



**42 UPSC Questions Themes of CSE Prelims 2026** have Directly come from our Expected Prelims Topics and **RICE IAS Prelims Test Series** developed under the Leadership of **Majid Sir**.



This achievement reflects the power of **research**, **strategic planning**, and **academic leadership** of **Majid Sir**.

29. Which of the following statements with reference to **Lake Turkana** is/are correct ?

1. It is the largest desert lake in the world.
2. The lake is situated in South Sudan along the eastern fringe of the Sahara desert.
3. The lake is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is also referred to as the 'Jade Sea'.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

		legislation that limits foreigners' right to property on the Island. (THE HINDU)
South America	Venezuela	USA attack on Venezuela. (THE HINDU)
	Colombia	Colombia signed a significant cooperation pact with China under the Belt and Road Initiative. (THE HINDU)
North America	Gulf of Mexico	US President Donald Trump signed an executive order on February 9 to rename the 'Gulf of Mexico' as the 'Gulf of America' and declared February 9 as the 'Gulf of America Day'. (THE HINDU)
	Canada	The relationship between the U.S. and Canada has entered a period of extreme volatility in early 2026, characterized by aggressive trade threats from President Donald Trump. (THE HINDU)
Africa	Berrechid, Morocco	India's first overseas defense manufacturing facility. (THE HINDU)
	Somaliland	Israel has become the first un member state to officially recognize Somaliland. (THE HINDU)
	Ethiopia	PM's visit to Ethiopia. (THE HINDU)
	Afar Triangle	Recent observations of a 60-km long crack that opened in the Ethiopian desert has gained international attention. (THE HINDU)
	El Fasher, Darfur (SUDAN)	SAF vs RSF civil war. (THE HINDU) + Massive landslide in Darfur region
	Sierra Leone	Recently Gola Tiwai complex formally inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. + Nyangai and Plantain Islands, part of Sierra Leone's Turtle Islands, are shrinking due to rising sea levels. (THE HINDU)
	Lake Turkana	Decline in water levels. (INDIAN EXPRESS)
	Madagascar	Gen Z protests + military takeover (THE HINDU)
	Tanzania	Experiencing Post election Violence. (THE HINDU)
DRC	M23 rebels were in the news multiple times + UPSC asked a question on DRC in 2023	
Angola	President's Visit to Angola. (THE HINDU)	

40. Ships from which of the following countries have to cross the Strait of Hormuz to reach out to the Indian Ocean ?

1. Bahrain
2. Syria
3. Qatar
4. Egypt

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 and 2  
 (b) 1 and 3  
 (c) 2 and 3  
 (d) 3 and 4

**EXPECTED PRELIMS TOPICS - 2026**

**BASED ON LAST 45 YEARS PYQs & LAST 1.5 YEARS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

CHAPTER	EXPECTED THEME	SURE SHOT TOPICS FOR PRELIMS - 2026	JUSTIFICATION
1. PLACES IN NEWS	Iran	Iran Nuclear sites	War in West Asia. The USA and Israel are attacking Iran's nuclear sites. (THE HINDU)
		Other strategic location (Kharg Island)	Recently appeared in the news due to the USA and Israel's attack. (THE HINDU)
		Lake Urmia	UPSC asked a lake-related question in 2022. Lake Urmia is in the news because it is drying up. (INDIAN EXPRESS)
		Strait of Hormuz	Iran blocked the Strait of Hormuz. (THE HINDU)
	Israel	Port Haifa	A key hub for the IMEC corridor, it was hit by an Iranian missile (THE HINDU). Moreover, Port is an important theme. UPSC has asked a question on Chabahar Port in 2017.
		Eilat Port	Faced closure in late 2025 due to a Houthi naval blockade. (THE HINDU)
		Golan Heights	UPSC asked a question on this in 2015. This year it is again in news due to Israel-Syria conflict so question can be asked.
		Dead Sea	UPSC frequently asks questions on water bodies (e.g., North Sea – 2024).
		Sea of Galilee	Sea of Galilee — It mysteriously turned red, alarming locals and tourists. (INDIAN EXPRESS)
		West Bank	Kafr Qaddum
	Gaza	Yellow Line	A demarcation line in Gaza, as part of a US-brokered ceasefire agreement. (THE HINDU)
		Philadelphi Corridor	Israeli forces reasserted control over this corridor. (THE HINDU)
		Magen Oz Corridor	A new Corridor Established by Israeli Military. (THE HINDU)
Morag Corridor		A new Corridor Established by Israeli Military. (THE HINDU)	
Netzarim Corridor		Following a ceasefire with Hamas, Israel withdrew from the Netzarim Corridor. (THE HINDU)	
Syria	Suwayda	Ethnic Violence Between Druze Community and Bedouin Militias. Questions have been asked about places in the news in Syria in 2018.	

49. Which of the following statements with regard to India's indigenous new high resolution weather model, the 'Bharat Forecast System,' is/are correct ?

1. Its objective is to generate forecasts at the Panchayats cluster level.
2. It was developed by IIT Delhi.

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

		7. Trough & ridge 8. Cold Wave in India  9. Katabatic Wind & Anabatic wind  10. Nor westers	7. [CAPF 2022] 8. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued cold-wave alerts for multiple states, a development extensively documented in Newspaper  9. California wildfires are accelerated by intense katabatic-type winds, specifically the dry, hot, and high-velocity Santa Ana winds. 10. The IMD, IITM (Pune), and NCMRWF (Delhi) are developing India's first research testbed to study Nor'westers (Kalbaisakhi).
	<b>4. Humidity &amp; Precipitation</b>	1. Isoline: Isobars & Isotherm 2. Humidity, Factors Affecting Humidity and rainfall 3. Fog & smog 4. Collision – coalescence process of precipitation 5. Bharat Forecasting System 6. Early Southwest Monsoon Onset 2025	1. (UPSC 2025, 2024) {CDS 2023} 2. (UPSC 2003) 3. {CDS2023,2022} 4. {CDS 2014} 5. India launched the Bharat Forecasting System (BFS), a high-resolution 6-km grid weather model designed to enhance prediction accuracy 6. The IMD declared the Southwest Monsoon onset over Kerala eight days ahead of its June 1 schedule, an occurrence last recorded in 2009.
	<b>5. Climatic Process Ex: Cyclone, El Nino</b>	1. Jet stream 2. Cyclone 3. Clouds Important for 2026: (Cirrus clouds, Cumulus clouds, Nimbus clouds) 4. Thunderstorm 5. El nino & La nina 6. Tides classification (Spring tides, neap tides & meso tides) 7. Tropical cyclones Name & Region 8. Tsunami 9. Cloudburst	1. (UPSC 2020) {CDS 2017} [CAPF 22] 2. (UPSC 2020,15) {CDS 2019,16,15} 3. (UPSC 2020,2019) {CDS 2023, 22}  4. (UPSC 2013) 5. (UPSC 2011) {CDS 2022} 6. (UPSC 2020, 2015) {CDS 2018, 2015}  7. {CDS2021} [CAPF 2018] 8. {CDS 2017, 2014}

54. Which one of the following best describes the key objective of India's 'Open Network for Digital Commerce' (ONDC) initiative?

(a) To allow government control over all digital commerce transactions

(b) To replace private e-commerce players

(c) To break the dominance of large e-commerce platforms by enabling interoperability across networks

(d) To mandate UPI-based payments for all online transactions

	18. Bharat 6G Mission; 6G vs. 5G vs. 4G; International 6G Symposium 2025-India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025	<b>Source:</b> PIB (Oct 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2018</b> - Aims of the "Digital India" Plan of the Government of India; <b>2019</b> -Difference/differences between LTE (Long-Term Evolution) and VoLTE (Voice over Long-Term Evolution) Since the "Bharat 6G Vision" document was released, envisioning India as a frontline contributor in the design, development, and deployment of 6G technology by 2030, and given that UPSC has previously asked questions on communication technologies, it may ask about the differences between 5G and 6G or about the Bharat 6G Mission.
	19. Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (Jan 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2017</b> – BHIM app allowing users to transfer money to anyone with a UPI-enabled bank account This is a government-backed network to democratize e-commerce. Since previously UPSC has asked in 2018 where it expected you to know digital public goods, it may ask you to define ONDC.
	20. Edge Computing vs. Cloud Computing	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (2025)   <b>PYQ: 2022</b> – Cloud Services being the context for the term "qubit". This is a network architecture bringing computation closer to data sources. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2022</b> about Cloud Services where it expected you to know tech associations, it may ask you about the advantage of Edge computing.
	21. Solid-State Drives (SSD) vs. Hard Disk Drives (HDD)	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (July 2025) These are standard computer storage technologies undergoing a rapid shift. Since UPSC has previously tested the functional applications of communication technologies and infrastructure, it may now ask the difference between SSD and HDD.
	22. E-SIM (Embedded SIM) Technology	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (Oct 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2019</b> – LTE and VoLTE being data-only and voice-only technologies The transition to E-SIMs for IoT devices and wearables peaked in 2025. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked [in 2019]</b> where it expected you to know telecommunication standards, it may ask you about E-SIMs.
5. Others	23. Semiconductor vs Superconductor; Indian	<b>Source: The Hindu (2025- Jan- Feb 2026)</b> Since these topics have repeatedly appeared in the news, including Pax Silica, UPSC may ask about the initiative related to Pax Silica and the

