

Emerging Trade Issues

- I. Increasing focus on:
 - A. Sustainability
 - B. Carbon regulations
 - C. Data governance
 - D. Supply chain security

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organisers:** CTIL and FICCI.
- **Theme:** India–Europe trade partnerships.
- **Focus:** Next-generation FTAs.
- **Areas:** Trade, investment, digital economy, sustainability.
- **Importance:** Economic integration and export growth.
- **Strategic dimension:** Supply chain resilience and global cooperation.
- **Way Forward:** Accelerate balanced and future-ready trade agreements.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CTIL:** Centre for Trade and Investment Law
- **FICCI:** Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- **FTA:** Free Trade Agreement
- **Next-generation FTAs:** Include digital and sustainability issues
- **Partner region:** Europe
- **Goal:** Trade and investment expansion

- **Focus:** Global value chains and economic cooperation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

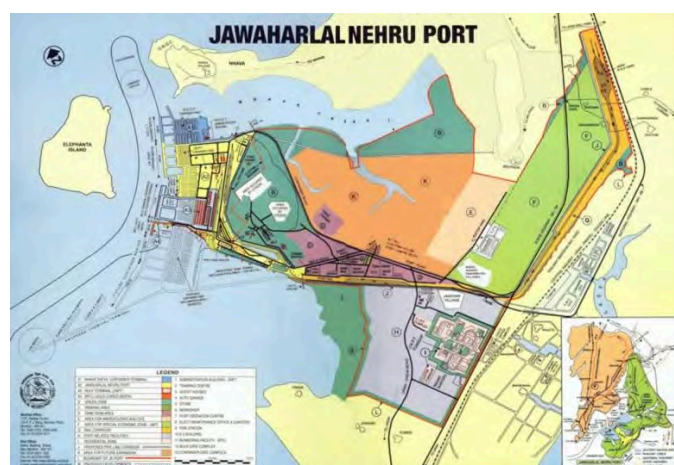
1. Free Trade Agreements aim to reduce trade barriers between countries.
2. Next-generation FTAs may include digital trade and sustainability provisions.
3. FICCI is an industry and business chamber in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.GOV'T MOVES TO EASE CONTAINER MOVEMENT AT JNPA AMIDST RISING GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN CHALLENGES



Key Objectives

- Reduce congestion in container movement
- Improve logistics efficiency and turnaround time
- Ensure smooth export-import operations

Measures Being Taken

- I. Better coordination among:
 - A. Port authorities
 - B. Shipping lines
 - C. Logistics operators
- II. Infrastructure and operational improvements:
 - A. Faster cargo clearance
 - B. Enhanced container handling capacity
 - C. Digital and streamlined logistics processes

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. India's international trade and export competitiveness
- II. Helps:
 - A. Strengthen resilience against global supply chain disruptions

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)

- I. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority:
 - A. India's largest container port
- II. Located in:
 - A. Maharashtra

Importance of Container Ports

- I. Handle:
 - A. Large-scale import and export cargo movement
- II. Critical for:
 - A. Manufacturing
 - B. Trade
 - C. Supply chain connectivity

Global Supply Chain Challenges

- I. Triggered by:
 - A. Geopolitical tensions
 - B. Shipping disruptions
 - C. Rising freight costs
 - D. Port congestion worldwide

Logistics & Trade Facilitation

- I. Efficient ports contribute to:
 - A. Lower logistics costs
 - B. Faster trade movement
 - C. Economic growth and competitiveness

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Port:** JNPA.
- **Location:** Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- **Issue:** Container congestion and supply chain stress.
- **Focus:** Logistics efficiency and trade facilitation.
- **Sector:** Maritime trade and shipping.
- **Importance:** Export-import competitiveness.
- **Way Forward:** Expand digital, multimodal, and resilient logistics infrastructure.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **JNPA:** Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority
- **Location:** Navi Mumbai
- **Type:** Major container port
- **Importance:** International trade gateway
- **Challenge:** Global supply chain disruptions
- **Focus:** Port efficiency and logistics
- **Goal:** Faster cargo movement and reduced costs

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority is one of India's major container ports.
2. Efficient port logistics can improve export competitiveness.
3. Global supply chain disruptions can affect cargo movement and trade.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.COST-EFFECTIVE HIGH-PERFORMANCE THERMAL BATTERY MATERIAL DEVELOPED FOR CLEAN ENERGY STORAGE



What is a Thermal Battery?

- I. A device that:
 - A. Stores energy in the form of heat and releases it when required
- II. Used for:
 - A. Energy storage and temperature management applications

Key Features of the New Material

- Cost-effective production
- Improved thermal efficiency
- Enhanced energy storage capacity
- Better durability and performance

Potential Applications

- Renewable energy systems
- Grid-scale energy storage
- Electric mobility and electronics
- Industrial heat management

Significance

- I. Supports:

- A. Clean energy transition
- B. Sustainable energy infrastructure
- C. Reduced dependence on fossil fuels

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Importance of Energy Storage

- I. Renewable energy sources like:
 - A. Solar and wind are intermittent in nature
- II. Efficient storage systems help:
 - A. Ensure reliable energy supply

Thermal Energy Storage

- I. Stores excess energy as:
 - A. Heat for later use
- II. Advantages:
 - A. Lower costs
 - B. Improved energy efficiency
 - C. Reduced wastage

Clean Energy Transition

- I. Advanced battery technologies are important for:
 - A. Decarbonization
 - B. Green energy integration
 - C. Climate action goals

Challenges in Energy Storage

- High cost of advanced materials
- Limited storage efficiency
- Scalability and sustainability concerns

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Innovation:** Thermal battery material.
- **Focus:** Clean energy storage.

- **Advantage:** Cost-effective and high-performance.
- **Applications:** Renewable energy and industry.
- **Importance:** Sustainable energy transition.
- **Sector:** Advanced materials and energy technology.
- **Way Forward:** Promote commercialization and large-scale deployment of energy storage innovations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Thermal battery:** Stores energy as heat
- **Purpose:** Energy storage
- **Focus:** Clean and renewable energy
- **Benefit:** Improved efficiency and reliability
- **Challenge:** Storage cost and scalability
- **Sector:** Advanced materials science
- **Goal:** Sustainable energy systems

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Thermal batteries store energy in the form of heat.
2. Efficient energy storage systems are important for renewable energy integration.
3. Renewable energy sources such as solar and wind are always continuously available without fluctuation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.SUCCESSFUL TEST-LAUNCH OF AGNI-1 BALLISTIC MISSILE



About Agni-1 Missile

- I. Short-range ballistic missile developed by India.
- II. Part of:
 - A. Agni Missile Series

Key Features

- Surface-to-surface ballistic missile
- Capable of carrying conventional and strategic payloads
- Road and rail mobile launch capability

Objectives of the Test

- I. Validate:
 - A. Operational capability
 - B. Accuracy and reliability
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. Strategic deterrence capability

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. National security and defence preparedness
- II. Reflects:
 - A. Progress in indigenous missile technology and strategic systems

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Agni Missile Programme

- I. Developed under:
 - A. India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)
- II. Includes missiles with varying ranges:
 - A. Agni-I to Agni-V

Ballistic Missile

- I. Missile that:
 - A. Follows a ballistic trajectory after launch phase
- II. Used for:
 - A. Strategic and defence purposes

Strategic Deterrence

- I. Capability aimed at:
 - A. Preventing aggression through credible defence strength

DRDO

Defence Research and Development Organisation

- India's premier defence research agency responsible for missile development and indigenous defence technologies.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Missile:** Agni-1.
- **Type:** Ballistic missile.
- **Country:** India.
- **Agency:** DRDO.
- **Purpose:** Strategic deterrence and defence readiness.
- **Feature:** Indigenous missile capability.
- **Way Forward:** Continue modernization of strategic defence systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Agni-1:** Short-range ballistic missile
- **Programme:** IGMDF
- **Agency:** DRDO
- **Type:** Surface-to-surface missile
- **Purpose:** Strategic deterrence
- **Capability:** Conventional and strategic payloads
- **Focus:** Indigenous defence technology

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Agni-1 is a ballistic missile developed by India.

2. DRDO is involved in missile development programmes in India.
3. Ballistic missiles follow a ballistic trajectory after the launch phase.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.HINDUSTAN MACHINE TOOLS (HMT) EXPANDS GLOBAL FOOTPRINT; EXPORT MACHINE FLAGGED OFF TO SOUTH AFRICA



Key Highlights

- I. Export machine dispatched to:
 - A. South Africa
- II. Demonstrates:
 - A. Growing global demand for Indian engineering products

Objectives

- Expand India's industrial exports
- Strengthen indigenous manufacturing capabilities
- Promote "Make in India" in global markets

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. India's engineering export potential
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Bilateral industrial and trade relations
- III. Reflects:
 - A. Revival and modernization of public sector manufacturing capabilities

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT)

- I. Hindustan Machine Tools:
 - A. Public sector enterprise established in:
 1. 1953
- II. Known for:
 - A. Machine tools
 - B. Industrial machinery
 - C. Engineering equipment
 - D. Watches (historically)

Machine Tools Industry

- I. Machine tools are:
 - A. Machines used for shaping, cutting, and manufacturing components
- II. Critical for:
 - A. Manufacturing and industrial production

Engineering Exports

- I. India exports:
 - A. Machinery
 - B. Heavy equipment
 - C. Industrial products to global markets
- II. Important for:
 - A. Foreign exchange earnings and industrial growth

Make in India

Make in India

- I. Initiative aimed at:
 - A. Promoting manufacturing and global competitiveness of Indian industries

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Company:** HMT.
- **Export destination:** South Africa.
- **Sector:** Machine tools and engineering exports.
- **Focus:** Indigenous manufacturing.
- **Initiative:** Make in India.
- **Importance:** Industrial competitiveness and exports.
- **Way Forward:** Expand advanced manufacturing and international market access.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **HMT:** Hindustan Machine Tools
- **Established:** 1953
- **Sector:** Industrial machinery
- **Export focus:** Engineering goods
- **Initiative:** Make in India
- **Importance:** Manufacturing ecosystem
- **Goal:** Global industrial competitiveness

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) is a public sector enterprise in India.
2. Machine tools are important for manufacturing and industrial production.
3. "Make in India" aims to promote manufacturing competitiveness in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. INDIA'S COLD WATER FISHERIES EMERGING AS A KEY PILLAR OF THE BLUE ECONOMY



What are Cold Water Fisheries?

- I. Fisheries and aquaculture activities carried out in:
 - A. Cold and freshwater ecosystems of mountainous and Himalayan regions
- II. Includes species such as:
 - A. Trout and other cold-water fish varieties

Key Objectives

- Promote sustainable inland fisheries
- Generate employment in remote and hilly areas
- Enhance fish production and nutritional security

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Rural and tribal livelihoods
 - B. Eco-tourism and local entrepreneurship

- C. Sustainable utilization of freshwater resources

Contribution to Blue Economy

- I. Expands:
 - A. Inland fisheries and aquaculture economy
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Sustainable resource management and climate-resilient livelihoods

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Blue Economy

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Sustainable use of ocean and water resources for economic growth and environmental sustainability
- II. Includes:
 - A. Fisheries
 - B. Aquaculture
 - C. Maritime trade
 - D. Coastal and inland resource management

Cold Water Fisheries in India

- I. Found mainly in:
 - A. Himalayan and northeastern states
- II. States involved include:
 - A. Himachal Pradesh
 - B. Uttarakhand
 - C. Jammu and Kashmir
 - D. Northeastern states

Trout Farming

- I. One of the major cold-water aquaculture activities.
- II. Requires:
 - A. Clean, oxygen-rich cold water conditions

Challenges

- Climate change impacts
- Infrastructure limitations
- Need for modern hatcheries and cold-chain facilities

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Sector:** Cold water fisheries.
- **Focus:** Sustainable aquaculture and livelihoods.
- **Region:** Himalayan and hilly states.
- **Key species:** Trout.
- **Economic link:** Blue Economy.
- **Importance:** Nutrition, employment, sustainability.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen infrastructure, research, and climate-resilient fisheries practices.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Cold water fisheries:** Fisheries in cold freshwater ecosystems
- **Blue Economy:** Sustainable water-based economic growth
- **Key species:** Trout
- **Regions:** Himalayan and northeastern India
- **Benefit:** Livelihood and nutrition security
- **Challenge:** Climate change and infrastructure gaps

- **Goal:** Sustainable inland fisheries development

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Cold water fisheries are mainly associated with mountainous and Himalayan freshwater ecosystems.
2. Trout farming is an important component of cold water aquaculture in India.
3. The Blue Economy includes only marine trade and excludes fisheries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.MAROON BERET CEREMONIAL PARADE AT GARUD REGIMENTAL TRAINING CENTRE, AIR FORCE STATION CHANDINAGAR



What is the Maroon Beret Ceremony?

- I. Symbolizes:
 - A. Successful induction into elite airborne/special forces units
- II. Represents:
 - A. Courage
 - B. Discipline
 - C. Operational readiness

About Garud Commando Force

- I. Special Forces unit of the Indian Air Force.
- II. Roles include:
 - A. Counter-terrorism
 - B. Airbase security
 - C. Combat search and rescue
 - D. Special reconnaissance
 - E. Protection of strategic assets

Training Features

- Intensive physical and tactical training
- Airborne and combat skills
- Survival and high-risk mission preparedness

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. India's air power and special operations capability
- II. Demonstrates:
 - A. High standards of military professionalism and preparedness

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Garud Commando Force

- I. Garud Commando Force established in:
 - A. 2004
- II. Named after:
 - A. Garuda, the mythical divine bird in Indian tradition

Maroon Beret

- I. Internationally associated with:
 - A. Airborne and special operations forces
- II. Symbol of:
 - A. Elite military qualification

Air Force Station Chandinagar

- I. Located in:
 - A. Uttar Pradesh
- II. Hosts:
 - A. Specialized military training activities

Importance of Special Forces

- I. Critical for:
 - A. Rapid response operations
 - B. Strategic missions
 - C. National security and counter-terrorism

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** Maroon Beret Ceremonial Parade.
- **Force:** Garud Commando Force.
- **Service:** Indian Air Force.
- **Location:** Air Force Station Chandinagar.
- **Focus:** Special operations readiness.
- **Symbol:** Maroon Beret.

- **Way Forward:** Continue strengthening specialized defence and counter-terrorism capabilities.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Garud Commando Force:** Special Forces of IAF
- **Established:** 2004
- **Role:** Counter-terrorism and special operations
- **Beret colour:** Maroon
- **Training:** Airborne and tactical combat
- **Location:** Chandinagar, Uttar Pradesh
- **Importance:** Strategic and rapid-response operations

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Garud Commando Force is the special forces unit of the Indian Air Force.
2. Maroon berets are commonly associated with airborne and special forces units.
3. The Garud Commando Force was established before India's independence.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3.DPIIT RELEASES GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF BHAVYA SCHEME



उद्योग संवर्धन और आंतरिक व्यापार विभाग
DEPARTMENT FOR
PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND
INTERNAL TRADE

What is BHAVYA?

- I. **BHAVYA (Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna)** is a major industrial infrastructure initiative focused on:
 - A. Investment-ready industrial ecosystems
 - B. Plug-and-play manufacturing facilities

Major Objectives

- Accelerate manufacturing-led growth
- Improve industrial infrastructure
- Attract domestic and global investments
- Generate employment opportunities

Key Features of the Scheme

- I. Development of industrial parks ranging from:
 - A. 100–1000 acres
- II. Pre-approved:
 - A. Land
 - B. Utilities
 - C. Infrastructure and approvals
- III. Financial support up to:
 - A. ₹1 crore per acre for infrastructure development
- IV. Additional support for:
 - A. External connectivity and logistics integration

Implementation Mechanism

- I. Implemented by:
 - A. National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) under DPIIT
- II. Partnership with:
 - A. States
 - B. Central PSUs
 - C. Private sector players

Importance

- I. Reduces:
 - A. Time and cost of setting up industries
- II. Supports:
 - A. Make in India
 - B. Ease of Doing Business
 - C. PM GatiShakti integration

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Plug-and-Play Industrial Parks

- I. Ready-to-use industrial zones with:
 - A. Roads
 - B. Power
 - C. Water supply
 - D. Digital infrastructure
 - E. Single-window clearances
- II. Enable industries to:
 - A. Start operations quickly

DPIIT

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

- I. Functions under:
 - A. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- II. Responsible for:

- A. Industrial policy and investment promotion

NICDC

National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation

- I. Develops:
 - A. Industrial corridors and smart industrial cities

Alignment with PM GatiShakti

PM GatiShakti National Master Plan

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Multimodal connectivity and integrated infrastructure planning

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme:** BHAVYA.
- **Nodal body:** DPIIT.
- **Implementing agency:** NICDC.
- **Target:** 100 industrial parks.
- **Focus:** Plug-and-play manufacturing infrastructure.
- **Financial support:** Up to ₹1 crore per acre.
- **Way Forward:** Promote globally competitive and investment-ready industrial ecosystems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **BHAVYA:** Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna
- **Ministry:** Commerce and Industry
- **Nodal Department:** DPIIT
- **Agency:** NICDC
- **Concept:** Plug-and-play industrial parks
- **Integration:** PM GatiShakti

- **Goal:** Manufacturing-led economic growth

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. BHAVYA aims to develop plug-and-play industrial parks in India.
2. NICDC is involved in implementing industrial corridor projects in India.
3. Plug-and-play industrial parks provide pre-approved infrastructure and utilities for industries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.MORE THAN 51,000 APPOINTMENT LETTERS DISTRIBUTED DURING 19th ROZGAR MELA



What is Rozgar Mela?

- I. A large-scale recruitment initiative of the Government of India aimed at:
 - A. Accelerating employment generation in government sectors

Key Features

- I. Appointment letters issued across:
 - A. Central government ministries
 - B. Departments
 - C. Public sector organizations
- II. Recruitment in sectors such as:
 - A. Railways
 - B. Education
 - C. Revenue
 - D. Home Affairs
 - E. Postal services

Prime Minister's Message

- I. Encouraged youth to:
 - A. Serve the nation with dedication and integrity
- II. Highlighted:
 - A. Skill development
 - B. Digital governance
 - C. Youth participation in India's development journey

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Employment generation efforts
- II. Supports:
 - A. Good governance and public service delivery
- III. Enhances:
 - A. Youth participation in the formal workforce

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Rozgar Mela Initiative

- I. Launched to:
 - A. Fill government vacancies in a mission-mode approach
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Transparent and faster recruitment processes

Employment Generation

- I. Government recruitment drives help:
 - A. Provide stable employment opportunities
 - B. Improve administrative capacity

Youth and Demographic Dividend

- I. India's large youth population represents:
 - A. A major economic and developmental asset
- II. Productive employment is crucial for:
 - A. Inclusive growth and economic progress

Digital Governance

- I. Recruitment and public services increasingly integrated with:
 - A. Digital platforms and e-governance systems

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** 19th Rozgar Mela.
- **Appointment letters:** Over 51,000.
- **Address by:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

- **Focus:** Government employment generation.
- **Beneficiaries:** Newly recruited youth.
- **Importance:** Youth empowerment and governance capacity.
- **Way Forward:** Continue transparent and technology-driven recruitment initiatives.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Initiative:** Rozgar Mela
- **Objective:** Government recruitment drive
- **Focus:** Employment generation
- **Approach:** Mission-mode recruitment
- **Importance:** Youth empowerment
- **Sector:** Public administration
- **Goal:** Inclusive and efficient governance

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Rozgar Mela is aimed at accelerating recruitment in government sectors.
2. Government recruitment initiatives can strengthen administrative capacity and employment generation.
3. India's demographic dividend is unrelated to employment opportunities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. INDIAN STUDENTS TO VISIT JAPAN UNDER SAKURA SCIENCE PROGRAMME 2026



What is the Sakura Science Programme?

- I. An international youth exchange initiative of Japan focused on:
 - A. Science
 - B. Technology
 - C. Innovation
 - D. Academic collaboration

Objectives

- I. Encourage:
 - A. Scientific learning and innovation
- II. Promote:
 - A. International research exposure
 - B. Student interaction and cultural exchange

Activities Under the Programme

- I. Visits to:
 - A. Universities
 - B. Research laboratories
 - C. Technology institutions
- II. Interaction with:
 - A. Scientists and researchers

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. India–Japan educational cooperation
- II. Encourages:
 - A. STEM learning and global scientific collaboration among youth

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Japan Relations

- I. India and Japan cooperate in:
 - A. Technology
 - B. Infrastructure
 - C. Education
 - D. Research and innovation

STEM Education

- I. STEM stands for:
 - A. Science
 - B. Technology
 - C. Engineering
 - D. Mathematics
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Practical and innovation–driven learning

Student Exchange Programmes

- I. Help:
 - A. Build global academic networks
 - B. Improve cross–cultural understanding
 - C. Encourage future scientific collaboration

Importance of Scientific Diplomacy

- I. Academic and research partnerships strengthen:
 - A. Innovation ecosystems
 - B. International cooperation
 - C. Knowledge sharing

1. The Sakura Science Programme promotes international cooperation in science and technology.
2. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.
3. Student exchange programmes can strengthen scientific and cultural cooperation between countries.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Programme:** Sakura Science Programme 2026.
- **Countries involved:** India and Japan.
- **Focus:** Science and technology exchange.
- **Participants:** Indian students.
- **Theme:** STEM learning and innovation.
- **Importance:** Educational and cultural cooperation.
- **Way Forward:** Expand international scientific and academic partnerships.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Programme:** Sakura Science Programme
- **Country:** Japan
- **Focus:** Science and technology exchange
- **Participants:** Students and researchers
- **Theme:** STEM education
- **Benefit:** International collaboration
- **Goal:** Innovation and scientific cooperation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NITI AAYOG CONVENES FIRST MEETING OF THE HIGH-POWERED 'EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT AND ENTERPRISE' STANDING COMMITTEE



सत्यमेव जयते

NITI Aayog

Key Objectives

- I. Improve transition from:
 - A. Education to jobs and enterprise creation
- II. Promote:
 - A. Skill development
 - B. Innovation
 - C. Entrepreneurship ecosystem

Focus Areas

- Industry-aligned education
- Employability and vocational skills
- Startup and enterprise promotion
- Future-ready workforce development

Importance

- I. Addresses:
 - A. Skill mismatch and unemployment challenges

- II. Supports:
 - A. India's demographic dividend and economic growth goals

Expected Outcomes

- I. Better coordination among:
 - A. Government
 - B. Industry
 - C. Academic institutions
- II. Enhanced:
 - A. Youth employment and entrepreneurial opportunities

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog

- I. Apex public policy think tank of the Government of India.
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Cooperative federalism
 - B. Policy innovation
 - C. Sustainable development

Education to Employment Challenge

- I. Many economies face:
 - A. Gap between academic learning and industry requirements
- II. Requires:
 - A. Skill-oriented and practical learning systems

Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

- I. Encouraging startups and enterprises can:
 - A. Generate employment
 - B. Drive innovation and economic growth

Demographic Dividend

- I. India's large youth population offers:
 - A. Economic growth potential if adequately skilled and employed

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** NITI Aayog.
- **Committee:** Education to Employment and Enterprise Standing Committee.
- **Focus:** Skills, jobs, and entrepreneurship.
- **Objective:** Workforce readiness.
- **Importance:** Youth employment and innovation.
- **Approach:** Industry-academia-government collaboration.
- **Way Forward:** Promote future-ready education and enterprise ecosystems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NITI Aayog:** Government policy think tank
- **Theme:** Education to employment transition
- **Focus:** Skill development
- **Goal:** Employability and entrepreneurship
- **Challenge:** Skill mismatch
- **Opportunity:** Demographic dividend
- **Approach:** Industry-academia collaboration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. NITI Aayog is the public policy think tank of the Government of India.
2. Skill mismatch refers to the gap between workforce skills and industry requirements.
3. Entrepreneurship promotion can contribute to employment generation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2. DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS EXPANDS SCOPE OF GOVERNMENT APPROVED TEST CENTRES (GATC); VERIFICATION OF CNG, LNG & HYDROGEN DISPENSERS ENABLED



उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Key Objective

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Accurate measurement and dispensing of gaseous and clean fuels
- II. Promote:
 - A. Transparency and reliability in fuel transactions

What are GATCs?

- I. Authorized centres approved for:
 - A. Verification and calibration of weighing and measuring instruments
- II. Operate under:
 - A. Legal metrology framework

Importance of the Expansion

- I. Supports:
 - A. Growing adoption of clean fuels like CNG, LNG, and hydrogen
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Standardization and consumer confidence in emerging fuel technologies

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. India's clean energy and alternative fuel ecosystem
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Fair trade practices and fuel quality assurance

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Legal Metrology

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Regulation of weights and measures used in trade and commerce
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Accuracy and fairness in transactions

Alternative Fuels

CNG (Compressed Natural Gas)

- Cleaner alternative to conventional fossil fuels.

LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas)

- Natural gas cooled into liquid form for easier transport and storage.

Hydrogen Fuel

- Emerging clean energy source with low carbon emissions potential.

Role of Verification

- I. Prevents:
 - A. Incorrect fuel measurement and consumer exploitation
- II. Improves:
 - A. Safety, trust, and operational standards

Clean Energy Transition

- I. India is promoting:
 - A. Cleaner transportation fuels
 - B. Green hydrogen ecosystem
 - C. Sustainable mobility solutions

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Department:** Department of Consumer Affairs.
- **Mechanism:** Government Approved Test Centres (GATCs).
- **Expansion:** Verification of CNG, LNG, and hydrogen dispensers.
- **Focus:** Legal metrology and consumer protection.

- **Importance:** Clean fuel infrastructure reliability.
- **Sector:** Energy and measurement standards.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen standards and regulatory systems for emerging clean fuels.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **GATC:** Government Approved Test Centre
- **Field:** Legal metrology
- **Purpose:** Verification of measuring instruments
- **Clean fuels:** CNG, LNG, Hydrogen
- **Goal:** Accurate fuel dispensing
- **Importance:** Consumer protection and standardization
- **Focus:** Sustainable energy ecosystem

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Legal metrology deals with regulation of weights and measures used in trade.
2. LNG is natural gas converted into liquid form for storage and transport.
3. Hydrogen is being explored as a clean fuel alternative.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. UNION EDUCATION MINISTER SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN DIRECTS IIT EXPERTS TO ASSIST CBSE IN ADDRESSING TECHNICAL CHALLENGES



Key Objective

- I. Address technical and digital challenges faced by CBSE systems and platforms.
- II. Ensure:
 - A. Smooth functioning of educational and examination processes

Role of IIT Experts

- I. Provide:
 - A. Technical expertise
 - B. Digital system assessment
 - C. Technological solutions and innovation support

Focus Areas

- Online systems and portals
- Examination-related technology infrastructure
- Cybersecurity and system reliability

- User-friendly digital services for students and institutions

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Digital governance in education
- II. Supports:
 - A. Technology-driven education reforms and efficient service delivery

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

CBSE

Central Board of Secondary Education

- I. National-level education board under:
 - A. Ministry of Education
- II. Conducts:
 - A. School examinations and academic administration

IITs

Indian Institutes of Technology

- I. Premier technical institutions known for:
 - A. Engineering
 - B. Research
 - C. Technology innovation

Digital Transformation in Education

01. Increasing reliance on:
 - a. Online learning platforms
 - b. Digital examinations
 - c. E-governance systems
02. Requires:
 - a. Robust technological infrastructure

Challenges

- Technical glitches and server issues
- Cybersecurity concerns
- Need for scalable and reliable digital platforms

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Minister:** Dharmendra Pradhan.
- **Institutions involved:** IITs and CBSE.
- **Focus:** Addressing technical challenges.
- **Sector:** Digital education governance.
- **Objective:** Improve reliability and efficiency.
- **Importance:** Technology-enabled education reforms.
- **Way Forward:** Build secure, scalable, and resilient digital education infrastructure.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CBSE:** Central Board of Secondary Education
- **IITs:** Premier technical institutions
- **Focus:** Educational technology systems
- **Goal:** Efficient digital governance
- **Challenge:** Technical and cybersecurity issues
- **Approach:** Expert technological support
- **Importance:** Digital transformation in education

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. CBSE functions under the Ministry of Education.

2. IITs are premier institutions for engineering and technology education in India.
3. Digital governance in education requires reliable technological infrastructure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.WHO DECLARES EBOLA OUTBREAK A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN; AFRICA CDC DECLARES PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF CONTINENTAL SECURITY



About the Ebola Outbreak

- I. Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) is:
 - A. A severe and often fatal viral hemorrhagic disease affecting humans.
- II. Spread occurs through:

- A. Direct contact with infected bodily fluids or contaminated materials

WHO Declaration

- I. PHEIC is declared when:
 - A. An extraordinary public health event poses international disease spread risk and requires coordinated global response.
- II. Enables:
 - A. International cooperation
 - B. Emergency funding
 - C. Enhanced surveillance and response measures

Africa CDC Declaration

- I. Indicates:
 - A. High continental-level health and security concern
- II. Aims to:
 - A. Coordinate African regional preparedness and response

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Global disease surveillance and emergency response systems
- II. Highlights:
 - A. Importance of international health cooperation and outbreak preparedness

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

- I. Caused by:
 - A. Ebola virus
- II. Symptoms include:
 - A. Fever
 - B. Weakness
 - C. Bleeding complications in severe cases
- III. High fatality rates if untreated.