73. Which of the following statements with regard to **GenomeIndia Project** is/are correct ?

1. It is a part of the Human Genome Project.
2. The project is funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India.
3. Its primary aim is to build a catalogue of genetic diversity of the Indian population.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

	22. Malaria; AdFalcivax; Eliminate malaria by 2030; lasmodium vivax vs Plasmodium falciparum – Emerging Challenges	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (2025-2026)   <b>PYQ: 2025</b> – Wolbachia method. Malaria remains a highly probable UPSC-2026 topic because it sits at the intersection of public health, vaccination innovation (AdFalcivax), and India’s “Eliminate Malaria by 2030” commitment, with growing emphasis on the distinct challenges posed by Plasmodium vivax versus Plasmodium falciparum.
4. Stem Cells, Cloning & Reproduction	23. Pluripotent vs. Multipotent Stem Cells	<b>Source:</b> Indian Express (Feb 2026)   <b>PYQ: 2020</b> – Plant cells lacking plasma membranes unlike animal cells These are foundational cells used in regenerative medicine. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2020</b> where it expected you to know <b>structural biology</b> , it may ask you to distinguish Pluripotent cells from Multipotent cells.
	24. Xenotransplantation (Porcine Heart to Human)	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (Nov 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2020</b> – Human induced pluripotent stem cells injected into a pig embryo This involves transplanting animal organs into humans. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2020</b> , it may ask you why genetic modification of the donor animal is mandatory to prevent hyperacute immune rejection.
5. AI, Genomics, Innovation in Healthcare & Policy	25. Dark DNA	<b>Source:</b> BBC (Sep 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2022</b> – DNA Barcoding distinguishing among species that look alike This is a frontier concept in evolutionary genomics. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2022</b> where it expected you to know genetic concepts, it may ask you to what is Dark DNA.
	26. Genome India Project & Phenome-India	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (2025)   <b>PYQ: 2017</b> – Genome Sequencing used to decipher host-pathogen relationships and genetic markers Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2017</b> where it expected you to know its benefits, it may ask you how these projects applies genetic data to predict disease susceptibility.
	27. Organ-On-Chip (OOC) Technology	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (2025)   <b>PYQ: 2019</b> – Artificial functional DNA created in laboratories This technology uses microfluidic chips lined with human cells to simulate organ functions. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2019</b> where it expected you to know <b>synthetic biology’s</b> viability, it may ask you about OOC’s application.

75. Which of the following statements with regard to **India's Deep Ocean Mission** is/are correct ?

1. It was launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India.
2. Matsya-6000 has been designed to carry 3 people for deep sea exploration.
3. Samudrayaan is a project under this mission.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

		(Natural and Synthetic)	(particles smaller than 5 mm) can cross critical biological barriers and enter the human bloodstream. Since <b>UPSC has already asked about their environmental hazards in 2019</b> (e.g., microbeads affecting marine ecosystems), future questions may focus on their bioaccumulation in the human body or on identifying the types of polymers.
		20. Bisphenol A (BPA) & Phthalates	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (June 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2021</b> – Bisphenol A being a structural key component in the manufacture of Polycarbonate plastics Regulatory updates by FSSAI have put these plasticizers in focus. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2021</b> where it expected you to know its everyday sources, it may ask you to identify BPA and Phthalates as dangerous endocrine-disrupting chemicals.
	5. Others	21. Radiocarbon Dating (Carbon-14)	<b>Source:</b> The Economic Times (June 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2024</b> – Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator. This technique was extensively used in recent archaeological excavations at Rakhigarhi. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2024</b> it may ask you about the purpose of radiocarbon dating (Carbon-14 isotope to date organic remains).
		22. Deep Ocean Mission	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (Nov 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2021</b> - Global Ocean Commission, Rare earth minerals; <b>2022</b> - United Nations Convention on the Law of Sea.
		23. Mpemba Effect	<b>Source:</b> PIB (Jan 2026)   <b>PYQ: 2011</b> - Anomalous Behaviour of Water With the recent discovery of the first supercomputer-powered simulations explaining the Mpemba Effect (the phenomenon where hotter water freezes faster than colder water under certain conditions.), there is a strong possibility that UPSC may ask questions on the Mpemba Effect in the upcoming examinations.
4. INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)	1. AI & Emerging Computing	1. Agentic AI vs. Generative AI; Large Language Model (LLM)- ChatGPT, Claude, Microsoft Copilot, Gemini, and Meta AI; Mutimodal LLM (MLLM); National Mission on	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (2025- March 2026); PIB (2024)   <b>PYQ: 2020</b> – Artificial Intelligence creating meaningful short stories and songs These represent the current evolutionary stages of AI. Since UPSC asked about AI capabilities in 2020, it may ask you to distinguish between Generative AI and Agentic AI, identify LLMs or MLLMs, or ask about initiatives like BharatGen (the first government-

12. The artificially fixed rupee-sterling exchange rate prescribed by the **Hilton-Young Commission** (1926) was adopted by the British Government for which one of the following reasons ?

- (a) Aiding the flow of remittances from India and maintaining India's creditworthiness
- (b) Providing support to Indian importers
- (c) Encouraging export of cotton produce from India
- (d) Preventing depreciation of the Rupee in terms of gold

	Ahilyabai Holkar	300th birth anniversary of Ahilyabai Holkar
<b>Constituent Assembly</b>	<p>Ammu Swaminathan → Advocated gender equality</p> <p>Annie Mascarene → Worked on federalism and integration</p> <p>Qudsia Aizaz Rasul → Promoted secularism and inclusive identity</p> <p>Dakshayani Velayudhan → Opposed untouchability, supported marginalized rights</p> <p>Durgabai Deshmukh → Advanced social welfare and women's education</p> <p>Hansa Mehta → Strengthened fundamental rights and gender justice</p> <p>Rajkumari Amrit Kaur → Built India's public health framework</p> <p>Sarojini Naidu → Advocated civil liberties</p> <p>Sucheta Kripalani → Focused on labour rights and governance</p> <p>Vijayalakshmi Pandit → Promoted international cooperation</p>	On the occasion of International Women's Day, a significant publication of the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law & Justice, titled " <b>The Life and Contributions of the Women Members of the Constituent Assembly</b> "
	kamaladevi chattopadhyay	CDS 2021
<b>17. NEWSPAPER AND JOURNALS</b>	<p>Navjivan</p> <p>Mahratta</p> <p>Bengalee</p> <p>Voice of India</p> <p>Young India</p> <p>Shome Prakash</p> <p>Bharat Shramjeevi</p>	CDS-2022, 2013 <b>PYQ:</b> 2007
<b>18. IMPORTANT COMMITTEES AND COMMISSION DURING BRITISH RULE</b>	<p>Vanguard</p> <p>Strachey Commission (Famine)</p> <p><b>Hunter Commission (Education)</b></p> <p>Butler Committee (Princely states)</p> <p>Aitchison Commission (Civil service)</p> <p>Hilton Young (Currency reform)</p> <p>Whitley Commission (labour reforms)</p>	100 years of CPI <b>PYQ:</b> 2017

18. Consider the following statements about the archaeological findings in **Harappan towns** :

- I. There is wide occurrence of spindle-whorls in the houses but absence of spinning wheels.
- II. Weights and measurement scales, complete with graduations have been discovered.
- III. There are houses built in large part with baked bricks, around relatively spacious courtyards, with their own wells, bathing platforms, and large rooms.

Which of the following inferences can be drawn from the above statements ?

1. Statement I suggests that spinning was a laborious activity done at home.
2. Statement II suggests the extent of the scientific knowledge that the Harappans possessed.
3. Statement III suggests the emergence of a common property system.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

		Mudumal	Added to UNESCO Tentative World Heritage List (2025)
2. IVC	Harappan sites location and major key findings	Lothal	Fresh excavations (2025–26) revealed industrial tools, furnaces, bead-making units
		Dholavira, Rakhigarhi	Based on the Union Budget 2026-27 and related recent announcements, the Government of India is focusing on developing 15 archaeological sites—including major ancient sites like Rakhigarhi (Haryana), Dholavira (Gujarat), Hastinapur (Uttar Pradesh), and Adichanallur (Tamil Nadu). PYQ (CSE 2021, CDS2022, CDS 2017, CAPF 2023)
		Kalibangan	Previously asked in CDS, CAPF exam, So, this site is on the Radar. (CAPF 2023, CDS 2017)
		Shortugai	Important for its advanced irrigation techniques. And irrigation is the prominent theme for UPSC
		Sinauli	Recently, three full-sized, horse-drawn (debated) chariots were found in burial pits.
		Balakot	NDA 2021
	Arts and Crafts	Harappan Script	The Tamil Nadu government has announced a \$1 million prize for deciphering the 4,000-year-old Indus Valley (Harappan) script. PYQ (CDS 2017, CAPF 2020)
		Stone work, Seal and Bead making sites	Most frequently asked in CDS, CAPF and NDA PYQ: (CDS2025, CDS 2020, CDS 2018, NDA 2025, NDA 2021, CAPF 2023, CAPF 2020)
	Economy	Kotada Bhadli	In News: Organised Trade Infrastructure (Caravanserai system)
	Religion and funerary practices	The Pashupati Seal,	Recently, a fake AI-generated image of the Pashupati Seal went viral on social media.
Town Planning	urban character	A 2025 report ("From Mohenjo-daro to Mumbai") highlighted Harappan planning as a model for modern cities.	
3. VEDIC AND LATER VEDIC	Religion	Vedic Gods and Goddesses + Nature	In news: Major events like Ugadi Mahotsavam (2026) included Vedic chanting, yajnas, and rituals.

21. Tungurahua Volcano, which was declared a **Global Geopark by UNESCO** in 2025, is situated in which one among the following countries?

- (a) Ecuador
- (b) Peru
- (c) Bolivia
- (d) Colombia

			Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Delhi to stall the eastward expansion of the Thar Desert. (PIB)
<b>Convention and Organisation</b>	IUCN World Conservation Congress		IUCN world conservation congress 2025 happened in Abu Dhabi, UAE + UPSC has asked question on IUCN in 2015, 2023
	UN Forum on Forests		India participated in UNFF-20 held in New York (Indian Express)
	United Nations Ocean Conference		3rd UNOC hosted in Nice, France
	Cites		50 Years of CITES + UPSC has asked question on CITES in 2015
	National Board of Wildlife		Recently a historic meeting held at Gir National Park, marking the first time a Prime Minister has personally chaired the full-body meeting in over a decade.
	UN High Seas Treaty		The UN High Seas Treaty (BBNJ Agreement) officially entered into force on January 17, 2026, establishing a legally binding framework to protect 30% of the world's oceans by 2030
	<b>Global Geoparks Network</b>		In January 2026, geological experts and UNESCO officials finalized a roadmap for Kasauli to become India's first official Global Geopark (PIB)
	Revive Our Ocean Initiative		In 2021 UPSC has asked question on Global Ocean Commission, this year Revive Our Ocean Initiative is in news so question can be asked on this topic.
<b>5. LEGISLATION AND POLICIES</b>	<b>Laws</b>	Central Asian Mammals Initiative	Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI) adopted its six-year work programme (2026-2032) at the 3rd Range States Meeting in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
		EPR Framework for Non Ferrous Metals	MoEFCC notified the Hazardous and other wastes amendment rules, 2025 introducing EPR framework for aluminium, copper, zinc (The Hindu)
		New Rules for Contaminated Site Management	MoEFCC has notified the Environment Protection (management of contaminated sites) Rules, 2025 (THE HINDU)
		Biological Diversity (Access and Benefit Sharing) Regulation 2025	NBA Issued New Biodiversity Regulation, 2025 (The Hindu)
		WPA 1972	Kerala Became the First State to Introduce Amendments to the WPA, 1972 +CSE (2017,2020)

33. Which of the following best explain(s) the rationale for protecting mangrove ecosystems in the context of climate resilience ?

1. Mangroves reduce tidal energy and store freshwater, making them ideal sites for paddy cultivation in saline estuarine belts.
2. Their salt-sensitive roots filter seawater, making mangroves key to converting coastal land into freshwater aquaculture zones.
3. By withstanding tidal surges and offering biomass resources, mangroves function both as natural bio-shields and livelihood bases for rural communities.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

**EXPECTED PRELIMS TOPICS - 2026**

**BASED ON LAST 45 YEARS PYQs & LAST 1.5 YEARS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**ENVIRONMENT**

CHAPTER	EXPECTED THEME	SURE SHOT TOPICS FOR PRELIMS - 2026	JUSTIFICATION
1. ECOLOGY AND ECOSYSTEM	Biome- Biosphere- Ecosystem- Ecotone & Biodiversity Hotspot	Ecosystem	CDS (2017), CSE (2015), CAPF (2011)
		Nutrient cycle (nitrogen, sulphur, phosphorus)	CSE (2019, 2021)
		Various types of phytoplankton	NDA (2018)
		Various types of zooplankton	CSE (2021)
		Coral reef	CSE (2022), IES (2019)
		Microatolls	Recent studies use Microatolls in the Lakshadweep and Maldives archipelagoes to prove that sea-level rise in the central Indian Ocean began in the late 1950s. (The Hindu)
		Wetland and Mangrove (Role in Ecosystem)	CSE (2019), CSE (2014), EPFO (2020), CSE (2022)
		Eco-Ridge	Down to Earth (Term-based question can be asked)
		Western ghat and its protection (Eco sensitive Zone)	Madhav Gadgil Committee + CSE (2016)
		Bioremediation	CAPF (2018), CSE (2017)
Phytoremediation	Discussed in Down to earth Magazine (Term based question can be asked- like Blue Carbon -2021)		
Lichen and Mosses	CSE (2014) + CSE (2021) + discovery of several new species in the Western Ghats		
2. CLIMATE CHANGE	Impact of Climate Change	Green credit programme	New methodology launched for calculating green credit. Therefore, this becomes important for UPSC this year. (Remember, UPSC has asked a question on the Green Climate Fund in 2015)
		Montreal protocol	37th meeting of parties to the Montreal protocol concluded in Nairobi, Kenya. (The Hindu) + previously, UPSC has asked question on various protocol like

36. Which of the following with reference to Indian States is/are **not** correct ?

1. Uttar Pradesh shares its boundary with the highest number of other Indian States.
2. Rajasthan shares the longest international border among all Indian States.
3. Sikkim is the only State that shares its boundary with just one other Indian State.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

		4. Largest Fuelwood Producer of world: 5. Tundra climate & vegetation countries 6. Grassland & countries 7. Podzolization	4. (UPSC 1997) 5. (CDS 2020) 6. (CDS 2015) [CAPF 23] 7. [UPSC 2024]
<b>5. INDIA PHYSICAL ENVIORN-MENT</b>	<b>1. Location, Physiography of India &amp; Resources of India</b>	1. Important Peaks & mountain (Namcha Barwa, Nanda Devi, Nokrek) 2. Barren Island volcano 3. State, City & longitudinal location & city located on tropics of cancer. 4. Geographical extent of Himalaya & western Ghat 5. Minimum number of states crossed between Kohima and Kottayam. 6. Shale gas reserve in India Location 7. Pilgrimage site & geographical location 8. Hills & geographical region Important for 2026: (Srisailam, Omkareshwar Pushkar, Varanasi, Puri Ramseshwaram Prayagraj) 9. Andaman & Nicobar location 10. State & International border & boundary with Indian state 11. Geographical condition (temperature, rainfall) to find state 12. Geographical places Climatic condition & Reasons 13. Himalayan passes & Other Passes of India	1. (UPSC 2022) {CDS 2022, 2021, 2019} 2. (UPSC 2018) {CDS 2022,2019} 3. (UPSC 2018, 2003) {CDS 2023, 2021, 2017, 2015} 4. (UPSC 2017) 5. (UPSC 2017) 6. (UPSC 2016) 7. (UPSC 2015) 8. (UPSC 2014, 2008, 2007 2005 2003) {CDS 2018, 2014} [CAPF 2019] 9. (UPSC 2014,1996) {CDS 2022, 2021, 2017} 10. (UPSC 2006) {CDS 2023} 11. (UPSC 2002, 1996) 12. (UPSC 1997) 13. {CDS 2023, 2018, 207} [CAPF 2022, 2020, 2018, 2017, 2016]

41. Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the Lists :

List I

List II

(INTERPOL Notice)

(Description)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>A. Silver Notice</p> <p>B. Blue Notice</p> <p>C. Black Notice</p> <p>D. Green Notice</p> | <p>1. To seek information on unidentified bodies</p> <p>2. To collect additional information about a person's identity, location, or activities in relation to a criminal investigation</p> <p>3. To provide warning about a person's criminal activities, where the person is considered to be a possible threat to public safety</p> <p>4. To identify and trace criminal assets</p> |
|---|--|

Code :

- |     |   |   |   |   |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
|     | A | B | C | D |
| (a) | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| (b) | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| (c) | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| (d) | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

		Scarborough Shoal	China announced the creation of a "National Nature Reserve" at Scarborough Shoal. (THE HINDU)	
		Chagos Islands	United Kingdom officially handed over sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius. (THE HINDU)	
		Mayotte	Tropical Cyclone Dikeledi (Jan 2025) struck Mayotte, a French territory in the Indian Ocean, causing severe flooding and displacing 14,500 people. (THE HINDU)	
2. INTERNATIONAL BODIES, MULTILATERAL PLATFORMS, GLOBAL INITIATIVE	International Bodies	ASEAN	Recently held ASEAN-India Summit (PM participated virtually) (INDIAN EXPRESS)	
		UNSC	Recent election of Non-Permanent Members. (THE HINDU)	
		ECOSOC	INDIA has been elected to ECOSOC for the 2026-2028 term. (THE HINDU)	
		ICJ	ICJ ruled that states have legal obligations to act on climate change to protect small island developing states. (INDIAN EXPRESS)	
		UNESCO	USA's withdrawal from UNESCO. (THE HINDU)	
		IAEA	IAEA Board censured Iran for breaching its Nuclear Non-Proliferation commitment. (THE HINDU)	
			INTERPOL	India issued its first Silver Notice. (THE HINDU)
			UNHRC	INDIA was elected unopposed for its seventh term. (THE HINDU)
	Multilateral Platforms	BRICS	INDIA has assumed the BRICS chairmanship. (THE HINDU)	
		New Development Bank	A new member was added: Algeria. (THE HINDU)	
G7		India participated as an outreach country in the 51st G7 Summit. (INDIAN EXPRESS)		
G20		First-ever G20 Summit hosted on the African Continent. (THE HINDU) + UPSC asked question on G-20 in 2022.		
		IBSA Summit	Recently, a summit took place in Johannesburg, South Africa. (THE HINDU)	