WHO

World Health Organization

- I. Specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for:
 - A. International public health coordination

PHEIC (Public Health Emergency of International Concern)

- I. Declared under:
 - A. International Health Regulations (IHR), 2005
- II. Used for:
 - A. Serious cross-border health threats

Africa CDC

Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention

- I. Public health agency of the:
 - A. African Union
- II. Coordinates:
 - A. Disease prevention and outbreak response across Africa

Challenges

- Weak healthcare infrastructure in affected areas
- Cross-border disease transmission risks
- Need for rapid vaccination and containment efforts

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Disease:** Ebola Virus Disease.
- **Global body:** WHO.
- **Regional body:** Africa CDC.
- **Declaration:** PHEIC and continental emergency.
- **Focus:** Outbreak containment and international coordination.
- **Importance:** Global public health security.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen surveillance, vaccination, and emergency healthcare systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Disease:** Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)
- **Cause:** Ebola virus
- **WHO declaration:** PHEIC
- **Legal framework:** International Health Regulations (2005)
- **Regional body:** Africa CDC
- **Concern:** Cross-border disease spread
- **Goal:** Global health emergency response

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Ebola Virus Disease is caused by a viral infection.
2. WHO can declare a Public Health Emergency of International Concern under the International Health Regulations.
3. Africa CDC is a public health institution associated with the African Union.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.AHMEDABAD LEADS INDIA'S GRAND COMMONWEALTH GAMES DAY CELEBRATIONS AS 75th EDITION OF FIT INDIA SUNDAYS ON CYCLE UNITES THE NATION



Key Objectives

- I. Promote:
 - A. Physical fitness and active lifestyles

- II. Encourage:
 - A. Cycling as a healthy and eco-friendly activity
- III. Raise awareness about:
 - A. Sports culture and community participation

About Fit India Sundays on Cycle

- I. Nationwide fitness initiative encouraging:
 - A. Recreational and community cycling activities every Sunday
- II. Part of:
 - A. Broader Fit India Movement objectives

Commonwealth Games Day

- I. Celebrated to:
 - A. Promote sportsmanship and sporting values among Commonwealth nations

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Public health and wellness
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Grassroots sports participation and sustainable mobility

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Fit India Movement

Fit India Movement

- I. Nationwide campaign launched to:
 - A. Promote fitness and healthy living
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Physical activity
 - B. Wellness awareness

C. Community participation

sustainable mobility initiatives nationwide.

Cycling and Public Health

- I. Cycling helps:
 - A. Improve cardiovascular health
 - B. Reduce pollution and traffic congestion
 - C. Promote sustainable urban mobility

Commonwealth Games

Commonwealth Games

- I. Multi-sport event involving:
 - A. Commonwealth nations
- II. Encourages:
 - A. International sporting cooperation and excellence

Importance of Mass Fitness Campaigns

- I. Help:
 - A. Increase awareness about preventive healthcare
 - B. Encourage healthy habits among youth and citizens

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** Commonwealth Games Day celebrations.
- **Initiative:** Fit India Sundays on Cycle.
- **Edition:** 75th.
- **Lead city:** Ahmedabad.
- **Focus:** Fitness and cycling culture.
- **Importance:** Public health and sports participation.
- **Way Forward:** Expand community-based fitness and

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Programme:** Fit India Movement
- **Activity:** Sundays on Cycle
- **Focus:** Physical fitness and cycling
- **City highlighted:** Ahmedabad
- **Sports event:** Commonwealth Games
- **Benefit:** Health and environmental sustainability
- **Goal:** Mass fitness participation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Fit India Movement promotes healthy lifestyles and physical fitness.
2. Cycling can contribute to both public health and sustainable mobility.
3. The Commonwealth Games are an international multi-sport event involving Commonwealth nations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. BSNL'S REVENUE GROWS FROM ₹21,000 CRORE TO ₹25,000 CRORE IN TWO YEARS: MoS COMMUNICATIONS



Key Highlights

- I. Revenue growth of approximately:
 - A. 20–25% in two years
- II. Indicates:
 - A. Financial improvement and service expansion in BSNL

Factors Contributing to Growth

- I. Expansion of:
 - A. Telecom and broadband services
- II. Focus on:
 - A. Indigenous 4G rollout
 - B. Digital connectivity
 - C. Rural telecom infrastructure

Importance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Public sector telecom infrastructure
- II. Supports:
 - A. Digital inclusion and connectivity in remote areas

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Competition in telecom sector
- II. Contributes to:
 - A. Digital India and communication accessibility goals

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

BSNL

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

- I. State-owned telecommunications company under:
 - A. Department of Telecommunications
- II. Provides:
 - A. Mobile services
 - B. Broadband
 - C. Landline and enterprise communication services

Telecom Sector in India

- I. One of the world's largest telecom markets.
- II. Important for:
 - A. Digital economy
 - B. E-governance
 - C. Financial inclusion
 - D. Rural connectivity

4G and Indigenous Technology

- I. BSNL has been working on:
 - A. Indigenous 4G technology deployment
- II. Supports:
 - A. Self-reliance in telecom infrastructure

Digital Inclusion

- I. Telecom connectivity is essential for:
 - A. Education
 - B. Healthcare
 - C. E-commerce
 - D. Government services

2. Telecom connectivity plays an important role in digital inclusion and e-governance.
3. Indigenous 4G technology deployment supports self-reliance in telecom infrastructure.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Company:** BSNL.
- **Revenue growth:** ₹21,000 crore to ₹25,000 crore.
- **Sector:** Telecommunications.
- **Focus:** Connectivity and digital infrastructure.
- **Importance:** Public telecom strengthening.
- **Technology:** Indigenous 4G rollout.
- **Way Forward:** Expand digital infrastructure and next-generation telecom services.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2. AYUSHEXCIL & SPICES BOARD OF INDIA SIGN MoU TO STRENGTHEN GLOBAL PROMOTION OF AYUSH PRODUCTS AND MEDICINAL SPICES



AYUSH EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **BSNL:** Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
- **Sector:** Telecommunications
- **Ownership:** Government of India
- **Focus:** Telecom and broadband services
- **Technology:** Indigenous 4G
- **Importance:** Digital connectivity
- **Goal:** Inclusive communication infrastructure

Key Objectives

- I. Promote exports of:
 - A. AYUSH and herbal products
 - B. Medicinal spices
- II. Enhance:
 - A. International market access and branding

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. BSNL is a government-owned telecommunications company in India.

Areas of Cooperation

- Export promotion activities
- Trade fairs and international outreach
- Quality assurance and certification support
- Capacity building and awareness initiatives

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. India's traditional medicine ecosystem
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Herbal and wellness exports
- III. Enhances:
 - A. Global recognition of Indian medicinal products

Significance

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Integration of traditional knowledge with global wellness markets
- II. Contributes to:
 - A. Rural livelihoods and value-added agricultural exports

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

AYUSH

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Ayurveda
 - B. Yoga & Naturopathy
 - C. Unani
 - D. Siddha
 - E. Homeopathy

AYUSHEXCIL

AYUSHEXCIL

- I. Export Promotion Council dedicated to:
 - A. AYUSH products and services
- II. Works under:
 - A. Ministry of AYUSH

Spices Board of India

Spices Board of India

- I. Functions under:
 - A. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Indian spices exports and quality standards

Medicinal Spices

- I. Includes spices with:
 - A. Therapeutic and health benefits
- II. Examples:
 - A. Turmeric
 - B. Ginger
 - C. Cardamom
 - D. Black pepper

Global Wellness Market

- I. Rising international demand for:
 - A. Herbal medicines
 - B. Natural wellness products
 - C. Traditional healthcare systems

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organizations:** AYUSHEXCIL and Spices Board of India.
- **Agreement:** Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

- **Focus:** AYUSH products and medicinal spices exports.
- **Sector:** Traditional medicine and wellness economy.
- **Importance:** Global branding and export promotion.
- **Benefit:** Rural economy and herbal trade growth.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen quality standards, certification, and international outreach.

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

Answer: (a)

3.ARMY HOSPITAL (R&R) COMMISSIONS MODERN RADIOTHERAPY TECHNOLOGY FOR ADVANCED CANCER CARE



PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **AYUSH:** Traditional systems of medicine in India
- **AYUSHEXCIL:** Export Promotion Council for AYUSH products
- **Spices Board:** Promotes Indian spices exports
- **Medicinal spices:** Turmeric, ginger, pepper etc.
- **Sector:** Wellness and herbal products
- **Goal:** Global export promotion
- **Importance:** Traditional medicine economy

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. AYUSH includes systems such as Ayurveda and Homeopathy.
2. The Spices Board of India functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
3. Medicinal spices are increasingly important in the global wellness market.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Key Objective

- I. Strengthen:
 - A. Advanced cancer treatment infrastructure
- II. Improve:
 - A. Accuracy and effectiveness of radiotherapy procedures

About Radiotherapy

- I. Medical treatment method using:
 - A. High-energy radiation to destroy or control cancer cells

Features of Modern Radiotherapy Technology

- High precision targeting of tumors

- Reduced damage to surrounding healthy tissues
- Faster and more effective treatment delivery
- Improved patient safety and treatment outcomes

Significance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Oncology healthcare capacity in defence medical services
- II. Supports:
 - A. Early and advanced cancer treatment accessibility

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Army Hospital (R&R)

Army Hospital (Research and Referral)

- I. Premier tertiary care medical institution of the:
 - A. Indian Army
- II. Provides:
 - A. Specialized and advanced healthcare services

Cancer Care in India

- I. Cancer is a major:
 - A. Non-communicable disease (NCD) challenge
- II. Requires:
 - A. Early detection
 - B. Timely treatment
 - C. Advanced medical infrastructure

Radiotherapy in Oncology

- I. Commonly used for:
 - A. Treatment of various cancers

- II. Can be combined with:
 - A. Surgery
 - B. Chemotherapy
 - C. Immunotherapy

Importance of Advanced Medical Technology

- I. Improves:
 - A. Treatment precision
 - B. Survival outcomes
 - C. Quality of healthcare delivery

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Institution:** Army Hospital (R&R).
- **Location:** New Delhi.
- **Technology:** Modern radiotherapy system.
- **Sector:** Oncology and advanced healthcare.
- **Focus:** Precision cancer treatment.
- **Importance:** Improved healthcare infrastructure.
- **Way Forward:** Expand advanced cancer care and medical technology access across healthcare institutions.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Radiotherapy:** Radiation-based cancer treatment
- **Institution:** Army Hospital (R&R)
- **Location:** New Delhi
- **Disease focus:** Cancer
- **Benefit:** Precision treatment
- **Healthcare area:** Oncology
- **Goal:** Advanced and accessible cancer care

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Radiotherapy uses high-energy radiation to treat cancer.
2. Advanced radiotherapy systems help reduce damage to healthy tissues.
3. Cancer is categorized among non-communicable diseases.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.EVIDENCE OF ANCIENT WILDFIRES PRESERVED IN COAL REVEALS CLUES TO EARTH'S CLIMATE



Key Discovery

- I. Traces of prehistoric wildfires were identified in:

- A. Coal-bearing geological formations
- II. Evidence includes:
 - A. Charcoal residues and fire-related carbon deposits

Importance of the Study

- I. Helps reconstruct:
 - A. Ancient climate and ecosystem conditions
- II. Provides clues about:
 - A. Oxygen levels in Earth's atmosphere
 - B. Vegetation dynamics
 - C. Fire frequency in prehistoric times

Scientific Significance

- I. Enhances understanding of:
 - A. Long-term climate change processes
- II. Supports:
 - A. Paleoclimate and geological research

Applications

- I. Understanding:
 - A. Earth's carbon cycle
 - B. Environmental evolution
 - C. Climate-fire interactions over time

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Coal Formation

- I. Coal forms from:
 - A. Ancient plant material subjected to heat and pressure over millions of years

Wildfires in Geological History

- I. Wildfires have existed for:
 - A. Hundreds of millions of years
- II. Influenced:
 - A. Ecosystem evolution and atmospheric chemistry

Paleoclimate Studies

- I. Paleoclimate refers to:
 - A. Study of Earth's past climate using geological and fossil evidence

Role of Charcoal in Research

- I. Fossil charcoal acts as:
 - A. Evidence of ancient fire activity
- II. Helps scientists infer:
 - A. Climate and vegetation conditions

Climate and Carbon Cycle

- I. Fires affect:
 - A. Carbon storage and atmospheric composition
- II. Important for understanding:
 - A. Natural climate regulation processes

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Discovery:** Ancient wildfire evidence in coal deposits.
- **Field:** Paleoclimate and geological research.
- **Evidence:** Fossil charcoal and carbon residues.
- **Focus:** Earth's historical climate systems.
- **Importance:** Understanding long-term climate evolution.

- **Scientific area:** Climate–fire interactions.
- **Way Forward:** Expand interdisciplinary research on Earth's ancient environmental history.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Coal:** Formed from ancient plant matter
- **Paleoclimate:** Study of ancient climates
- **Evidence:** Fossil charcoal
- **Wildfires:** Influence ecosystems and atmosphere
- **Importance:** Climate reconstruction
- **Field:** Geology and Earth sciences
- **Goal:** Understand long-term climate patterns

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Coal is formed from ancient plant material over geological timescales.
2. Fossil charcoal can provide evidence of ancient wildfires.
3. Paleoclimate studies help scientists understand Earth's historical climate conditions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT TO LAUNCH PM-AJAY PORTAL AND MOBILE APP



- Mobile-based access to information and services
- Improved coordination among implementing agencies

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Inclusive development and social justice
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Digital governance in welfare delivery systems

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

PM-AJAY Scheme

- I. Umbrella scheme aimed at:
 - A. Economic empowerment of Scheduled Castes
- II. Includes components related to:
 - A. Skill development
 - B. Livelihood support
 - C. Infrastructure development
 - D. Income-generating activities

What is PM-AJAY?

- I. **Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)** is a scheme focused on:
 - A. Socio-economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes

Objectives of the Portal & Mobile App

- I. Enable:
 - A. Digital monitoring and implementation of the scheme
- II. Improve:
 - A. Beneficiary access and service delivery
- III. Strengthen:
 - A. Transparency and accountability

Key Features

- Online beneficiary tracking
- Real-time monitoring of scheme implementation

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

- I. Responsible for:
 - A. Welfare and empowerment of disadvantaged and marginalized communities

Digital Governance

- I. Use of technology to:
 - A. Improve transparency, efficiency, and accessibility of public services

Importance of Welfare Portals

- I. Facilitate:
 - A. Better implementation and monitoring
- II. Reduce:
 - A. Delays and information gaps in welfare schemes

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme:** PM-AJAY.
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- **Tools launched:** Portal and Mobile App.
- **Beneficiaries:** Scheduled Castes.
- **Focus:** Digital governance and welfare delivery.
- **Importance:** Transparency and socio-economic empowerment.
- **Way Forward:** Expand technology-driven inclusive welfare systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PM-AJAY:** Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana
- **Ministry:** Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Target group:** Scheduled Castes
- **Focus:** Economic and social upliftment
- **Approach:** Digital monitoring and governance
- **Tools:** Portal and mobile app

- **Goal:** Inclusive development and transparency

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. PM-AJAY is aimed at the socio-economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes.
2. Digital governance can improve transparency and efficiency in welfare delivery.
3. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment deals with welfare of marginalized communities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1.CCI APPROVES MERGER OF INDOVIDA INDIA WITH AND INTO EPL LIMITED



What is the Deal About?