55. Which one of the following statements about Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Central Bank Digital Currency (Digital Rupee) is *not* correct?
- (a) UPI is a real-time payment system but Digital Rupee is akin to sovereign paper currency.
  - (b) In case of UPI, settlement for end users happens instantly as the money gets immediately debited or credited but in case of Digital Rupee, there is no settlement as the wallet balance gets transferred to another wallet.
  - (c) UPI transactions are recorded by banks and reflected in bank statements but in case of Digital Rupee, no data is captured in bank statements as transactions are from one wallet to another.
  - (d) In both the cases (UPI and Digital Rupee), the liability lies with the users and their respective banks.

			asked in 2019 where it expected you to know authentication methods, it may ask you about digital watermarking's application to cryptographically verify real versus AI-generated content.
		7. Ransomware vs. Zero-Day Exploits	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (Nov 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2018</b> – WannaCry, Petya and EternalBlue related to cyber attacks These are prevalent forms of cyberattacks. Since previously UPSC has asked in 2018 where it expected you to identify malware, it may ask you to distinguish Ransomware from Zero-Day exploits.
		8. End-to-End Encryption (E2EE)	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (March 2026)   <b>PYQ: 2019</b> – Digital Signatures and cryptography This is a security protocol at the center of privacy debates. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2019</b> where it expected you to know its digital application, it may ask you to find out the uses of E2EE and its definition.
		9. Stablecoins vs. Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (Oct 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2020</b> – Blockchain being a public ledger and its data being exclusively about cryptocurrency RBI working papers recently emphasized the regulatory threat of Stablecoins. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked [in 2020]</b> where it expected you to know digital asset fundamentals, it may ask you to differentiate Stablecoins.
	3. Quantum & Communication Technologies	10. Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (June 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2022</b> – "Qubit" mentioned in the context of Quantum Computing This is a secure communication method utilizing quantum mechanics. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2022</b> where it expected you to link the term to the technology, it may ask you how QKD applies quantum entanglement to create communication channels.
		11. Carbon Fibres	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (July 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2023</b> – Direct questions on carbon fibres.
		12. Optical Fibre & Total Internal Reflection (TIR)	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (Sep 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2016</b> – Li-Fi using light as a medium for high-speed data transmission This is the physical backbone of broadband internet. Since previously UPSC has <b>asked in 2016</b> where it expected you to know physical

60. Which of the following statements about Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and Critical Minerals is/are correct ?

1. Modern technological innovations including Artificial Intelligence, robotics and space exploration extensively utilise Rare Earth Elements (REEs).
2. China has the highest share in mining of REEs followed by India.
3. The Government of India launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) in 2025 to establish a robust framework for self-reliance in the critical mineral sector.
4. Rare Earth Elements are a set of 13 metallic elements.

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 and 3 only  
 (b) 3 only  
 (c) 1, 3 and 4  
 (d) 1, 2 and 4

		travelling from Bikaner to Konark	
	<b>5. Soils in India</b>	1. Soil of India & Soil Type, Soil Erosion Important for 2026 (Black cotton soil, Laterite soil, Brown forest soil, red soil Peaty soil)	1. (UPSC 2021, 2013, 2010, 2007, 2001, 1994, 1993) (CDS 2023, 2022, 2021, 2019, 2017, 2015, 2015, 2014) [CAPF 2024, 2021, 2023]
<b>6. ECONOMIC &amp; HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (INDIA &amp; WORLD)</b>	<b>1. Natural &amp; Mineral Resources &amp; Their Distribution Across World</b>	1. India Critical mineral Reserve & Mineral Security Partnership 2. Properties & uses of Rare earth elements 3. Global mineral reserve & leading producer Important for 2026 (Uranium, cobalt, copper, Lithium, & Nickel) 4. India & mineral deposit, reserve position & Major & minor mineral Important for 2026: Ilmenite, Monazite, Thorium, Manganese, Chromite, Sillimanite 5. Global leading producer of Gold 6. Coal based thermal power plant in India 7. Shale gas reserve In India 8. Indian coal Characteristics, producing area, Reserve & coalfields 9. Area with Natural resources reserve (Natural gas, mica) 10. Gondwana rock Mineral 11. Indian Steel plant 12. Aluminium company & location 13. Substance found in beach sand of Kerala 14. Map based MCQ on location of mineral	1. (UPSC 2025) 2. (UPSC 2025) 3. (UPSC 2025, 2023, 2006, 2000, 1999) (CDS 2019, 2017, 2014) 4. (UPSC 2023, 2020, 2019, 2009, 2007, 1996) [CAPF 2021, 2000, 1999, 2004] (CDS 2014, 2002) 5. (UPSC 2023) 6. (UPSC 2023) 7. (UPSC 2016) 8. (UPSC 2013, 2012, 2010) 9. (UPSC 2013, 2008) 10. (UPSC 2010) 11. (UPSC 2005) 12. (UPSC 2007) 13. (UPSC 2006) 14. (UPSC 2001)

79) 'X' was addressing a seminar on the meaning of the term 'law' as provided under Article 13, Part III of the Constitution of India. 'X' explained that the meaning of the term 'law' in the Constitution of India was very comprehensive. It included ordinances, orders and even rules and regulations. 'Y' pointed out that the term 'law' in Article 13 also included custom or usage having in the territory of India the force of law, to which 'X' was not convinced.

Based on the above, select the correct conclusion from the options given below :

(a) 'X' is correct in the interpretation of law, including the view on non-inclusion of custom.

(b) The view of 'Y' that 'law' included custom is not correct.

(c) The views of both 'X' and 'Y' are correct.

(d) The view of only 'Y' is correct.

		PART XX - Amendment	PYQ: 2024, 50+ Years of Kesavananda Bharati
3. PREAMBLE	5. Preamble-Definitions	Socialism	Supreme Court Verdict- Dr. Balram Singh v. Union of India- challenged the inclusion of the words "Socialist" and "Secular"
	6. Objectives	Secularism	Uniform Civil Code is in the News.
		Fraternity	UPSC Asked 2 of the 3 Concept of French Revolution i.e. Equality (2017) & Liberty (2018, 2019, 2021) Except Fraternity
		Justice	Economic justice- wealth inequality- 16 <sup>th</sup> finance commission
		Negative and Positive Liberty Original Preamble	PYQ: 2021, 2019, 2017 Geo-Scientist 2023 PYQ: 2017, 2020, 2013, CDS 2022
4 CITIZENSHIP	7. Criteria 2021	Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI)	Home Affairs Issued a Crucial Notification Regarding the <b>Cancellation of OCI Registration</b> , Issued A Crucial Notification Regarding the <b>Cancellation of OCI Registration</b>
		Article 9- Single Citizenship	Census 2026, National Population Register (NPR)
		Citizenship Act, 1955	Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024 Notified Recently.
5. UNION & ITS TERRITORY	8. Article 371	371A	PYQ: 2005, Strongest Protection among others & Ladakh Protest
		371J	PYQ: 2005, Governor- Unique Discretionary Role- Establishing Development Boards.
		371H	PYQ: 2005, Governor's special responsibility for law and order.
6. FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS	9. Rule of Law	Rule of Law	PYQ: 2018, CDS 2017. SC ruled "Prolonged Incarceration Without Trial" Is A Violation of the Rule of Law on PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act).
	10. Rights - Definitions	Article 13	PYQ: 2002, CDS 2020, CAPF 2016
	11. A- 13-32	Article 19	Bulldozer Justice- Right to Reside (19(1)(E)) and the Right to Shelter Under Article 21
	12. Due Process of Law	Article 21	Right to Die, Right to Privacy is in The News.

91. Which of the following connectivity projects is/are a part of cooperation between India and the ASEAN member countries ?

1. Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project
2. IMT Trilateral Highway
3. Agartala-Akhaura Rail Line

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

		Scarborough Shoal	China announced the creation of a "National Nature Reserve" at Scarborough Shoal. (THE HINDU)
		Chagos Islands	United Kingdom officially handed over sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius. (THE HINDU)
		Mayotte	Tropical Cyclone Dikeledi (Jan 2025) struck Mayotte, a French territory in the Indian Ocean, causing severe flooding and displacing 14,500 people. (THE HINDU)
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		UNSC	Recent election of Non-Permanent Members. (THE HINDU)
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		UNESCO	USA's withdrawal from UNESCO. (THE HINDU)
		IAEA	IAEA Board censured Iran for breaching its Nuclear Non-Proliferation commitment. (THE HINDU)
		INTERPOL	India issued its first Silver Notice. (THE HINDU)
		UNHRC	INDIA was elected unopposed for its seventh term. (THE HINDU)
	Multilateral Platforms	BRICS	INDIA has assumed the BRICS chairmanship. (THE HINDU)
		New Development Bank	A new member was added: Algeria. (THE HINDU)
G7		India participated as an outreach country in the 51st G7 Summit. (INDIAN EXPRESS)	
G20		First-ever G20 Summit hosted on the African Continent. (THE HINDU) + UPSC asked question on G-20 in 2022.	
		IBSA Summit	Recently, a summit took place in Johannesburg, South Africa. (THE HINDU)

97. Match List I with List II and select the answer using the code given below the Lists :

<i>List I</i>	<i>List II</i>
<b>(BIMSTEC)</b> <i>Centre / Establishment</i>	<i>(Location)</i>
A. BIMSTEC Cultural Industries Observatory	1. NOIDA
B. BIMSTEC Energy Centre	2. Bengaluru
C. BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate	3. Colombo
D. BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility	4. Thimphu

Code :

	A	B	C	D
(a)	3	2	1	4
(b)	3	1	2	4
(c)	4	2	1	3
(d)	4	1	2	3

	<b>BIMSTEC Summit</b>	Has frequently appeared in the news; a summit was recently held in Bangkok. (THE HINDU)
	SCO	PM attended the SCO Summit in China. (THE HINDU)
	East Asia summit	20th East Asia Summit. (INDIAN EXPRESS)
	Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)	Due to the Iran–Israel War + UPSC has asked question on GCC in 2016.
	OPEC and OPEC+	Due to the Iran–Israel War + Brazil joined OPEC+ (THE HINDU)
	I2U2	Due to the Iran–Israel War. (THE HINDU)
	PAX SILICA	India officially joined this U.S.-led strategic alliance. (THE HINDU)
	AIIB	10 years of AIIB. (THE HINDU)
	International Maritime Organisation	India was re-elected to Category B of IMO Council for the 2026-2027 biennium. (THE HINDU)
	Indian Ocean Rim Association	India assumed the chair of IORA in 2025 for the next two years. (THE HINDU)
	C-3 alliance	India launched Cities Coalition for Circularity (C-3) at the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum. (INDIAN EXPRESS)
<b>Initiative in News</b>	UN High seas treaty	BBNJ agreement is set to enter into force. (THE HINDU)
	Geelong treaty	Australia–United Kingdom signed the Geelong Treaty (Nuclear powered submarine partnership and collaboration) (THE HINDU)
	Seville declaration	4th International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Seville. (THE HINDU)
	CDRI	7th edition of the Conference took place in France. (INDIAN EXPRESS)
	Group of friends	India emphasised the importance of the Group of Friends. (THE HINDU)
	Chicago and Montreal Convention	Due to the recent Air India crash, International Aviation investigation and compensation rules were in the news. (THE HINDU)
	USAID	Trump administration has systematically dismantled US Agency for International Development (USAID). (THE HINDU)

19. Which one of the following statements about the Eka Movement and Bardoli Satyagraha is correct?

- (a) The Eka Movement was throughout supported and organized by the Congress while Bardoli Satyagraha was initially independent of Congress influence and was only in the last stages supported by the Congress.
- (b) The Eka Movement was provided leadership by the *taluqdars* of Awadh, whereas the Bardoli Satyagraha was a movement of the landless labourers.
- (c) The Bardoli Satyagraha was a campaign against the enhancement of land revenue, while the Eka Movement was a protest against excessive extraction of rents.
- (d) The Eka Movement was located in the Varanasi and Mirzapur districts of the present-day U.P., while the Bardoli Satyagraha took place in Saurashtra.

	<b>Communal &amp; Constitutional Evolution</b>	1909 Act	The separate electorate system <i>institutionalised communal identity in legislative politics</i> — a factor that later fed into communal tensions in the 1920s–30s and the politics leading up to <i>Partition</i>
7. EARLY PHASE OF GANDHIAN FREEDOM STRUGGLE (1917-1925)	<b>Constitutional Reforms</b>	G.O.I Act 1919	<b>PYQ:</b> 2022, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2012, 1995
	<b>Early Satyagrahas</b>	Champaran+ kheda	<b>PYQ:</b> 2018, 2011, 2010, 2007, 2005, 2000
	<b>Nationalist Agitations</b>	Rowlatt Satyagraha (1919) Khilafat & Non-Cooperation (1920-22)	<b>PYQ:</b> 2015, 2012, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2001, 1999, 1996 <b>PYQ:</b> 2025, 1998, 1996
8. CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT AND OTHER EVENTS	<b>Nationalist Agitations</b>	Simon commission Lahore Session (1929) Karachi Session (1931) and its output	<b>PYQ:</b> 2013, 2010 <b>PYQ:</b> 2014, 2012, 2006, 2005, 1997 <b>PYQ:</b> 2010, 2005
	<b>Civil Disobedience (1930-31)</b>	Dandi March & Salt Satyagraha The Gandhi-Irwin Pact	<b>PYQ:</b> 2025, 2019, 2015, 2009, 1997, 1995 <b>PYQ:</b> 2020, 2019, 2003
	<b>Social Issues</b>	Poona Pact (1932)	<b>PYQ:</b> 2025, 1997 Mostly covered by other exams in many times
	<b>Regional &amp; Mass Movements</b>	Bardoli satyagraha	India recently observed the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
	9. EVENTS FROM 1933 TO 1939	<b>Constitutional Landmarks</b>	G.O.I Act 1935
<b>Nationalist Movements</b>		Congress Socialist Party (CSP)	<b>PYQ:</b> 2015, 1996 Ongoing Ideological Debate on 'Socialist' in Constitution
<b>Provincial &amp; Regional Politics</b>		Princely States: The All India States' Peoples' Conference (1939 + Praja Mandal movement.	<b>PYQ:</b> 2002, 2001 Tributes to Praja Mandal Freedom Fighter-In news
10. LAST PHASE OF BRITISH RULE (1940-1950)	<b>Wartime Proposals</b>	August Offer (1940) & Individual Satyagraha Cripps Mission (1942)	<b>PYQ:</b> 2009, 1998 Multiple events Can be asked in chronological way <b>PYQ:</b> 2022, 2016, 2013, 2010, 2009, 2003
	<b>National freedom Movement</b>	Quit India Movement (1942)	<b>PYQ:</b> 2021, 2017, 2013, 2011, 2009, 2005, 1998

61. Which of the following statements about insurance in **aviation sector** is/are correct ?

1. 'Aviation Hull Insurance' covers the physical aircraft, including the body, engine, and on-board equipment.
2. Under the **Montreal Convention**, adopted in 1999 by over 130 countries, including India, airlines are strictly liable to pay compensation to the family/nominee of every deceased passenger without requiring the family to prove fault.

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 only  
 (b) 2 only  
 (c) Both 1 and 2  
 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

	BIMSTEC Summit	Has frequently appeared in the news; a summit was recently held in Bangkok. (THE HINDU)
	SCO	PM attended the SCO Summit in China. (THE HINDU)
	East Asia summit	20th East Asia Summit. (INDIAN EXPRESS)
	Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)	Due to the Iran-Israel War + UPSC has asked question on GCC in 2016.
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	Chicago and Montreal Convention	Due to the recent Air India crash, International Aviation investigation and compensation rules were in the news. (THE HINDU)
	USAID	Trump administration has systematically dismantled US Agency for International Development (USAID). (THE HINDU)

85) Consider the following statements about Mission Sudarshan Chakra of India :

1. It aims to enhance India's air defence, ballistic missile defence and aerial offensive capabilities.
2. This Mission is being designed to enhance rapid, precise, and powerful defence responses, reinforcing India's strategic autonomy.
3. One of the aims of this Mission is to cover all public places of India by an expanded nationwide security shield by 2035.