- I. Indovida India will merge into EPL Limited.
- II. The transaction aims to:
 - A. Improve operational efficiency
 - B. Strengthen business integration
 - C. Expand market capabilities

Role of CCI

- I. Examines mergers and acquisitions to ensure:
 - A. Fair competition in markets
- II. Prevents:

- A. Anti-competitive practices and market dominance

Significance

- I. Reflects:
 - A. Ongoing consolidation and restructuring in the industrial and packaging sector
- II. Supports:
 - A. Business expansion and operational synergies

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Competition Commission of India (CCI)

Competition Commission of India

- I. Statutory body established under:
 - A. Competition Act, 2002
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Preventing anti-competitive practices
 - B. Promoting fair market competition
 - C. Regulating combinations (mergers and acquisitions)

EPL Limited

EPL Limited

- I. Major packaging company involved in:
 - A. Specialty and laminated packaging solutions

Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A)

- I. Corporate restructuring process involving:

- A. Combination of companies or assets
- II. Objectives include:
 - A. Market expansion
 - B. Cost efficiency
 - C. Technology integration

Competition Law in India

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Healthy market competition
 - B. Consumer welfare
 - C. Prevention of monopolistic behavior

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Regulator:** CCI.
- **Companies involved:** IndoVIDA India and EPL Limited.
- **Sector:** Packaging and manufacturing.
- **Type of transaction:** Merger.
- **Focus:** Competition regulation and business integration.
- **Importance:** Market efficiency and fair competition.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen transparent and competitive corporate restructuring practices.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CCI:** Competition Commission of India
- **Law:** Competition Act, 2002
- **Function:** Regulates anti-competitive practices and mergers
- **Transaction type:** Merger and acquisition
- **Sector involved:** Packaging industry
- **Goal:** Fair market competition
- **Importance:** Consumer welfare and efficient markets

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Competition Commission of India was established under the Competition Act, 2002.
2. CCI regulates mergers and acquisitions to maintain fair competition.
3. Mergers may be undertaken to improve operational efficiency and market expansion.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2. THIRD INDIA-NORDIC SUMMIT



Participating Nordic Countries

- Denmark
- Finland
- Iceland
- Norway
- Sweden

Key Areas of Cooperation

- Green and clean technologies
- Renewable energy and sustainability
- Digital innovation and startups
- Blue economy and maritime cooperation
- Arctic research and climate resilience

Importance for India

- I. Supports:
 - A. Sustainable economic growth
 - B. Technology partnerships
 - C. Investment and innovation ecosystems
- II. Enhances:
 - A. India's engagement with Europe and high-tech economies

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Strategic partnerships and multilateral cooperation
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Collaboration in climate-friendly and future-oriented sectors

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Nordic Summit

- I. Platform launched to:
 - A. Deepen engagement between India and Nordic nations
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Innovation-driven and sustainable cooperation

Nordic Countries

- I. Known for:
 - A. Advanced technology
 - B. High human development
 - C. Green economy models
 - D. Innovation ecosystems

Green Transition

- I. Nordic nations are global leaders in:
 - A. Renewable energy
 - B. Sustainable urban planning
 - C. Climate-friendly technologies

Blue Economy

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Sustainable use of ocean and marine resources for economic growth

Arctic Cooperation

- I. Important due to:
 - A. Climate change impacts
 - B. Scientific research
 - C. Emerging shipping and resource considerations

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** Third India–Nordic Summit.
- **Participants:** India and five Nordic countries.
- **Focus:** Green growth and innovation.
- **Key sectors:** Climate, technology, blue economy.
- **Importance:** Strategic and economic cooperation.
- **Approach:** Sustainable and innovation-led partnerships.
- **Way Forward:** Expand collaborative initiatives in clean technology and resilient development.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Nordic countries:** Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
- **Focus:** Sustainability and innovation
- **Key themes:** Green technology and climate action
- **Blue Economy:** Sustainable ocean resource use
- **Arctic relevance:** Climate and strategic research
- **Importance:** India-Europe cooperation
- **Goal:** Future-ready economic partnerships

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Sweden and Norway are Nordic countries.
2. The India–Nordic Summit focuses on innovation and sustainable cooperation.

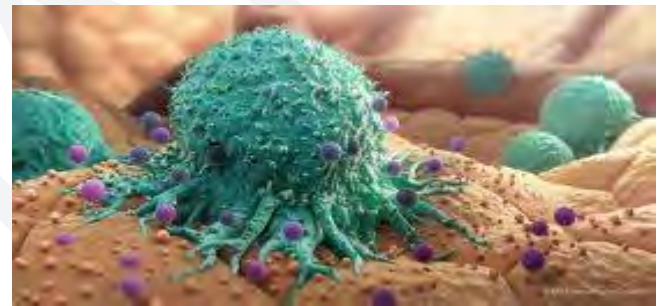
3. The Blue Economy refers to sustainable use of marine and ocean resources.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. "CLEAR" TECHNOLOGY CAN REVOLUTIONIZE PROTEIN IMAGING & FACILITATE DETECTION OF CANCER AND NEUROBIOLOGICAL DISEASES



What is CLEAR Technology?

- I. A modern imaging and analytical technology designed for:
 - A. High-resolution visualization of proteins and biological structures
- II. Helps researchers:
 - A. Study cellular and molecular-level processes more effectively

Key Features

- Enhanced protein imaging capability
- High sensitivity and precision

- Better visualization of disease-related biomarkers
- Potential for early disease detection

Applications

- Cancer diagnostics and research
- Neurobiological and neurological disease studies
- Biomedical and molecular research
- Precision medicine and targeted therapies

Significance

- I. Improves:
 - A. Disease diagnosis and understanding of biological mechanisms
- II. Supports:
 - A. Early detection and advanced healthcare research

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Protein Imaging

- I. Technique used to:
 - A. Observe proteins within cells and tissues
- II. Important for:
 - A. Understanding disease pathways and cellular functions

Cancer Detection

- I. Many cancers are linked with:
 - A. Abnormal protein expression and cellular behavior
- II. Advanced imaging helps:
 - A. Identify biomarkers at early stages

Neurobiological Diseases

- I. Includes disorders affecting:
 - A. Brain and nervous system
- II. Examples:
 - A. Neurodegenerative and neurological disorders

Precision Medicine

- I. Medical approach that:
 - A. Tailors treatment based on individual biological characteristics
- II. Relies heavily on:
 - A. Biomarker detection and molecular diagnostics

Biomedical Innovation

- I. Advanced imaging technologies contribute to:
 - A. Faster diagnosis
 - B. Better treatment planning
 - C. Scientific understanding of diseases

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Technology:** CLEAR.
- **Field:** Protein imaging and biomedical research.
- **Applications:** Cancer and neurobiological disease detection.
- **Focus:** High-resolution molecular imaging.
- **Importance:** Early diagnosis and precision medicine.
- **Sector:** Biotechnology and healthcare innovation.

- **Way Forward:** Expand translational research and clinical adoption of advanced imaging systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CLEAR:** Advanced protein imaging technology
- **Field:** Biomedical imaging
- **Use:** Disease detection and research
- **Targets:** Cancer and neurological diseases
- **Importance:** Biomarker visualization
- **Approach:** Precision medicine
- **Goal:** Early and accurate diagnosis

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Protein imaging techniques help scientists study cellular and molecular processes.
2. Precision medicine involves tailoring treatment based on biological characteristics of individuals.
3. Biomarkers can play an important role in early disease detection.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.INDIA–JAPAN SEMINAR MARKS NEW MOMENTUM IN WORKFORCE COOPERATION



Key Objectives

- I. Promote:
 - A. Skilled workforce exchange and cooperation
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. Employment opportunities for Indian youth in Japan
- III. Enhance:
 - A. Skill development and vocational training partnerships

Focus Areas

- Technical and vocational education
- Language and cultural training
- Mobility of skilled professionals
- Industry-oriented workforce development

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. India's demographic dividend
- II. Helps Japan address:
 - A. Skilled labour shortages and ageing population challenges

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. India–Japan strategic and economic relations
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Global mobility and skill ecosystem integration

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Japan Relations

- I. India and Japan share:
 - A. Strategic and economic partnership
- II. Cooperation areas include:
 - A. Infrastructure
 - B. Technology
 - C. Education
 - D. Defence
 - E. Human resource development

Technical Intern Training Program (TITP)

- I. Framework allowing:
 - A. Indian youth to receive technical training and work exposure in Japan

Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) System

- I. Japan's programme to:
 - A. Address labour shortages through foreign skilled workers

Demographic Dividend

- I. India's large youth population provides:
 - A. Workforce potential for global employment markets

Skill Development

- I. Important for:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Productivity enhancement
 - C. International labour mobility

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Countries involved:** India and Japan.
- **Theme:** Workforce and skill cooperation.
- **Focus:** Skilled mobility and employment.
- **Key sectors:** Vocational training and human resource development.
- **Importance:** Economic and demographic complementarity.
- **Challenge addressed:** Labour shortages and employability.
- **Way Forward:** Expand language training, skill certification, and workforce exchange programmes.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **TITP:** Technical Intern Training Program
- **SSW:** Specified Skilled Worker system
- **Partner countries:** India and Japan
- **Focus:** Skilled workforce mobility
- **Importance:** Employment and economic cooperation
- **Benefit for Japan:** Addresses labour shortages
- **Benefit for India:** Overseas employment opportunities

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Japan's Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) system aims to address labour shortages.
2. India's demographic dividend refers to its large working-age population.
3. Skill development and vocational training can improve international workforce mobility.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. INDIAN AIR FORCE ANNOUNCES ENTRY FOR TECHNICAL BRANCH (OFFICER CADRE) VIA GATE SCORES



Key Highlights

- I. Recruitment for:
 - A. Technical Branch Officer Cadre in IAF
- II. Selection based on:
 - A. Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) scores

Eligibility

- I. Engineering graduates from relevant disciplines.
- II. Candidates must meet:
 - A. Educational
 - B. Age
 - C. Medical standards prescribed by the IAF.

Objectives

- I. Induct technically skilled officers into:
 - A. Aerospace and defence operations
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. Technological and operational capabilities of the Air Force

Significance

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Highly qualified engineers to join defence services
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Merit-based and technology-oriented recruitment

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Air Force (IAF)

Indian Air Force

- I. Air arm of the Indian Armed Forces.
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Air defence
 - B. Aerial warfare
 - C. Strategic operations

- **Importance:** Merit-based technical recruitment.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen technologically advanced defence human resources.

Technical Branch of IAF

- I. Handles:
 - A. Aircraft maintenance
 - B. Engineering systems
 - C. Communication and radar technologies
 - D. Aerospace support systems

GATE Examination

Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering

- I. National-level examination assessing:
 - A. Engineering and science aptitude
- II. Used for:
 - A. Higher education admissions
 - B. PSU and technical recruitment

Importance of Technical Officers

- I. Modern defence systems rely heavily on:
 - A. Advanced engineering and technology
- II. Technical officers ensure:
 - A. Operational readiness and technological efficiency

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organization:** Indian Air Force.
- **Recruitment:** Technical Branch Officer Cadre.
- **Selection basis:** GATE scores.
- **Target group:** Engineering graduates.
- **Focus:** Technology and defence capability.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **IAF:** Indian Air Force
- **Branch:** Technical Branch
- **Exam:** GATE
- **Field:** Engineering and defence technology
- **Role:** Aerospace and technical operations
- **Importance:** Skilled military manpower
- **Goal:** Technology-driven defence preparedness

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. GATE is a national-level examination for engineering and science aptitude assessment.
2. The Technical Branch of the Indian Air Force deals with engineering and technological systems.
3. Modern defence forces increasingly depend on advanced technical expertise.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

PadhAI.ai

1. WATER GOVERNANCE IN RURAL INDIA



- Water pollution
- Poor irrigation efficiency
- Climate change impacts

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Agriculture and rural livelihoods
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Public health and sanitation
- III. Contributes to:
 - A. Sustainable development and food security

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

What is Water Governance?

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Planning, management, regulation, and equitable distribution of water resources
- II. Involves:
 - A. Government institutions
 - B. Local communities
 - C. Panchayats
 - D. Water user groups

Key Objectives

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Safe and adequate water supply
- II. Promote:
 - A. Sustainable water resource management
- III. Strengthen:
 - A. Community participation and local decision-making

Major Challenges

- Groundwater over-extraction
- Uneven rainfall and droughts

Rural Water Scenario in India

- I. Agriculture consumes:
 - A. Major share of freshwater resources
- II. Many rural regions depend heavily on:
 - A. Groundwater for irrigation and drinking water

Key Government Initiatives

Jal Jeevan Mission

- I. Aims to provide:
 - A. Functional household tap connections in rural areas

Atal Bhujal Yojana

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Sustainable groundwater management through community participation

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana

- I. Promotes:

- A. Efficient irrigation and water conservation

Community Participation

- I. Village-level institutions help in:
 - A. Water budgeting
 - B. Conservation planning
 - C. Maintenance of water infrastructure

Water Conservation Measures

- Rainwater harvesting
- Watershed management
- Micro-irrigation techniques
- Rejuvenation of ponds and tanks

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Theme:** Water governance in rural India.
- **Focus:** Sustainable and equitable water management.
- **Major concern:** Groundwater depletion and water scarcity.
- **Key sectors:** Agriculture and drinking water.
- **Approach:** Community participation and local governance.
- **Important schemes:** Jal Jeevan Mission, Atal Bhujal Yojana.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen decentralized water governance and climate-resilient water systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Water governance:** Management and regulation of water resources
- **Key issue:** Groundwater depletion
- **Jal Jeevan Mission:** Rural tap water supply

- **Atal Bhujal Yojana:** Groundwater management
- **PMKSY:** Irrigation efficiency scheme
- **Methods:** Rainwater harvesting and watershed management
- **Goal:** Sustainable rural water security

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Groundwater is an important source of irrigation and drinking water in rural India.
2. Atal Bhujal Yojana focuses on community-based groundwater management.
3. Rainwater harvesting and watershed management help improve water conservation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2. CABINET APPROVES INTEGRATION & CONTINUATION OF FOOD SECURITY SCHEMES UNDER SARTHAK-PDS



What is SARTHAK-PDS?

- I. Umbrella scheme for:
 - A. Strengthening and modernizing the Public Distribution System (PDS)
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Foodgrain distribution efficiency
 - B. Technological reforms
 - C. Support to Fair Price Shops (FPS)

Scheme Components

1. Assistance for Intra-State Foodgrain Movement

- I. Financial assistance to states for:
 - A. Transportation of foodgrains within states
- II. Includes:
 - A. Margin support for Fair Price Shop dealers under the National Food Security Act (NFSA)

2. SMART PDS

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Technology-based reforms in the PDS system

- II. Includes:
 - A. Digitization
 - B. Smart ration management
 - C. Transparency and monitoring systems

Objectives

- I. Improve:
 - A. Efficiency of foodgrain distribution
- II. Reduce:
 - A. Leakages and corruption
- III. Strengthen:
 - A. Food security and beneficiary access

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Welfare of vulnerable populations
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Digital governance and accountability in welfare delivery

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Public Distribution System (PDS)

- I. Government system for:
 - A. Distribution of subsidized foodgrains to eligible households

National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013

National Food Security Act

- I. Legal framework ensuring:
 - A. Food and nutritional security
- II. Covers:
 - A. Priority households and Antyodaya beneficiaries

Fair Price Shops (FPS)

- I. Retail outlets distributing:
 - A. Subsidized foodgrains under PDS

Technology in PDS

- I. Reforms include:
 - A. Aadhaar seeding
 - B. Electronic Point of Sale (e-Pos) devices
 - C. Online supply-chain monitoring
 - D. Digitized ration cards

Importance of Food Security

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Access to affordable food for economically weaker sections
- II. Important for:
 - A. Social welfare and poverty reduction

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Umbrella scheme:** SARTHAK-PDS.
- **Focus:** Food security and PDS modernization.
- **Components:** Foodgrain movement assistance and SMART PDS.
- **Law linked:** NFSA, 2013.
- **Technology:** Digitization and smart monitoring.
- **Importance:** Transparency and efficient welfare delivery.
- **Way Forward:** Expand technology-driven and leak-proof food distribution systems nationwide.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PDS:** Public Distribution System
- **NFSA:** National Food Security Act, 2013
- **FPS:** Fair Price Shops
- **SMART PDS:** Technology-based PDS reforms
- **SARTHAK-PDS:** Umbrella food distribution modernization scheme
- **Goal:** Efficient subsidized food distribution
- **Importance:** Food security and transparency

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The National Food Security Act provides a legal framework for food security in India.
2. SMART PDS focuses on technology-driven reforms in the Public Distribution System.
3. Fair Price Shops distribute subsidized foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. INDIA & CANADA REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO USD 50 BILLION TRADE TARGET; PUSH FOR EARLY CONCLUSION OF CEPA TALKS



Key Highlights

- I. Focus on:
 - A. Expanding bilateral trade and investment cooperation
- II. Commitment towards:
 - A. Faster progress in CEPA negotiations

Areas of Cooperation

- Trade and investment
- Technology and innovation
- Agriculture and food processing
- Clean energy and sustainability
- Education and people-to-people ties

What is CEPA?