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

		Technologies (Sheshnaag-150) and VEM Technologies (Chaser drone).
27. S-400 Triumf Air Defence System (Sudarshan Chakra); S-500		<b>Source:</b> The Hindu / Indian Express (2025–2026)   <b>PYQ:</b> 2018 (THAAD); 2019 (S-400 procurement controversy) The S-400 is a <b>long-range surface-to-air missile (SAM) system</b> capable of engaging targets up to 400 km away across multiple threat tiers simultaneously, distinguishing it from shorter-range systems like Akash. UPSC may ask to <b>compare S-400 (imported, multi-layered, 400 km) with Project KUSHA / ERADS (indigenous, under development)</b> , or test why India invoked a CAATSA waiver to procure S-400 from Russia despite US sanctions pressure — a unique geopolitical-strategic convergence point.
28. S-500 Prometey		<b>Source:</b> The Hindu / Indian Express (2025–2026)   <b>PYQ:</b> 2018 (THAAD); 2019 (S-400 procurement); 2023 (hypersonic missile systems) Since UPSC asked about THAAD in 2018 and S-400 in 2019, it may now ask to <b>distinguish S-400 from S-500</b> (range, altitude, anti-hypersonic/anti-satellite capability), or test the <b>CAATSA sanctions dimension</b> — the same legal hurdle India faced with the S-400 procurement. The <b>re-export clause</b> in Russia's G2G proposal and its strategic implications for India's defence export ambitions is also a likely MCQ trigger.
29. Pralay Tactical Ballistic Missile (TBMs)		<b>Source:</b> DRDO, PIB, The Hindu (October 2025 – February 2026)   <b>PYQ:</b> 2023 – Agni-V as a ballistic missile; 2014 – Agni-IV Pralay is an <b>indigenous road-mobile tactical ballistic missile (TBM)</b> with a range of <b>about 150–500 km</b> , meant for <b>rapid, high-precision strikes against selected enemy-battlefield-targets</b> (airfields, command-centres, logistics hubs).
30. Long-Range Anti-Ship Hypersonic Missile (LR-AShM)		<b>Source:</b> DD News (January 2026)   <b>PYQ:</b> 2023 – Hypersonic / cruise-vs-ballistic-missile India has publicly showcased the Long-Range Anti-Ship Hypersonic Missile (LR-AShM), a hypersonic glide-vehicle (HGV)-based anti-ship missile designed to fly at Mach-5+ along a quasi-ballistic or lofted trajectory before maneuvering in the terminal phase to

16. The *Hallsalasya* painting in the Bagh Caves represents :

- (a) A joyous folk dance
- (b) Buddha in a meditative pose
- (c) The depiction of Shiva and Parvati on Kailasha
- (d) Samudramanathan (Churning of the Ocean)

<b>Tamil Literature</b>	Nalayira Divya Prabhandam and Panniru Tirumurai.	CAPF-2024, CDS-2018
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## ART AND CULTURE

CHAPTER	EXPECTED THEME	SURE SHOT TOPICS FOR PRELIMS - 2026	JUSTIFICATION
1. ARCHITECTURE	Temple	Hoysala Temples (Karnataka)	Frequently asked on the Temple architecture theme. PYQ (2001, 2002, 2006, 2008, 2009(3), 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2022, 2021)  The Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas (Belur, Halebidu, and Somanathapura) were recently inscribed as India's 42nd UNESCO World Heritage Site.
		Shore Temple, Mamallapuram (Tamil Nadu)	It has become India's first "Green Heritage Site." This means the site is now powered entirely by solar energy and focused on sustainable tourism.
		Martand Sun Temple (Jammu & Kashmir)	The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has been working on the conservation of this 8th-century site.
		channakesava temple	PMO Sevateerth complex derived inspiration based on this temple complex.
		Mahabodhi temple complex	Naval Officers From 74 Countries Visit Mahabodhi Temple and Meditate Under Sacred Bodhi Tree
		Sri Mallikarjunaswamy Temple	The earliest Indian epigraphic reference to Halley's Comet appears in a 1456 CE Vijayanagara copper plate inscription from Srisailam.
		Cave	Ratnagiri
	Badami Caves (Karnataka)	Researchers recently discovered new Chalukyan-era inscriptions near these caves	
	Kanheri Caves (Maharashtra)	The Ministry of Tourism recently inaugurated new visitor facilities and a 3D-interpretation centre to showcase the "Buddhist Circuit."	
	Bagh Caves (Madhya Pradesh)	New restoration projects have been initiated to prevent the further decay of the murals, which are often compared to the Ajanta paintings.	
Sittanawasal	The Sittanavasal Caves in Tamil Nadu have been in the news due to urgent concerns regarding the preservation of their ancient frescoes Conservation of "Arivar Koil"		

57. A bond whose proceeds are used only to finance or refinance a combination of both environmental and social projects is called :

(a) Green Bond  
 (b) Social Bond  
 (c) Sustainability Bond  
 (d) Sovereign Bond

GDP and its Calculation	9. Expenditure Method	9. Important, as GDP growth discussions in Economic Survey 2024-25 and Union Budget 2026 increasingly emphasise <b>consumption vs investment demand trends (PYQ 2015)</b> .
	10. Production Method	10. Relevant due to sector-wise growth (agriculture, industry, services) analysis in Economic Survey 2024-26 and PIB data releases.
	11. Base effect	11. Crucial for interpreting <b>high/low growth rates amid post-COVID recovery and inflation trends</b> discussed in Economic Survey 2025-26 and Press Information Bureau and inclusion in IMF-NAS (rating).
	12. Purchasing Manager Index	12. <b>High-frequency indicator of economic activity (manufacturing/services)</b> widely cited in PIB and Economic Survey 2024-25 for real-time assessment.
Other variables of Macroeconomics	13. GVA (Supply of Agriculture & Allied)	13. <b>Changing share of agriculture in GVA, resilience despite climate shocks and rising allied activities (dairy, fisheries)</b> highlighted in Economic Survey 2025-26, Union Budget 2026 and Press Information Bureau <b>PYQ: UPSC has asked basics of GVA vs GDP and sectoral contribution (2015 &amp; 2017 on national income concepts). (2023 CDS)</b>
Productivity	14. Incremental Capital Output Ratio	14. The Economic Survey 2025-26 highlights a "Structural Moderation" in ICOR (dropping toward 4.0 from 4.5), which <b>PIB</b> reports is a direct result of PM GatiShakti reducing logistical bottlenecks and improving capital efficiency <b>(PYQ- 2018)</b>
Development and Human Capital	15. Sustainable Development	15. Sustainable Development for 2026 centers on India's record 52% non-fossil energy share and a ₹20,000 crore Budget push for CCUS and Nuclear SMRs to achieve Net Zero specially during War and Economic Survey 2025-26 emphasis on <b>ESG Investing / Green Bonds / Sustainability-Linked Bonds. (PYQ 2013, 2010, 2015 CDS)</b>
Inflation Indices	16. Consumer Price Index	16. RBI's inflation targeting is based on CPI with trends and food inflation discussed in Economic Survey 2025-26 and Press Information Bureau. <b>(PYQ 2020, 2020, 2011, 2010, 2014 CDS)</b> .

67. Which of the following statements with regard to **Large Language Models (LLMs)** used in machine learning is/are correct ?

1. LLMs assign probabilities to the next possible words and then pick the one with the highest probability.
2. LLMs process data through mathematical optimization to minimise prediction errors.
3. LLMs produce unbiased outputs.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

		(Natural and Synthetic)	(particles smaller than 5 mm) can cross critical biological barriers and enter the human bloodstream. Since <b>UPSC has already asked about their environmental hazards in 2019</b> (e.g., microbeads affecting marine ecosystems), future questions may focus on their bioaccumulation in the human body or on identifying the types of polymers.
		20. Bisphenol A (BPA) & Phthalates	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (June 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2021</b> – Bisphenol A being a structural key component in the manufacture of Polycarbonate plastics Regulatory updates by FSSAI have put these plasticizers in focus. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2021</b> where it expected you to know its everyday sources, it may ask you to identify BPA and Phthalates as dangerous endocrine-disrupting chemicals.
	5. Others	21. Radiocarbon Dating (Carbon-14)	<b>Source:</b> The Economic Times (June 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2024</b> - Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator. This technique was extensively used in recent archaeological excavations at Rakhigarhi. Since previously <b>UPSC has asked in 2024</b> it may ask you about the purpose of radiocarbon dating (Carbon-14 isotope to date organic remains).
		22. Deep Ocean Mission	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (Nov 2025)   <b>PYQ: 2021</b> - Global Ocean Commission, Rare earth minerals; <b>2022</b> - United Nations Convention on the Law of Sea.
		23. Mpemba Effect	<b>Source:</b> PIB (Jan 2026)   <b>PYQ: 2011</b> - Anomalous Behaviour of Water With the recent discovery of the first supercomputer-powered simulations explaining the Mpemba Effect (the phenomenon where hotter water freezes faster than colder water under certain conditions.), there is a strong possibility that UPSC may ask questions on the Mpemba Effect in the upcoming examinations.
4. INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)	1. AI & Emerging Computing	1. Agentic AI vs. Generative AI; Large Language Model (LLM)- ChatGPT, Claude, Microsoft Copilot, Gemini, and Meta AI; Mutimodal LLM (MLLM); National Mission on	<b>Source:</b> The Hindu (2025- March 2026); PIB (2024)   <b>PYQ: 2020</b> – Artificial Intelligence creating meaningful short stories and songs These represent the current evolutionary stages of AI. Since UPSC asked about AI capabilities in 2020, it may ask you to distinguish between Generative AI and Agentic AI, identify LLMs or MLLMs, or ask about initiatives like BharatGen (the first government-

82. Consider the following statements about the provisions pertaining to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in India :

1. Provisions regarding the administration of the Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are given in the **Fifth Schedule** of the Constitution of India.
2. Some tribes of India are entitled to exemption from paying Income Tax on certain incomes.
3. The Constitution of India provides for reservation of seats in Panchayats for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct ?

- (a) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that are statements 1 and 3.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) All three statements are correct.

**EXPECTED PRELIMS TOPICS - 2026**

**BASED ON LAST 45 YEARS PYQs: & LAST 1.5 YEARS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**POLITY**

CHAPTER	EXPECTED THEME	SURE SHOT TOPICS FOR PRELIMS - 2026	JUSTIFICATION
1. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND & COLONIAL RULE	1. Constitution	Constitution – Meaning, Purpose	PYQ: 2023, 2021. <b>75 years of the Constitution</b>
	2. Constituent Assembly	Constituent Assembly- President, Committee	PYQ: 1993, 1996, 2024, CAPF 2015 <b>80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Meeting of the Constituent Assembly.</b>
2. SALIENT FEATURES / SCHEDULES / PARTS OF THE CONSTITUTION	3. All Schedule	1 <sup>st</sup> Schedule	Kerala to Keralam
		5 <sup>th</sup> Schedule	PYQ: 2022, 2015, Residents in <b>Lahaul-Spiti</b> Have Intensified Their Demands for Stricter Enforcement of Fifth Schedule Protections.
	4. Part of The Constitution	6 <sup>th</sup> Schedule	PYQ: 2015, 2008, CDS Pre. 2018 II, Ladakh Protest
		7 <sup>th</sup> Schedule	Fiscal Federalism- 16 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission (FC) Recommendation
		9 <sup>th</sup> Schedule	PYQ: 2018, 2019, 2022 Chhattisgarh and Bihar Seeking 9 <sup>th</sup> Schedule Protection for Reservation Quotas Exceeding 50%.
		10 <sup>th</sup> Schedule	CAPF 2016, SC Rulings (Padi Kaushik Reddy v. State of Telangana (2025-26) <b>Strict 3-month timeline</b> for All Speakers to Decide on Disqualification Petitions.
		11 <sup>th</sup> Schedule	CDS 2020. Poor Financial Health of Panchayats and The Role of State Finance Commissions-16 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission.
PART XV- Elections	One Nation, One Election, Delimitation		
PART IX Panchayats	PYQ: 2024, 16 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Mention Financial Autonomy.		
Part XVIII- Emergency	PYQ: 2024, Manipur Issue.		

**RICE IAS Test Themes Matches Exactly  
with the UPSC Prelims Questions  
Themes**

4. Which of the following statements on the Amaravati Stupa and its relief sculpture is/are correct ?

1. It was located in the lower Krishna valley.
2. In India, it was next only to the Sanchi Stupa in size.
3. The Amaravati school of sculpture made a lasting impact on the later South Indian sculpture, and its products were carried to Sri Lanka and South-east Asia.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

**Test Date - 15 Feb 2026**

**Test No - 32 / ART & CULTURE (FLT)**

6. The famous Stupa at Amaravati is distinguished from the Sanchi Stupa by which of the following architectural features?
- (a) The lack of any narrative carvings on the railings.
  - (b) The absence of a circumambulatory path (Pradakshina Patha).
  - (c) The use of white marble and the presence of 'Ayaka' pillars.
  - (d) The use of sun-dried bricks instead of burnt bricks.

6. Which of the following factors contributed to the formation of the Forward Bloc by Subhas Chandra Bose in 1939 ?

1. Bose failed to win the confidence of Mahatma Gandhi.
2. The Congress Left was disunited and failed to support Bose.
3. The Communists did not support Bose in his endeavours.
4. The supporters of M.N. Roy and socialist leaders like Jayaprakash Narayan preferred Congress unity to supporting Bose.

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) 1, 2 and 4
- (c) 1, 3 and 4
- (d) 2 and 4 only

**Test Date – 19 April 2026**

**Test No – 28 / History & Geography**

27. Consider the following statements regarding Subhas Chandra Bose and the formation of the Forward Bloc:

- I. Subhas Chandra Bose established the Forward Bloc in May 1939 following his resignation as the President of the Indian National Congress, a decision prompted by an ideological deadlock with the Gandhian faction.
- II. His decision to organize an all-India protest against an All India Congress Committee (AICC) resolution led to severe disciplinary action, resulting in his removal from the presidency of the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee and a three-year ban from holding elective offices.
- III. The primary objective behind founding the Forward Bloc was to unify radical and left-wing elements to launch an immediate, uncompromising struggle for independence, contrasting with the cautious approach of the conservative Congress leadership.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

8. Consider the following assertion :  
*The genesis of political alliances based on community lay in the very nature of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms, 1919.*

Which of the following statements support/supports the above assertion ?

1. Reforms retained and extended the principle of separate electorates.
2. Separate electorates were supposed to counter Indian nationalism, which was growing stronger.
3. Deprived classes rallied around the favours inherent in separate electorates.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

**Test Date – 11 January 2026**

**Test No – 1 / POLITY 1**

4. Which of the following provisions were introduced by the Government of India Act of 1919?

- I. It introduced Diarchy (dual rule) at the provincial level, dividing subjects into 'transferred' and 'reserved'.
- II. It introduced Bicameralism (Indian Legislative Council replaced by two houses) and direct elections at the Centre for the first time.
- III. It extended the principle of communal representation by providing separate electorates for Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, and Europeans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) I only  
(b) II and III only  
(c) I, II and III  
(d) I and II only

64. Consider the following statements about the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in India :

1. NBFCs cannot accept demand deposits.
2. All the NBFCs operating in India have to be registered with the RBI.
3. NBFCs form part of the payment and settlement system and can issue cheque drawn on itself.
4. Deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) is not available to the depositors of deposit taking NBFCs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 and 4
- (b) 1, 2 and 3
- (c) 4 only
- (d) 2, 3 and 4

Test Date - 05 April 2026

Test No - 37 / Economy FLT

91. With reference to Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in India, consider the following statements:

1. NBFCs can accept demand deposits and issue cheques like banks.
2. NBFCs are required to register with the RBI, but those regulated by sector-specific regulators like SEBI or IRDA are exempted.
3. Public deposits with NBFCs are not insured under the deposit insurance scheme.

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

25. Consider the following statements with reference to the Sagarmala Programme of the Government of India :

- I. The Sagarmala Programme seeks to achieve port-led economic growth through cost-effective and sustainable coastal infrastructure.
- II. The success of the Sagarmala Programme is reflected in significant growth in coastal and inland waterway shipping, along with improved global port rankings.
- III. Sagarmala 2.0 aims to position India as a global maritime innovation hub aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047 visions.

Which of the following relationships among the above statements is/are correct ?

1. Statement II validates the effectiveness of the strategies envisioned in statement I.
2. Statement III extends the objectives of statement I by embedding them into a future-oriented innovation framework.
3. Statement I contradicts statement III by focusing only on traditional infrastructure instead of modern innovation.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

Test Date - 15 Feb 2026

Test No - 16 / Economy 2

73. With reference to the National Logistics Policy (NLP) and Sagarmala, consider the following statements:

- I. Sagarmala reduces logistics costs by shifting cargo from road to coastal and inland waterways.
- II. The National Logistics Policy uses Sagarmala ports as nodal points for multimodal freight movement.
- III. Both focus exclusively on export infrastructure and exclude domestic supply chains.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) I and II only  
(b) II and III only  
(c) I only  
(d) I, II and III

**Test Date - 15 Feb 2026**

**Test No - 32 / ART & CULTURE (FLT)**

27. Which one of the following statements with regard to the Moidams, built by the Tai-Ahom kingdom and inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, is/are correct ?

1. They acted as army fortresses.
2. They were recreation centres of the Royals and Nobles.
3. They were burial grounds of the Royals and Nobles.
4. They were battle drill centres of the Royals and Nobles.

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3
- (c) 3 only
- (d) 2 and 4

30. With reference to the 'Maidams' of Charaideo, recently inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, consider the following statements:

- I. They are late medieval mound-burial systems of the Ahom dynasty.
- II. The architectural style represents a unique fusion of Tai-Ahom traditions and local indigenous influences.
- III. Unlike Egyptian pyramids, Maidams were constructed entirely of wood and bamboo without any stone or brickwork.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) I and II only
- (b) I and III only
- (c) I, II, and III
- (d) I and III only

Test Date - 04 Feb 2026

Test No - 12 / Current Affairs Test 4

34. In what way(s) does the Vizhinjam International Seaport represent a structural shift in India's maritime trade and logistics policy?

1. By functioning exclusively as a domestic cargo hub to reduce reliance on coastal shipping and eliminate the need for foreign collaborations.
2. By focusing primarily on passenger cruise tourism and heritage shipping to increase Kerala's profile as a maritime heritage destination.
3. By leveraging its natural deep draft and strategic location to reduce dependence on foreign trans-shipment ports, enhance revenue retention, and reposition India in regional maritime trade.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

52. The Vizhinjam International Transshipment Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport, which recently became India's first fully operational automated deep-sea port, is located in the state of:

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

44. Which of the following statements about DHRUV64 is/are correct ?

1. It is the third chip fabricated under the DIR-V Programme with an overall aim to enable the creation of microprocessors for India.
2. It is India's first homegrown 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor.

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 only  
 (b) 2 only  
 (c) Both 1 and 2  
 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Test Date - 10 May 2026**

**Test No - 60 / FLT 8**

62. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:

DHRUV64, India's first fully indigenous microprocessor, is based on RISC-V architecture and was developed by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

Statement II:

Since RISC-V is an open-source instruction set architecture, Indian entities can design RISC-V based processors without paying licensing fees to any foreign entity.