- I. Comprehensive trade agreement aimed at:
 - A. Reducing trade barriers
 - B. Enhancing market access
 - C. Promoting investments and economic cooperation

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. India–Canada economic partnership
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Diversified trade and strategic cooperation

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Canada Trade Relations

- I. Bilateral trade includes:
 - A. Agriculture products
 - B. Pharmaceuticals
 - C. Engineering goods
 - D. Energy resources
 - E. Services sector cooperation

Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

- I. Proposed agreement intended to:
 - A. Facilitate trade liberalization and economic integration
- II. Covers:
 - A. Goods
 - B. Services
 - C. Investment
 - D. Intellectual property and regulatory cooperation

Importance of Trade Agreements

- I. Help:
 - A. Increase exports and investments
- II. Improve:
 - A. Economic growth and market opportunities

Strategic Economic Cooperation

- I. India and Canada are exploring collaboration in:
 - A. Critical minerals
 - B. Clean technologies
 - C. Supply chains
 - D. Education and skilled mobility

1. A Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement generally aims to improve trade and investment relations between countries.
2. CEPA negotiations may include provisions related to goods, services, and investments.
3. Bilateral trade agreements can help improve market access and economic cooperation.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Countries involved:** India and Canada.
- **Trade target:** USD 50 billion.
- **Agreement under discussion:** CEPA.
- **Focus:** Trade, investment, and economic cooperation.
- **Key leaders:** Piyush Goyal and Maninder Sidhu.
- **Importance:** Strengthened bilateral economic ties.
- **Way Forward:** Accelerate CEPA negotiations and expand sectoral cooperation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CEPA:** Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
- **Purpose:** Trade and investment liberalization
- **Partner countries:** India and Canada
- **Trade target:** USD 50 billion
- **Areas:** Goods, services, investment
- **Importance:** Economic integration and market access
- **Goal:** Stronger bilateral economic partnership

4.WOMEN REPRESENTATION IN IAS REACHES RECORD 41%; DR. JITENDRA SINGH CALLS IT A REFLECTION OF DEMOCRATISATION OF OPPORTUNITY IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA



PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

Key Highlights

- I. Women now constitute:

- A. Around 41% of IAS recruits in recent selections
- II. Reflects:
 - A. Greater accessibility to higher education and competitive examinations

Importance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Gender diversity in governance and administration
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Inclusive policymaking and leadership representation

Factors Contributing to the Rise

- Improved educational opportunities for women
- Greater social awareness and empowerment
- Expansion of coaching, digital learning, and support systems
- Policy emphasis on women's empowerment

Significance

- I. Indicates:
 - A. Expanding social mobility and equal opportunity
- II. Supports:
 - A. Women-led development and participatory governance

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Administrative Service (IAS)

Indian Administrative Service

- I. Premier civil service of India under:
 - A. All India Services
- II. Officers are responsible for:
 - A. Policy implementation
 - B. Administration
 - C. Governance at district, state, and central levels

UPSC Civil Services Examination

Union Public Service Commission

- I. Conducts:
 - A. Civil Services Examination for recruitment to IAS and other services

Women in Governance

- I. Greater participation of women in administration can:
 - A. Improve representation and inclusivity
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Diversity in decision-making processes

Democratisation of Opportunity

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Expanding access to education, employment, and leadership irrespective of gender or background

Women Empowerment in India

- I. Linked with:

- A. Education
- B. Economic participation
- C. Political and administrative representation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Service:** IAS.
- **Women representation:** Record 41%.
- **Authority quoted:** Dr. Jitendra Singh.
- **Theme:** Gender inclusion in governance.
- **Importance:** Equal opportunity and empowerment.
- **Institution involved:** UPSC.
- **Way Forward:** Continue strengthening educational access, mentorship, and leadership opportunities for women.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **IAS:** Indian Administrative Service
- **Recruiting body:** UPSC
- **Category:** All India Service
- **Theme:** Women empowerment
- **Concept:** Democratisation of opportunity
- **Importance:** Inclusive governance
- **Goal:** Gender-balanced administration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Union Public Service Commission conducts the Civil Services Examination for recruitment to the IAS.
2. The IAS is one of the All India Services.
3. Increased representation of women in governance can improve inclusivity in policymaking.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. INDIAN COAST GUARD CONDUCTS ANTI-SMUGGLING OPERATION OFF MUNDRA COAST IN GUJARAT



Key Highlights

- I. Operation carried out in:
 - A. Coastal waters near Mundra, Gujarat
- II. Objective:
 - A. Prevent illegal smuggling activities through maritime routes

Role of the Indian Coast Guard

- I. Conducts:
 - A. Maritime patrols and surveillance
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Coastal and offshore security
- III. Prevents:
 - A. Smuggling

- B. Illegal trafficking
- C. Maritime crimes

Importance of the Operation

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Maritime law enforcement
- II. Protects:
 - A. National security and coastal economy
- III. Enhances:
 - A. Coordination among maritime security agencies

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Coast Guard (ICG)

Indian Coast Guard

- I. Maritime law enforcement and search-and-rescue force under:
 - A. Ministry of Defence
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Coastal security
 - B. Marine environment protection
 - C. Anti-smuggling operations

Mundra Coast

Mundra

- I. Strategically important coastal region in Gujarat.
- II. Important for:
 - A. Ports
 - B. Maritime trade
 - C. Industrial activities

Smuggling Through Maritime Routes

- I. Illegal maritime activities may involve:
 - A. Narcotics
 - B. Contraband goods
 - C. Weapons
 - D. Illegal trafficking networks

Importance of Coastal Security

- I. India has:
 - A. Long coastline and extensive maritime interests
- II. Coastal security is important for:
 - A. Trade protection
 - B. National defence
 - C. Economic stability

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Agency:** Indian Coast Guard.
- **Operation type:** Anti-smuggling operation.
- **Location:** Off Mundra coast, Gujarat.
- **Focus:** Maritime surveillance and law enforcement.
- **Importance:** Coastal and national security.
- **Threat addressed:** Illegal maritime trafficking.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen integrated coastal surveillance and inter-agency coordination.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **ICG:** Indian Coast Guard
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Defence
- **Functions:** Coastal security and anti-smuggling
- **Location:** Mundra coast, Gujarat
- **Threats:** Contraband and illegal trafficking
- **Importance:** Maritime security

- **Goal:** Safe and secure coastal waters

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Coast Guard functions under the Ministry of Defence.
2. The Indian Coast Guard is involved in anti-smuggling and maritime law enforcement operations.
3. Coastal security is important for protecting maritime trade and national security.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. INDIA'S INSOLVENCY FRAMEWORK



भारतीय दिवाला और शोधन अक्षमता बोर्ड

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India

What is Insolvency?

- I. Insolvency refers to:
 - A. Inability of an individual or company to repay debts on time

Core Objective of India's Insolvency Framework

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Time-bound resolution of stressed assets
- II. Balance interests of:
 - A. Creditors
 - B. Debtors
 - C. Employees
 - D. Investors

Key Law: Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code

- I. Consolidated insolvency laws into a single framework.
- II. Introduced:
 - A. Time-bound Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP)

Key Features

- Creditor-driven resolution process
- Defined timelines for resolution

- Moratorium period during proceedings
- Insolvency professionals and information utilities
- Liquidation process if resolution fails

Importance

- I. Improves:
 - A. Credit culture and financial discipline
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Banking sector and investor confidence
- III. Enhances:
 - A. Ease of doing business

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Institutional Structure

National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)

- I. Adjudicating authority for:
 - A. Corporate insolvency cases

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)

- I. Regulator overseeing:
 - A. Insolvency professionals and insolvency processes

Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP)

- I. Triggered when:
 - A. A corporate debtor defaults on repayment
- II. Objective:
 - A. Resolution before liquidation

Challenges

- Delays in resolution processes
- Capacity constraints in tribunals
- Haircuts and recovery concerns
- Complex litigation

Economic Significance

- I. Efficient insolvency systems help:
 - A. Improve capital allocation
 - B. Reduce non-performing assets (NPAs)
 - C. Promote entrepreneurship and investment

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Law:** Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
- **Regulator:** IBBI.
- **Tribunal:** NCLT.
- **Process:** CIRP.
- **Focus:** Time-bound debt resolution.
- **Importance:** Financial stability and ease of doing business.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen institutional capacity and reduce procedural delays.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **IBC:** Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
- **NCLT:** National Company Law Tribunal
- **IBBI:** Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
- **CIRP:** Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process
- **Objective:** Time-bound insolvency resolution
- **Benefit:** Better credit discipline
- **Challenge:** Delays and litigation

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code was enacted in 2016.
2. The National Company Law Tribunal adjudicates corporate insolvency cases in India.
3. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India regulates insolvency professionals and processes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.SPORTS MINISTRY TO ENGAGE IT CONSULTANTS IN NSF'S UNDER NATIONAL SPORTS DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM FOR BETTER SPORTS GOVERNANCE & CWG 2030 PREPAREDNESS



Key Objectives

- I. Improve:
 - A. Digital governance in sports administration
- II. Enhance:
 - A. Data-driven athlete management and performance monitoring
- III. Strengthen:
 - A. Transparency and accountability in National Sports Federations

Role of IT Consultants

- I. Support NSFs in:
 - A. Digital infrastructure development
 - B. Data management systems
 - C. Athlete tracking and analytics
 - D. Event and performance management

What is NSDE?

- I. National Sports Digital Ecosystem is an initiative aimed at:
 - A. Integrating technology into sports governance and athlete development systems

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Better planning for international sporting events
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Professional and technology-enabled sports administration

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

National Sports Federations (NSFs)

National Sports Federations

- I. Bodies responsible for:
 - A. Governance and promotion of individual sports disciplines in India

Digital Governance in Sports

- I. Includes:
 - A. Athlete databases
 - B. Performance analytics
 - C. Transparent selection systems
 - D. Digital event management

Commonwealth Games (CWG)

Commonwealth Games

- I. International sporting event involving:
 - A. Commonwealth nations
- II. Important for:
 - A. Athlete development and international sporting competitiveness

Technology in Sports Management

- I. Helps improve:
 - A. Training and analytics
 - B. Governance efficiency
 - C. Talent identification
 - D. Injury management and planning

Sports Governance Challenges

- Transparency and accountability issues
- Data management gaps

- Need for modernized administrative systems

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Ministry involved:** Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- **Initiative:** National Sports Digital Ecosystem (NSDE).
- **Focus:** IT integration in NSFs.
- **Goal:** Better sports governance and CWG 2030 preparedness.
- **Approach:** Technology-driven sports administration.
- **Importance:** Transparency and athlete performance management.
- **Way Forward:** Expand digital ecosystems across all sports institutions and federations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **NSFs:** National Sports Federations
- **NSDE:** National Sports Digital Ecosystem
- **Focus:** Digital sports governance
- **Technology use:** Analytics and athlete management
- **Target:** CWG 2030 preparedness
- **Importance:** Transparency and efficiency
- **Goal:** Modernized sports administration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. National Sports Federations are responsible for governance of sports disciplines in India.

2. Digital governance in sports can improve transparency and athlete management.
3. Sports analytics and data systems can support athlete performance monitoring.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. "PRESERVATION OF PARLIAMENTARY LEGACY IS KEY TO STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC CONSCIOUSNESS": LOK SABHA SPEAKER



Key Message

- I. Parliamentary legacy reflects:
 - A. Evolution of democratic governance in India
- II. Preserving legislative history helps:

- A. Educate future generations about democratic institutions and constitutional functioning

Focus Areas

- Documentation and archiving of parliamentary proceedings
- Public awareness of democratic traditions
- Preservation of institutional memory and constitutional heritage
- Promotion of civic education and democratic participation

Importance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Democratic values and institutional continuity
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Citizen engagement with parliamentary democracy

Significance

- I. Reinforces:
 - A. Transparency, accountability, and constitutional governance
- II. Preserves:
 - A. Historical records of policymaking and national debates

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Lok Sabha

Lok Sabha

- I. Lower House of the Parliament of India.
- II. Represents:
 - A. Directly elected representatives of the people

Role of the Lok Sabha Speaker

Om Birla

- I. Presides over:
 - A. Proceedings of the Lok Sabha
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Orderly conduct and parliamentary procedures

Parliamentary Legacy

- I. Includes:
 - A. Parliamentary debates
 - B. Committee reports
 - C. Constitutional discussions
 - D. Legislative records and archives

Democratic Consciousness

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Public understanding and awareness of democratic values, institutions, and responsibilities

Importance of Institutional Memory

- I. Helps:
 - A. Preserve continuity in governance
- II. Provides:
 - A. Historical insights into lawmaking and public policy evolution

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Speaker:** Om Birla.
- **Institution:** Lok Sabha.
- **Theme:** Preservation of parliamentary legacy.
- **Focus:** Democratic awareness and constitutional values.
- **Importance:** Institutional continuity and civic education.

- **Approach:** Archiving and public engagement.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen preservation of parliamentary records and promote democratic literacy.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Lok Sabha:** Lower House of Parliament
- **Speaker:** Presiding officer of Lok Sabha
- **Parliamentary legacy:** Legislative records and traditions
- **Democratic consciousness:** Awareness of democratic values
- **Importance:** Constitutional governance
- **Focus:** Civic education and institutional memory
- **Goal:** Stronger democratic culture

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Lok Sabha is the directly elected lower house of the Indian Parliament.
2. The Speaker presides over the proceedings of the Lok Sabha.
3. Parliamentary archives and legislative records contribute to preservation of democratic and constitutional heritage.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4.SHRI MURLIDHAR MOHOL CHAIRS PROGRAMME ON PROMOTING CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN SUGAR SECTOR THROUGH MULTI-STATE COOPERATIVE SOCIETY AT VAMNICOM, PUNE



Key Objectives

- I. Promote:
 - A. Circular economy practices in the sugar sector
- II. Encourage:
 - A. Efficient utilization of sugarcane by-products
- III. Strengthen:
 - A. Cooperative-based economic models

What is Circular Economy?