Which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both are correct and II explains I  
(b) Both are correct but II does not explain I  
(c) Only I is correct  
(d) Only II is correct

53. Which one of the following correctly represents the three key sub-indices of the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) ?
- (a) Credit access, Insurance depth, and Pension coverage
  - (b) Banking access, GDP contribution, and Financial literacy
  - (c) Access, Usage, and Quality
  - (d) Access, Affordability, and Transparency

**Test Date - 14 Mar 2026**

**Test No - 27 / Current Affairs Test 9**

42. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:

The improvement in the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) indicates the deepening of financial inclusion and the impact of sustained financial literacy initiatives.

Statement II:

The FI-Index comprises three sub-indices — Access, Usage, and Quality each reflecting the availability, usage, and quality of financial services.

Statement III:

The improvement in the FI-Index in FY2025 was contributed mainly by the Usage and Quality dimensions.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
- (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

59. Which one of the following best describes the 'Crowding Out Effect' in the context of fiscal policy?
- (a) A situation where private investment increases due to increased Government spending
  - (b) A situation where Government borrowing leads to higher interest rates, which reduces private investment
  - (c) A situation where an increase in taxes leads to increased private sector investment
  - (d) A situation where Government spending has no impact on aggregate demand

**Test Date - 05 April 2026**

**Test No - 38 / Economy FLT**

96. The increase in private investment spending induced by the increase in Government spending is known as:
- (a) Crowding in
  - (b) Deficity financing
  - (c) Crowding out
  - (d) Pumping out

65. Consider the following statements about **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** :

1. MPI is calculated using Alkire-Foster methodology.
2. MPI calculated by **NITI Aayog** has a total of twelve indicators. 6  
2  
2
3. Maternal Health and Bank Account are common indicators in the MPI of NITI Aayog and MPI of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

## Test Date – 05 April 2026

## Test No – 37 / Economy FLT

87. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:

The **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** measures poverty based on multiple deprivations in health, education, and living standards.

Statement II:

MPI includes indicators such as nutrition, years of schooling, and access to basic amenities.

Statement III:

The **NITI Aayog** National MPI uses 10 global MPI indicators plus 2 additional ones- Household income and Bank Accounts.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I  
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I  
(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I  
(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

69. Which of the following statements with regard to **Black Boxes** used in modern aircrafts is/are correct ?

1. They carry a beacon emitting red light pulses to facilitate underwater detection.
2. They **record both the cockpit voice and flight data.**
3. Their memory units are made using either stainless steel or titanium.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

**Test Date - 17 Jan 2026**

**Test No - 3 / Current Affairs Test 1**

61. With reference to flight recorders commonly known as "**Black Boxes**," consider the following statements:

- I. The device is referred to as a *Black Box* because its outer casing is painted black to facilitate quick identification after an aircraft accident.
- II. A standard Black Box system comprises two independent recorders — a **Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR)** and a **Flight Data Recorder (FDR).**
- III. The protective casing of a Black Box is made of highly durable materials such as titanium or hardened steel, designed to withstand high-impact crashes, fire, and deep-sea pressure.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

70. Which of the following statements with regard to Green Hydrogen is/are correct ?

1. It is decarbonized hydrogen obtained from natural gas reforming combined with carbon capture and storage (CCS).
2. It is produced using electrolysis of water with electricity generated by renewable energy.
3. National Green Hydrogen Mission of India aims for abatement of nearly 50 MMT of annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

## Test Date - 21 Feb 2026

## Test No - 18 / Current Affairs Test 6

17. Consider the following statements:

Statement I:

Green Hydrogen is considered a superior alternative to fossil fuels for achieving deep decarbonization in "hard-to-abate" sectors like steel and heavy shipping.

Statement II:

Green Hydrogen is produced through the electrolysis of water powered by renewable energy sources, resulting in zero greenhouse gas emissions during production.

Statement III:

Green Hydrogen can be stored and transported more easily and at a lower cost than existing natural gas infrastructure without any technical modifications.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
- (c) Only Statement II is correct and it explains Statement I
- (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

## Test Date - 18 April 2026

## Test No - 42 / Current Affairs Test 14

26. With reference to the use of green hydrogen in agriculture, consider the following statements:

- I. Green hydrogen can be used to produce ammonia without carbon emissions, thereby reducing dependence on fossil fuel-based fertilizers.
- II. Hydrogen-based fuels can be used in agricultural machinery to lower greenhouse gas emissions in farming operations.
- III. Ammonia produced using green hydrogen is inherently more harmful to soil health than conventionally produced ammonia.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

74. Which of the following statements with regard to the National Quantum Mission (NQM) is/are correct ?

1. It aims at developing intermediate-scale quantum computers with 50 – 1000 physical qubits.
2. Its implementation includes setting up of four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) in academic and national R&D institutes across India.

Select the answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Test Date – 21 Feb 2026**

**Test No – 18 / Current Affairs Test 6**

28. Consider the following statements in the context of India's National Quantum Mission (NQM):

Statement I:

The National Quantum Mission envisages the creation of satellite-enabled secure quantum communication links spanning inter-city as well as cross-border distances.

Statement II:

Free-space optical Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) is essential for establishing quantum communication in scenarios where fibre-optic networks are impractical or unavailable.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II does not explain Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is not correct
- (d) Statement I is not correct but Statement II is correct

83. Consider the following statements in respect of questions asked by the Members in the Parliament of India :

1. Unstarred questions are those to which a Member desires an oral answer in the House.
2. Starred questions are those to which a Member desires a written answer.
3. No supplementary question can be asked on an unstarred question.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct ?

- (a) All the three statements are correct.
- (b) There are two correct statements, that include statement 2.
- (c) There is only one correct statement.
- (d) There is no correct statement.

**Test Date - 11 Jan 2026**

**Test No - 1 / Polity 1**

32. Consider the following statements regarding the Question Hour and Zero Hour:

- I. Starred Questions are those which require an oral answer, and they can be followed by supplementary questions from the members.
- II. Unstarred Questions are those which require a written answer, and supplementary questions are allowed to follow the written reply.
- III. Zero Hour is an informal procedural device and is not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of the House, but it has been in existence since 1962.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) I and II only
- (b) II and III only
- (c) I and III only
- (d) I, II and III

87. Which of the following statements about a Zero First Information Report (Zero FIR) under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 is/are correct ?

1. A Zero FIR can be lodged at a police station, even though the place of commission of a cognizable/non-cognizable offence is outside the territorial jurisdiction of that police station.
2. The Officer-in-Charge of the police station where a Zero FIR has been lodged may, with the permission of the competent authority, initiate a preliminary enquiry.
3. Under Zero FIR, it is obligatory for the informant to furnish information electronically.

Select the answer using the code given below :

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

**Test Date - 17 Jan 2026**

**Test No - 03 / Current Affairs Test 1**

55. Assertion (A):

The e-Zero FIR initiative under I4C allows registration of Zero FIRs for specified cyber-financial crimes irrespective of territorial jurisdiction.

Reason (R):

Under the Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), provisions have been made to enable electronic registration of FIRs and to remove strict territorial limitations on the place of registration in certain categories of offences.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.  
(c) A is true but R is false.  
(d) A is false but R is true.

88. With reference to the organisations under the Government of India, consider the following details :

Sl. No.	Organisation	Function	Controlling Union Ministry
1.	Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB)	To coordinate between various law enforcement agencies	Ministry of Home Affairs
2.	Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO)	To investigate complex corporate frauds	Ministry of Finance <i>mca</i>
3.	Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	To preserve values in public life and ensure the health of the national economy	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension

In how many of the above rows are the given details correctly matched ?

- (a) 1  
(b) 2  
(c) 3  
(d) None

## Test Date - 11 Jan 2026

### Test No - 01 / Polity

68. Consider the following information with reference to the Government of India:

Organization	Primary Mandate	Administrative Ministry
1. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	Nodal agency for INTERPOL in India	Ministry of Home Affairs
2. Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO)	Investigating white-collar crimes and corporate frauds	Ministry of Corporate Affairs
3. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)	Repository of information on crime and criminals	Ministry of Law and Justice
4. Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND)	Processing and disseminating information relating to suspect financial transactions	Ministry of Finance

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one  
(b) Only two  
(c) Only three  
(d) All four

90. Consider the following statements with respect to the AI Impact Summit, 2026 held in New Delhi :

1. The Summit's intellectual framework was based on three foundational Sutras : People, Planning, and Progress.
2. The Preamble of the Summit stresses Democratising AI Resources, which acknowledges the Charter for Democratic Diffusion of AI as a binding framework to support locally relevant innovation and strengthen resilient AI ecosystems while respecting national laws.
3. The New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact was structured around seven Chakras (Pillars), which included Access for Social Empowerment, AI for Science, and Secure and Trusted AI.

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) 3 only

**Test Date - 14 Feb 2026**

**Test No - 15 / Current Affairs Test 5**

60. With regard to the India-AI Impact Summit 2026, consider the following statements:

1. The summit is being convened by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
2. The summit is guided by three core principles, popularly referred to as the "Three Sutras" — People, Planet and Progress.
3. AI by HER has been introduced as a flagship programme to encourage women-led innovation and leadership in artificial intelligence.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one  
(b) Only two  
(c) All three  
(d) None