- I. Economic model focused on:
 - A. Reuse
 - B. Recycling
 - C. Resource efficiency
 - D. Waste minimization

Role of the Sugar Sector

- I. Sugar industry generates by-products such as:
 - A. Molasses
 - B. Bagasse
 - C. Press mud
- II. These can be used for:
 - A. Ethanol production
 - B. Bioenergy generation
 - C. Organic fertilizers and industrial products

Importance of Multi-State Cooperative Society

- I. Facilitates:
 - A. Collaboration among cooperatives across states
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Shared infrastructure and market linkages

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

VAMNICOM

Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management

- I. Premier institution for:
 - A. Cooperative management education and training

Circular Economy in Agriculture

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Sustainable production and waste reduction
- II. Supports:
 - A. Green growth and environmental sustainability

Sugar Industry in India

- I. India is among the world's largest:
 - A. Sugar producers
- II. Sector is important for:
 - A. Rural economy
 - B. Employment
 - C. Cooperative movements

Ethanol and Bioenergy

- I. Ethanol blending supports:
 - A. Energy security and reduction of fossil fuel dependence
- II. Bagasse-based power generation contributes to:
 - A. Renewable energy production

Cooperative Model

- I. Cooperatives help:
 - A. Improve farmer participation and collective economic benefits

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Minister:** Murlidhar Mohol.
- **Institution:** VAMNICOM, Pune.
- **Theme:** Circular economy in the sugar sector.
- **Approach:** Multi-State Cooperative Society.
- **Focus:** Sustainability and resource efficiency.
- **Importance:** Bioenergy, ethanol, and rural economy support.
- **Way Forward:** Expand cooperative-driven circular economy models across agro-industries.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Circular economy:** Reuse and resource efficiency model
- **Sugar by-products:** Molasses, bagasse, press mud
- **Ethanol:** Biofuel produced from sugar industry by-products
- **Bagasse:** Used for bioenergy generation
- **VAMNICOM:** Cooperative management institute in Pune
- **Sector importance:** Rural livelihoods and renewable energy
- **Goal:** Sustainable agro-industrial development

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Bagasse is a by-product of the sugar industry that can be used for bioenergy generation.
2. A circular economy focuses on resource efficiency and waste reduction.
3. Ethanol blending can contribute to reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.CENTRE ACCELERATES KHARIF PREPAREDNESS; UNION

AGRICULTURE MINISTER SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN ADDRESSES PRESS CONFERENCE



Key Focus Areas

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Adequate supply of seeds, fertilizers, and agricultural inputs
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. Crop planning and monsoon preparedness
- III. Support:
 - A. Farmers through timely policy and logistical measures

About Kharif Crops

- I. Crops sown during:
 - A. Southwest monsoon season
- II. Harvested in:
 - A. Autumn months
- III. Major Kharif crops include:
 - A. Rice
 - B. Maize
 - C. Cotton
 - D. Soybean
 - E. Pulses

Government Measures

- Monitoring fertilizer availability

- Promoting climate-resilient agriculture
- Strengthening procurement and extension services
- Supporting irrigation and water management efforts

- Climate variability and erratic rainfall
- Rising input costs
- Water stress and soil degradation
- Pest and disease risks

Importance

- I. Kharif season is critical for:
 - A. Food security
 - B. Rural livelihoods
 - C. Agricultural growth

Need for Preparedness

- I. Timely planning helps:
 - A. Reduce crop losses
 - B. Improve productivity
 - C. Ensure stable food supplies

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Kharif Season

- I. Begins with:
 - A. Arrival of southwest monsoon (June–July)
- II. Highly dependent on:
 - A. Rainfall patterns and monsoon performance

Agriculture in India

- I. Agriculture remains a major source of:
 - A. Employment and rural income
- II. Important for:
 - A. Food and nutritional security

Role of Monsoon

Southwest Monsoon

- I. Provides:
 - A. Majority of annual rainfall in India
- II. Directly influences:
 - A. Agricultural output and water availability

Challenges

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Minister:** Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
- **Focus:** Kharif preparedness.
- **Key concerns:** Seeds, fertilizers, and monsoon readiness.
- **Season:** Southwest monsoon cropping cycle.
- **Importance:** Food security and rural economy.
- **Approach:** Climate-resilient and farmer-centric measures.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen sustainable agriculture and resilient farming systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Kharif crops:** Monsoon-sown crops
- **Examples:** Rice, maize, cotton, soybean
- **Season:** June–October
- **Dependency:** Southwest monsoon
- **Importance:** Food production and livelihoods
- **Challenge:** Climate variability
- **Goal:** Agricultural resilience and productivity

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Kharif crops are generally sown during the southwest monsoon season.
2. Rice and cotton are examples of Kharif crops.
3. The southwest monsoon plays a major role in India's agricultural production.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

1. TEAM INDIA SHINES AT TAIPEI CAPITAL CUP 2026, WINS TWO SILVER MEDALS & THREE MERIT AWARDS



Key Achievements

- I. India won:
 - A. 2 Silver Medals
 - B. 3 Merit Awards
- II. Competitions focused on:
 - A. Advanced and industry-relevant skill domains

Focus Areas

- Emerging technologies
- Vocational and technical skills
- Industry-oriented innovation and applications

Importance

- I. Demonstrates:
 - A. India's improving global competitiveness in skilled workforce development
- II. Encourages:

- A. Youth participation in skill-based careers and innovation ecosystems

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Skill India and workforce development objectives
- II. Enhances:
 - A. International recognition of Indian talent and technical expertise

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Taipei Capital Cup

Taipei Capital Cup 2026

- I. International skills competition showcasing:
 - A. Vocational excellence and technical innovation
- II. Provides a platform for:
 - A. Young professionals and students to compete globally

Skill Development in India

Skill India Mission

- I. National initiative aimed at:
 - A. Enhancing employability and vocational training

Importance of Vocational Skills

- I. Industry-driven skills are important for:
 - A. Employment generation
 - B. Economic productivity
 - C. Technological advancement

Emerging Technologies

- I. Includes areas such as:
 - A. Automation
 - B. Digital manufacturing
 - C. AI-enabled applications
 - D. Advanced technical trades

Global Skill Competitions

- I. Help:
 - A. Benchmark workforce capabilities internationally
- II. Promote:
 - A. Innovation, technical excellence, and collaboration

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Event:** Taipei Capital Cup 2026.
- **Country:** India.
- **Achievement:** Two silver medals and three merit awards.
- **Focus:** Emerging and industry-driven skills.
- **Importance:** Global recognition of Indian talent.
- **Linked initiative:** Skill India Mission.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen vocational education, innovation ecosystems, and global skill partnerships.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Taipei Capital Cup:** International skills competition
- **Theme:** Vocational and technical excellence
- **India's achievement:** 2 silver medals and 3 merit awards
- **Skill India Mission:** Workforce development initiative

- **Focus:** Industry-oriented skills
- **Importance:** Employability and innovation
- **Goal:** Globally competitive skilled workforce

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Vocational and technical skills are important for improving employability and industrial productivity.
2. International skill competitions help benchmark workforce capabilities globally.
3. Skill India Mission aims to strengthen workforce development and employability in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2.INDIA UNVEILS PORT PERFORMANCE INDEX & MARITIME DIGITAL REFORMS TO BOOST GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS



Key Objectives

- I. Improve:
 - A. Operational efficiency of ports
- II. Enhance:
 - A. Transparency and digital governance in maritime operations
- III. Strengthen:
 - A. India's position in global shipping and logistics networks

What is the Port Performance Index?

- I. A performance evaluation framework measuring:
 - A. Port efficiency
 - B. Cargo handling
 - C. Turnaround time
 - D. Operational productivity

Digital Maritime Reforms

- I. Adoption of:

- A. Digital platforms and smart port systems
- II. Focus areas include:
 - A. Real-time cargo tracking
 - B. Paperless documentation
 - C. Integrated logistics systems
 - D. Port community systems and automation

Importance

- I. Reduces:
 - A. Logistics costs and delays
- II. Improves:
 - A. Trade facilitation and supply-chain efficiency
- III. Enhances:
 - A. Ease of doing business and export competitiveness

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Ports in India

- I. India has:
 - A. Major and non-major ports along its extensive coastline
- II. Ports are critical for:
 - A. International trade and economic growth

Maritime Sector Importance

- I. Handles:
 - A. Majority of India's merchandise trade by volume
- II. Supports:
 - A. Energy security
 - B. Manufacturing
 - C. Export-import activities

Digitalization in Logistics

- I. Helps:
 - A. Improve efficiency and transparency
- II. Reduces:
 - A. Manual processes and transaction delays

Sagarmala Programme

Sagarmala Programme

- I. Initiative aimed at:
 - A. Port-led development and modernization of maritime infrastructure

Global Competitiveness

- I. Efficient ports contribute to:
 - A. Faster trade movement
 - B. Lower logistics costs
 - C. Better integration into global supply chains

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Initiative:** Port Performance Index.
- **Sector:** Maritime and logistics.
- **Focus:** Digital reforms and operational efficiency.
- **Objective:** Improve global competitiveness.
- **Technology:** Smart and paperless port systems.
- **Linked initiative:** Sagarmala Programme.
- **Way Forward:** Expand integrated digital maritime infrastructure and smart logistics systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Port Performance Index:** Measures efficiency of ports
- **Sector:** Maritime logistics
- **Digital reforms:** Automation and paperless systems
- **Sagarmala:** Port-led development initiative
- **Importance:** Trade and logistics competitiveness
- **Benefit:** Reduced turnaround time and logistics cost
- **Goal:** Globally competitive maritime infrastructure

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Efficient ports help improve trade competitiveness and supply-chain efficiency.
2. Digital maritime reforms can reduce logistics delays and improve transparency.
3. Sagarmala Programme focuses on port-led development in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. LIGHT-POWERED NANO CATALYST OFFERS SUSTAINABLE, AFFORDABLE PATH FOR MANUFACTURING MEDICINES & CHEMICALS



What is a Nano Catalyst?

- I. A catalyst operating at the:
 - A. Nanometer scale to accelerate chemical reactions efficiently
- II. Nano catalysts offer:
 - A. High surface area
 - B. Improved reaction efficiency
 - C. Reduced material usage

Key Features of the Technology

- I. Powered by:
 - A. Light energy instead of energy-intensive conventional methods
- II. Enables:
 - A. Cleaner and energy-efficient chemical synthesis
- III. Reduces:
 - A. Production cost and environmental impact

Applications

- Pharmaceutical manufacturing
- Fine chemicals production
- Sustainable industrial chemistry
- Environment-friendly chemical processes

Importance

- I. Promotes:
 - A. Green and sustainable manufacturing
- II. Supports:
 - A. Low-carbon industrial technologies and innovation

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Catalysts

- I. Substances that:
 - A. Speed up chemical reactions without being consumed

Nanotechnology

- I. Involves:
 - A. Manipulation of materials at nanoscale dimensions
- II. Used in:
 - A. Medicine
 - B. Electronics
 - C. Energy
 - D. Advanced manufacturing

Green Chemistry

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Reducing hazardous substances and waste in chemical processes
- II. Encourages:

- A. Sustainable and eco-friendly industrial production

Photocatalysis

- I. Process where:
- A. Light energy activates catalysts to drive chemical reactions
- II. Helps reduce:
- A. Energy consumption and pollution

Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

- I. Requires:
- A. Efficient and precise chemical synthesis processes
- II. Sustainable technologies can:
- A. Lower production costs and environmental burden

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Innovation:** Light-powered nano catalyst.
- **Field:** Nanotechnology and green chemistry.
- **Applications:** Medicines and chemical manufacturing.
- **Energy source:** Light-driven reactions.
- **Importance:** Sustainable and affordable production.
- **Scientific focus:** Photocatalysis and nano engineering.
- **Way Forward:** Scale up green nanotechnology for industrial and pharmaceutical applications.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Nano catalyst:** Catalyst at nanoscale dimensions
- **Photocatalysis:** Light-driven catalytic reactions
- **Green chemistry:** Eco-friendly chemical processes
- **Application:** Pharmaceutical and chemical industries
- **Benefit:** Lower energy use and pollution
- **Technology area:** Nanotechnology
- **Goal:** Sustainable industrial manufacturing

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Catalysts accelerate chemical reactions without being consumed in the process.
2. Photocatalysis involves the use of light energy to drive chemical reactions.
3. Green chemistry aims to reduce hazardous waste and improve sustainability in industrial processes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

4. PENSION ADALAT EMERGES AS RELIABLE PLATFORM FOR REDRESSAL OF LONG-PENDING GRIEVANCES



What is Pension Adalat?

- I. A special grievance redressal platform aimed at:
 - A. Resolving pension-related issues and disputes
- II. Provides:
 - A. Direct interaction between pensioners and concerned authorities

Key Objectives

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Speedy disposal of pending pension cases
- II. Improve:
 - A. Transparency and accountability in pension administration
- III. Facilitate:
 - A. Better coordination among departments and pension authorities

Issues Addressed

- Delay in pension disbursement
- Revision and calculation disputes

- Family pension matters
- Documentation and processing delays

Importance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Ease of living for pensioners
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Trust in public service delivery systems

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Pension System in India

- I. Pension provides:
 - A. Financial security to retired government employees and eligible beneficiaries

Grievance Redressal Mechanism

- I. Essential for:
 - A. Efficient public administration and citizen satisfaction
- II. Helps:
 - A. Resolve service-related disputes in a time-bound manner

Digital Governance and Pension Reforms

- I. Government has introduced:
 - A. Online pension portals
 - B. Digital life certificates
 - C. Integrated pension management systems

Importance of Pension Welfare

- I. Pensioners represent:

- A. A significant section of senior citizens dependent on timely benefits
- II. Efficient pension systems contribute to:
 - A. Social security and welfare

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Initiative:** Pension Adalat.
- **Purpose:** Pension grievance redressal.
- **Focus:** Long-pending pension cases.
- **Beneficiaries:** Pensioners and retirees.
- **Approach:** Citizen-centric governance.
- **Importance:** Transparency and timely service delivery.
- **Way Forward:** Expand digital pension governance and strengthen grievance resolution systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Pension Adalat:** Pension grievance resolution platform
- **Focus:** Timely redressal of pension issues
- **Beneficiaries:** Retired employees and pensioners
- **Common issues:** Delays and pension calculation disputes
- **Approach:** Citizen-centric administration
- **Importance:** Social security and welfare
- **Goal:** Efficient and transparent pension services

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Pension grievance redressal mechanisms help improve transparency and accountability in public administration.
2. Digital pension systems can help reduce delays in pension processing and service delivery.
3. Pension systems contribute to social security for retired employees.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5.RAIPUR'S RAINWATER REVOLUTION: HOW COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IS STRENGTHENING URBAN WATER SECURITY IN CHHATTISGARH



Key Focus

- I. Promote:
 - A. Rainwater harvesting and water conservation in urban areas
- II. Encourage:
 - A. Active community participation in water management

Major Features

- Rooftop rainwater harvesting systems
- Groundwater recharge initiatives
- Public awareness campaigns
- Citizen-government collaboration in water conservation

Importance

- I. Helps address:
 - A. Urban water scarcity and groundwater depletion
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Sustainable urban development and climate resilience

Significance

- I. Demonstrates:
 - A. Role of decentralized and participatory governance in urban resource management
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Replication of community-driven water conservation models in other cities

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Rainwater Harvesting

- I. Technique used for:
 - A. Collecting and storing rainwater for future use or groundwater recharge

Urban Water Security

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Reliable and sustainable availability of water in cities
- II. Challenges include:
 - A. Rapid urbanization
 - B. Groundwater depletion
 - C. Pollution and climate variability

Community Participation

- I. Involves:
 - A. Citizens, local bodies, and civil society in planning and implementation
- II. Strengthens:
 - A. Accountability and sustainability of conservation efforts

Groundwater Recharge

- I. Process of:
 - A. Replenishing underground water reserves
- II. Important for:
 - A. Long-term water availability and drought resilience

Climate Resilience

- I. Water conservation helps cities:
 - A. Adapt to irregular rainfall and extreme weather conditions

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **City:** Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- **Theme:** Urban water security.
- **Method:** Rainwater harvesting and community participation.
- **Focus:** Groundwater recharge and sustainability.
- **Importance:** Climate resilience and water conservation.
- **Approach:** Participatory urban governance.
- **Way Forward:** Scale up decentralized rainwater management systems across urban India.

3. Community participation can improve sustainability of urban water management initiatives.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Rainwater harvesting:** Collection and storage of rainwater
- **Goal:** Water conservation and recharge
- **Urban challenge:** Water scarcity and groundwater depletion
- **Key factor:** Community participation
- **Benefit:** Climate resilience and sustainable development
- **Location:** Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- **Approach:** Decentralized water governance

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC

MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Rainwater harvesting can help recharge groundwater reserves.
2. Urban water security is influenced by factors such as urbanization and climate variability.

1. PM SVANidhi: Advancing Financial Inclusion for Street Vendors



Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

What is PM SVANidhi?

- **PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)** was launched in **June 2020** by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- It is a **Central Sector Scheme** designed to provide affordable working capital loans to street vendors.

Objectives

- I. Provide:
 - A. Collateral-free working capital loans
- II. Promote:
 - A. Digital transactions
- III. Encourage:
 - A. Timely repayment and credit discipline
- IV. Facilitate:
 - A. Financial inclusion of informal-sector workers

Key Features

Collateral-Free Loans

- First loan up to **₹10,000**
- Second loan up to **₹20,000**

- Third loan up to **₹50,000** (for eligible beneficiaries with good repayment records)

Interest Subsidy

- Interest subsidy of **7% per annum** on timely repayment.

Digital Transaction Incentives

- Cashback incentives for adopting digital payment platforms.

Credit Progression

- Vendors who repay on time become eligible for higher loan amounts.

Beneficiaries

- I. Street vendors engaged in:
 - A. Vending fruits and vegetables
 - B. Street food
 - C. Small retail trade
 - D. Mobile vending and other informal urban businesses

SIGNIFICANCE

Financial Inclusion

- I. Brings previously unbanked vendors into:
 - A. Banking networks
 - B. Digital payment systems
 - C. Formal credit channels

Reduction in Informal Borrowing

- I. Helps vendors avoid:
 - A. High-interest informal moneylenders

Digital Empowerment

- I. Encourages:
 - A. UPI transactions
 - B. QR-code payments
 - C. Digital financial literacy

Urban Livelihood Security

- I. Supports:
 - A. Self-employment
 - B. Micro-enterprises
 - C. Income generation in urban areas

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Nodal Ministry

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

- Responsible for implementation and monitoring of the scheme.

Role of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)

- Identification of eligible vendors
- Facilitation of loan applications
- Awareness and outreach activities

Financial Institutions Involved

- Scheduled Commercial Banks
- Regional Rural Banks
- Small Finance Banks
- Microfinance Institutions
- NBFCs

CHALLENGES

- Identification of all eligible vendors

- Digital literacy gaps
- Documentation-related hurdles
- Awareness among beneficiaries in some urban areas

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme:** PM SVANidhi
- **Launch:** June 2020
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- **Nature:** Central Sector Scheme
- **Target Group:** Street Vendors
- **Benefits:** Credit access, digital payments, financial inclusion
- **Goal:** Self-reliant and financially empowered urban informal workforce

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Full Form:** PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi
- **Launch Year:** 2020
- **Type:** Central Sector Scheme
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- **Loan Type:** Collateral-free working capital loan
- **Interest Subsidy:** 7% on timely repayment
- **Focus:** Financial inclusion and digital empowerment

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding PM SVANidhi:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme launched in 2020.

2. It provides collateral-free working capital loans to street vendors.
3. Beneficiaries are incentivized to adopt digital transactions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

2. GOVERNMENT TEMPORARILY EXEMPTS CUSTOMS DUTY ON COTTON IMPORTS FROM 1 JUNE TO 31 OCTOBER 2026



Key Decision

- I. Customs duty on cotton imports has been waived for a limited period:
 - A. **1 June 2026 – 31 October 2026**
- II. The exemption is intended to address:
 - A. Domestic supply constraints

- B. Rising input costs for textile manufacturers

Objectives

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Adequate supply of raw cotton
- II. Support:
 - A. Textile and garment manufacturing
- III. Maintain:
 - A. Competitiveness of Indian textile exports
- IV. Balance:
 - A. Farmer welfare and industry requirements

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Cotton in India

Cotton

- I. Cotton is one of India's most important commercial crops.
- II. Major cotton-producing states include:
 - A. Gujarat
 - B. Maharashtra
 - C. Telangana
 - D. Punjab
 - E. Haryana

Importance of the Textile Sector

- I. The textile industry is among India's largest:
 - A. Employment-generating sectors
 - B. Export-oriented industries
- II. Supports:
 - A. Millions of farmers
 - B. Spinners
 - C. Weavers
 - D. Garment manufacturers

Customs Duty

- I. Customs duty is a tax imposed on imported goods.
- II. Temporary exemption can:
 - A. Reduce import costs
 - B. Increase domestic availability
 - C. Ease pressure on industries dependent on imported raw materials

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MOVE

For the Textile Industry

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Availability of quality cotton
- II. Reduces:
 - A. Input costs
- III. Improves:
 - A. Export competitiveness

For Consumers

- I. Helps moderate:
 - A. Price increases in textile products

For the Economy

- I. Supports:
 - A. Manufacturing growth
 - B. Export performance
 - C. Employment generation

For Farmers

- I. Government has emphasized maintaining a balance between:
 - A. Fair remuneration for cotton growers
 - B. Raw material needs of the textile industry

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES

- I. Concerns among farmers regarding:
 - A. Impact on domestic cotton prices
- II. Need to ensure:
 - A. Adequate market support for cotton producers
- III. Monitoring of:
 - A. Global cotton price fluctuations

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Decision:** Customs duty exemption on cotton imports.
- **Period:** 1 June–31 October 2026.
- **Objective:** Support textile industry and ensure cotton availability.
- **Sector affected:** Cotton and textiles.
- **Benefit:** Lower input costs and improved competitiveness.
- **Challenge:** Balancing industry needs with farmer interests.
- **Approach:** Temporary and calibrated policy intervention.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Commodity:** Cotton
- **Measure:** Customs duty exemption
- **Duration:** June–October 2026
- **Beneficiaries:** Textile and garment industry
- **Major producing states:** Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana
- **Importance:** Raw material for textiles
- **Goal:** Supply stability and export competitiveness

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding cotton and the textile sector in India:

1. Cotton is an important commercial crop and a key raw material for the textile industry.
2. Customs duty exemption on imports can reduce input costs for domestic industries.
3. The textile sector is a significant source of employment and exports 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: (d)

3.ARCELORMITTAL NIPPON STEEL INDIA SECURES FIRST-EVER STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLAN APPROVAL UNDER PM-SETU; ANDHRA PRADESH EMERGES AS PIONEER OF INDUSTRY-LED ITI TRANSFORMATION



Key Highlights

- I. First Strategic Investment Plan approved under PM-SETU.
- II. Industry participation in vocational education is being strengthened.
- III. Focus on:
 - A. Modernizing ITIs
 - B. Industry-relevant curricula
 - C. Employability enhancement
 - D. Advanced manufacturing skills

Objectives of the Initiative

- I. Bridge the gap between:
 - A. Industry requirements and workforce skills
- II. Improve:
 - A. Quality of vocational education
- III. Promote:
 - A. Industry-academia collaboration
- IV. Enhance:
 - A. Employment opportunities for youth

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

PM-SETU

PM-SETU

- I. A government initiative aimed at strengthening:
 - A. Skill ecosystems
 - B. Industry participation in vocational education
 - C. Workforce readiness for future industries
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Strategic investments by industry partners in skill development infrastructure

Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)

Industrial Training Institutes

- I. Provide:
 - A. Vocational and technical training
- II. Focus on:
 - A. Employable skills for various industrial sectors

Industry-Led ITI Transformation

- I. Involves:
 - A. Upgrading training infrastructure
 - B. Revising curricula according to industry needs
 - C. Introducing modern technologies and equipment
 - D. Facilitating apprenticeships and placements

Role of Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh

- I. Emerging as a model for:
 - A. Industry-government collaboration in skill development
- II. Demonstrates:
 - A. Effective integration of vocational education with industrial growth

SIGNIFICANCE

For Skill Development

- I. Creates:
 - A. Job-ready workforce
- II. Improves:
 - A. Technical competencies

For Industry

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Availability of skilled manpower
- II. Reduces:
 - A. Skill shortages in advanced manufacturing sectors

For Youth

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Employability
 - B. Career opportunities
 - C. Industry exposure

For the Economy

- I. Supports:
 - A. Manufacturing growth
 - B. Industrial competitiveness
 - C. Human capital development

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Company:** ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India.
- **Initiative:** PM-SETU.
- **Achievement:** First Strategic Investment Plan approval.
- **State:** Andhra Pradesh.
- **Focus:** Industry-led ITI modernization.
- **Goal:** Skilled workforce and improved employability.
- **Importance:** Aligning vocational education with industry demand.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PM-SETU:** Skill ecosystem strengthening initiative.
- **ITI:** Industrial Training Institute.
- **Approach:** Industry-led vocational training.
- **Focus:** Employability and technical skills.
- **State Highlight:** Andhra Pradesh.
- **Sector:** Manufacturing and workforce development.
- **Benefit:** Industry-ready skilled manpower.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) primarily provide vocational and technical education.
2. Industry-led ITI transformation seeks to align training programs with market and industrial requirements.

3. Strong industry participation in skill development can improve employability outcomes.

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: (d)

4. 'KHET BACHAO ABHIYAN' TO BE CARRIED OUT ACROSS THE COUNTRY FROM JUNE 1 TO JUNE 30



Objectives of the Campaign

- I. Create awareness among farmers regarding:
 - A. Pest and disease management
 - B. Balanced use of fertilizers
 - C. Soil health management
 - D. Sustainable agricultural practices
- II. Encourage:
 - A. Timely field monitoring
 - B. Integrated crop protection measures

Key Activities

- Farmer awareness programmes
- Field demonstrations
- Training on crop protection
- Dissemination of scientific advisories
- Promotion of Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Expected Outcomes

- Reduction in crop losses
- Improved farm productivity
- Better soil and crop health
- Increased adoption of scientific farming techniques

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Integrated Pest Management

- I. An eco-friendly approach to pest control that combines:
 - A. Biological methods
 - B. Cultural practices
 - C. Mechanical measures
 - D. Judicious use of pesticides

Importance of Crop Protection

- I. Protects:
 - A. Agricultural yields
 - B. Farmer incomes
 - C. National food security
- II. Helps prevent:
 - A. Pest outbreaks
 - B. Disease spread
 - C. Excessive pesticide dependence

Balanced Fertiliser Use

- I. Promotes:
 - A. Efficient nutrient management
- II. Prevents:
 - A. Soil degradation
 - B. Environmental pollution

Link with Sustainable Agriculture

- I. Supports:
 - A. Long-term productivity
 - B. Resource conservation
 - C. Climate-resilient farming systems

SIGNIFICANCE

For Farmers

- I. Access to:
 - A. Scientific advisories
 - B. Improved crop management techniques
- II. Reduction in:
 - A. Production risks and losses

For Agriculture

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Crop productivity
 - B. Resource-use efficiency

For Food Security

- I. Helps maintain:
 - A. Stable agricultural production
- II. Supports:
 - A. National food supply chains

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Campaign:** Khet Bachao Abhiyan.
- **Duration:** 1 June – 30 June.
- **Coverage:** Nationwide.
- **Focus:** Crop protection and farmer awareness.
- **Approach:** Scientific and sustainable farming practices.
- **Importance:** Higher productivity and reduced crop losses.
- **Goal:** Strengthening agricultural resilience and food security.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Khet Bachao Abhiyan:** Nationwide crop protection campaign.
- **Duration:** June 1–30.
- **Focus:** Pest and disease management.
- **IPM:** Integrated Pest Management.
- **Objective:** Reduce crop losses and improve productivity.
- **Related Theme:** Sustainable agriculture.
- **Benefit:** Enhanced farm resilience and food security.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) emphasizes the use of multiple pest-control methods rather than sole dependence on chemical pesticides.
2. Balanced fertilizer use contributes to soil health and sustainable agriculture.
3. Effective crop protection measures can improve agricultural productivity and food security.

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: (d)

5.VICE ADMIRAL SANJAY VATSAYAN TAKES OVER AS FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING-IN-CHIEF, WESTERN NAVAL COMMAND



Key Appointment

- I. Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan has taken over as:
 - A. Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C)
 - B. Western Naval Command (WNC)

Role of FOC-in-C

- I. Commands:
 - A. Naval operations under the Western Naval Command
- II. Responsible for:

- A. Maritime security
- B. Operational preparedness
- C. Strategic naval deployments
- D. Protection of India's western maritime frontier

Importance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. India's maritime security architecture
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Operational readiness of naval assets in the Arabian Sea and adjoining waters

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Western Naval Command (WNC)

Western Naval Command

- I. Headquarters:
 - A. Mumbai
- II. It is the:
 - A. Largest and most operationally significant command of the Indian Navy

Area of Responsibility

- Western seaboard of India
- Arabian Sea
- Strategic sea lanes of communication
- Maritime approaches to India's western coast

Indian Navy

Indian Navy

- I. Maritime arm of the Indian Armed Forces.

- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Maritime defence
 - B. Protection of territorial waters
 - C. Safeguarding maritime trade routes
 - D. Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)

Military Decorations

PVSM

- **Param Vishisht Seva Medal**
- Awarded for distinguished service of the most exceptional order.

AVSM

- **Ati Vishisht Seva Medal**
- Awarded for distinguished service of an exceptional order.

NM

- **Nao Sena Medal**
- Awarded for devotion to duty or acts of courage in the Navy.

STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE OF WESTERN NAVAL COMMAND

Maritime Security

- Guards critical shipping routes in the Arabian Sea.

Energy Security

- Protects sea lanes through which a large share of India's energy imports pass.

Regional Stability

- Supports India's strategic presence in the western Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

Naval Preparedness

- Maintains readiness against conventional and non-conventional maritime threats.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Officer:** Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan.
- **Position:** Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief.
- **Command:** Western Naval Command.
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai.
- **Service:** Indian Navy.
- **Region:** Western seaboard and Arabian Sea.
- **Importance:** Maritime security and strategic naval operations.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **WNC HQ:** Mumbai
- **FOC-in-C:** Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief
- **Service:** Indian Navy
- **Area:** Arabian Sea and western maritime frontier
- **PVSM:** Param Vishisht Seva Medal
- **AVSM:** Ati Vishisht Seva Medal
- **NM:** Nao Sena Medal

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Western Naval Command is headquartered in Mumbai.
2. The Western Naval Command is responsible for safeguarding India's western maritime interests.
3. The Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) is awarded for distinguished service of the most exceptional order.

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: (d)

1. GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA CONVERGE TO STRENGTHEN INDIA'S WATER RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM



Key Objectives

- I. Promote:
 - A. Collaborative research and innovation in the water sector
- II. Encourage:
 - A. Industry-academia partnerships
- III. Develop:
 - A. Indigenous technologies for water conservation and treatment
- IV. Strengthen:
 - A. Evidence-based policymaking and water governance

Focus Areas

- Water conservation technologies
- Wastewater treatment and reuse
- Groundwater management
- Smart water monitoring systems
- Climate-resilient water infrastructure
- Urban and rural water security

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Sustainable development
 - B. Water resource efficiency
 - C. Long-term water security
- II. Helps:
 - A. Bridge the gap between research and real-world implementation

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Water Security

Water Security

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Sustainable availability of adequate quantities of acceptable-quality water
- II. Essential for:
 - A. Human health
 - B. Agriculture
 - C. Industry
 - D. Ecosystem sustainability

Water Challenges in India

- I. Rising demand due to:
 - A. Population growth
 - B. Urbanization
 - C. Industrialization
- II. Key concerns:
 - A. Groundwater depletion
 - B. Water pollution
 - C. Uneven distribution of water resources
 - D. Climate change impacts

Role of Research and Innovation

- I. Helps develop:
 - A. Efficient water treatment technologies
 - B. Water-use efficiency solutions
 - C. Data-driven resource management systems
- II. Facilitates:
 - A. Sustainable and affordable water management

Industry–Academia Collaboration

- I. Promotes:
 - A. Technology transfer
 - B. Commercialization of innovations
 - C. Skill development and capacity building

RELEVANT GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Jal Jeevan Mission

- Aims to provide functional household tap water connections to rural households.

Atal Bhujal Yojana

- Focuses on sustainable groundwater management.

Namami Gange Programme

- Focuses on river conservation and pollution abatement.

SIGNIFICANCE

For Sustainable Development

- I. Supports achievement of:
 - A. Water-related development goals
 - B. Environmental sustainability

For Agriculture

- I. Promotes:
 - A. Efficient irrigation and water-use practices

For Industry

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Water-efficient manufacturing and recycling

For Society

- I. Improves:
 - A. Access to safe and clean water

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Theme:** Water research and innovation.
- **Stakeholders:** Government, industry, and academia.
- **Focus:** Water security and sustainable management.
- **Approach:** Collaborative research and technology development.
- **Challenges addressed:** Water scarcity, pollution, and climate impacts.
- **Importance:** Strengthening India's water resilience.
- **Way Forward:** Build integrated water innovation ecosystems and accelerate adoption of indigenous technologies.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Water Security:** Reliable access to adequate safe water.
- **Key Issues:** Scarcity, pollution, groundwater depletion.
- **Stakeholders:** Government, academia, industry.
- **Technology Areas:** Water treatment, monitoring, conservation.
- **Relevant Schemes:** Jal Jeevan Mission, Atal Bhujal Yojana.
- **Goal:** Sustainable water resource management.
- **Importance:** Economic growth and environmental sustainability.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Water security includes both the availability and quality of water resources.
2. Industry–academia collaboration can facilitate technology transfer and innovation in water management.
3. Groundwater depletion is one of the major water-related challenges facing 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: (d)

2. INDIAN AIR FORCE AIRLIFTS SACRED BUDDHIST RELICS TO MONGOLIA



Key Highlights

- Sacred Buddhist relics were transported by the Indian Air Force to Mongolia.
- The event reflects the deep historical and spiritual links between the two countries.
- The relics are expected to be displayed for public veneration and cultural outreach.

Objectives

- I. Promote:
 - A. Shared Buddhist heritage.
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. India–Mongolia cultural relations.
- III. Enhance:
 - A. Soft power diplomacy and civilizational engagement.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Mongolia Relations

India – Mongolia Relations

- I. India and Mongolia share:
 - A. Historic Buddhist connections.
 - B. Strong cultural and spiritual ties.
- II. In 2015, relations were elevated to a:
 - A. **Strategic Partnership**.

Buddhism and Cultural Diplomacy

Buddhism

- I. Originated in India and spread across Asia.
- II. Acts as an important bridge in India's cultural diplomacy.
- III. Buddhist heritage diplomacy helps:
 - A. Foster mutual understanding.
 - B. Strengthen international cultural cooperation.

Role of the Indian Air Force

Indian Air Force

- I. Besides defence responsibilities, the IAF undertakes:
 - A. Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).
 - B. Strategic airlift operations.
 - C. Cultural and diplomatic missions of national importance.

SIGNIFICANCE

Cultural Significance

- I. Reinforces:
 - A. Shared spiritual traditions between India and Mongolia.

Diplomatic Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Bilateral goodwill and people-to-people ties.

Strategic Significance

- I. Demonstrates:
 - A. India's use of soft power in international relations.

Civilizational Significance

- I. Highlights:
 - A. India's role as the birthplace of Buddhism.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organisation:** Indian Air Force.
- **Destination:** Mongolia.
- **Cargo:** Sacred Buddhist relics.
- **Purpose:** Cultural and spiritual outreach.
- **Theme:** Buddhist heritage diplomacy.
- **Importance:** Strengthening India–Mongolia relations.
- **Approach:** Soft power and civilizational engagement.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Country involved:** Mongolia.
- **Transporting agency:** Indian Air Force.
- **Theme:** Cultural diplomacy.
- **Religion:** Buddhism.
- **India–Mongolia relations:** Strategic Partnership.
- **Soft power tool:** Shared civilizational heritage.
- **Significance:** People-to-people and cultural ties.

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Buddhism originated in India and spread to several parts of Asia.
2. India and Mongolia share historical and cultural links rooted in Buddhism.
3. Cultural diplomacy can be an instrument of a country's soft power.

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: (d)

3.ECI CONVENES NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ECI COUNSELS 2026 FOR FURTHER STRENGTHENING ITS LEGAL FRAMEWORK



Key Objectives

- I. Strengthen:
 - A. ECI's legal and institutional framework
- II. Improve:
 - A. Coordination among legal counsels across the country
- III. Discuss:
 - A. Recent court judgments affecting elections
- IV. Enhance:
 - A. Capacity to address emerging legal issues in electoral management

Focus Areas

- Constitutional provisions relating to elections
- Representation of the People Acts
- Election dispute resolution
- Electoral reforms
- Legal implications of technological advancements in elections

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Election Commission of India (ECI)

Election Commission of India

- I. An autonomous constitutional body established under:
Article 324
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Conducting elections to Parliament
 - B. State Legislatures
 - C. Offices of the President and Vice-President

Constitutional Status

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Free and fair elections
- II. Acts as the guardian of:
 - A. Electoral integrity in India

Representation of the People Acts

Representation of the People Act, 1950

- I. Deals with:
 - A. Allocation of seats
 - B. Electoral rolls

Representation of the People Act, 1951

- I. Deals with:
 - A. Conduct of elections
 - B. Election disputes
 - C. Qualifications and disqualifications

Need for a Strong Legal Framework

- I. Electoral processes increasingly face:
 - A. Complex legal questions

- B. Technological challenges
 - C. Litigation and judicial scrutiny
- II. A robust legal framework helps:
 - A. Maintain electoral credibility
 - B. Ensure compliance with constitutional principles

SIGNIFICANCE

For Electoral Governance

- I. Enhances:
 - A. Consistency in legal interpretation
- II. Improves:
 - A. Election administration

For Democracy

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Public trust in electoral institutions
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Fairness and transparency in elections

For Electoral Reforms

- I. Facilitates:
 - A. Adaptation to evolving legal and technological developments

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Organizer:** Election Commission of India.
- **Event:** National Conference of ECI Counsels 2026.
- **Focus:** Strengthening electoral legal framework.
- **Constitutional Basis:** Article 324.
- **Relevant Laws:** Representation of the People Acts, 1950 & 1951.

- **Objective:** Capacity building and legal preparedness.
- **Importance:** Free, fair, and credible elections.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Topic	Key Fact
ECI	Constitutional body
Constitutional Provision	Article 324
RPA 1950	Electoral rolls and seat allocation
RPA 1951	Conduct of elections and disputes
Function	Conduct free and fair elections
Conference Purpose	Strengthen legal framework
Significance	Electoral integrity

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Election Commission of India (ECI):

1. The Election Commission of India is a constitutional body established under Article 324.
2. The Representation of the People Act, 1950 primarily deals with electoral rolls and allocation of seats.
3. The Representation of the People Act, 1951 deals with the conduct of elections and election disputes.

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: (d)

4. DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS REVIEWS IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY REFORMS IN NORTHERN STATES AND UTs



Key Objectives of the Review

- I. Assess:
 - A. Progress of legal metrology reforms across states and UTs
- II. Strengthen:
 - A. Consumer confidence in weights and measures
- III. Promote:
 - A. Transparency and regulatory efficiency
- IV. Ensure:
 - A. Standardized implementation of legal metrology provisions

Areas of Focus

- Verification and stamping of weighing and measuring instruments
- Digitalization of regulatory services
- Enforcement of packaged commodity rules
- Capacity building of enforcement officials
- Reduction of compliance burden on businesses

WHAT IS LEGAL METROLOGY?

Definition

Legal Metrology

- I. Legal Metrology deals with:
 - A. Accuracy of weights and measures used in trade and commerce.
- II. It ensures:
 - A. Fair transactions between buyers and sellers.

Legal Framework

Legal Metrology Act, 2009

- I. Regulates:
 - A. Weights and measures
 - B. Measuring instruments
 - C. Packaged commodities
- II. Objective:
 - A. Protect consumers and ensure fair trade practices.

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Importance of Legal Metrology

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Accuracy in commercial transactions
- II. Prevents:
 - A. Fraudulent trade practices
- III. Protects:
 - A. Consumer interests

Packaged Commodities Rules

Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011

- I. Mandate disclosure of:
 - A. Maximum Retail Price (MRP)
 - B. Net quantity
 - C. Manufacturer details
 - D. Consumer care information

Digital Reforms

- I. Introduction of:
 - A. Online licensing systems
 - B. Electronic verification processes
 - C. Digital compliance mechanisms
- II. Benefits:
 - A. Reduced paperwork
 - B. Faster service delivery
 - C. Improved transparency

SIGNIFICANCE

For Consumers

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Correct quantity and measurement of goods
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Consumer trust and protection

For Businesses

- I. Simplifies:

- A. Compliance procedures
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Ease of doing business

For Governance

- I. Improves:
 - A. Regulatory efficiency
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Uniform implementation across states

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Department:** Department of Consumer Affairs.
- **Subject:** Legal Metrology reforms.
- **Region:** Northern States and UTs.
- **Law:** Legal Metrology Act, 2009.
- **Focus:** Consumer protection and regulatory modernization.
- **Tools:** Digital and technology-enabled compliance systems.
- **Goal:** Fair trade and accurate measurements.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Topic	Key Fact
Legal Metrology	Regulation of weights and measures
Governing Law	Legal Metrology Act, 2009
Ministry	Department of Consumer Affairs
Objective	Consumer protection and fair trade

Packaged Commodities Rules

MRP, quantity and labeling requirements

Reform Focus

Digitalization and ease of doing business

Benefit

Accurate transactions

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding Legal Metrology in India:

1. Legal Metrology deals with regulation of weights and measures used in trade and commerce.
2. The Legal Metrology Act, 2009 aims to protect consumers and ensure fair trade practices.
3. The Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules require disclosure of information such as MRP and net quantity on packaged goods.

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: (d)

5.PM SVANidhi Completes Six Years of Empowering Street Vendors Through Access to Affordable Credit and Social Security



Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

About PM SVANidhi

- I. Launched on **1 June 2020** by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- II. A **Central Sector Scheme** providing:
 - A. Collateral-free working capital loans
 - B. Interest subsidies
 - C. Digital transaction incentives
 - D. Access to social security benefits

Objectives

- I. Facilitate:
 - A. Affordable institutional credit for street vendors
- II. Promote:
 - A. Digital and cashless transactions
- III. Enhance:
 - A. Financial literacy and inclusion
- IV. Improve:
 - A. Livelihood security and resilience

KEY FEATURES

Collateral-Free Working Capital Loans

Eligible vendors can avail:

- First loan: Up to ₹10,000
- Second loan: Up to ₹20,000
- Third loan: Up to ₹50,000

(Subject to timely repayment and eligibility.)

Interest Subsidy

- 7% annual interest subsidy on timely loan repayment.

Digital Payment Incentives

- I. Cashback incentives for:
 - A. UPI transactions
 - B. QR-code payments
 - C. Digital financial adoption

Credit Progression

- I. Timely repayment enables:
 - A. Higher loan eligibility
 - B. Better credit history

Social Security Linkages

The scheme facilitates access to welfare programmes such as:

- Insurance schemes
- Pension schemes
- Other social protection initiatives

SIGNIFICANCE

Financial Inclusion

- I. Integrates previously unbanked vendors into:
 - A. Banking services
 - B. Formal credit networks

Reduction in Informal Borrowing

- I. Reduces dependence on:
 - A. Moneylenders charging high interest rates

Digital Empowerment

- I. Encourages:
 - A. Cashless transactions
 - B. Financial technology adoption

Urban Livelihoods

- I. Supports:
 - A. Self-employment
 - B. Micro-enterprises
 - C. Economic resilience of urban poor

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Nodal Ministry

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

- Oversees implementation and monitoring.

Role of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)

- Identification of vendors
- Verification of beneficiaries

- Facilitation of applications

Financial Institutions

- Commercial Banks
- Regional Rural Banks
- Small Finance Banks
- NBFCs
- Microfinance Institutions

CHALLENGES

- Identification of all eligible street vendors
- Digital literacy constraints
- Documentation and awareness gaps
- Ensuring long-term financial sustainability

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheme:** PM SVANidhi.
- **Launch Date:** 1 June 2020.
- **Completion:** Six years.
- **Type:** Central Sector Scheme.
- **Target Group:** Street Vendors.
- **Benefits:** Credit, digital payments, social security.
- **Goal:** Financial inclusion and livelihood enhancement.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

Topic	Key Fact
Full Form	PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi
Launch	1 June 2020
Ministry	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Scheme Type	Central Sector Scheme
First Loan	Up to ₹10,000
Interest Subsidy	7%
Focus	Financial Inclusion & Social Security

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding PM SVANidhi:

1. PM SVANidhi is a Central Sector Scheme launched in 2020.
2. It provides collateral-free working capital loans to street vendors.
3. The scheme promotes digital payments through incentive mechanisms.

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: (d)