UPPCS Prelims 2026: Top Current Affairs (Jan–Oct 2026)

1. What the last 10+ years of papers show

How many current affairs questions per paper (out of 150)

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
CA questions	30	28	34	29	24	36	~28	~25	~33	~29	~23

About 1 question in 5 is current affairs, every year. That's 25–35 marks out of 200.

Which kinds get asked (2017–2025, about 270 CA questions, approximate)

Rank	Type	≈ Questions	Trend	Typical ask
1	**Government schemes, missions, policies, new Acts**	~40	steady, high	which ministry · launch year · chronological order of schemes · statement on features
2	**Reports and indices** (India's rank, who publishes)	~35	steady, high	"X Report is published by…" · India's rank · top state
3	**Uttar Pradesh current affairs**	~30	high every year	UP budget · UP schemes · UP firsts · UP districts in a report · UP airports, expressways
4	**World news: leaders, elections, conflicts, firsts**	~30	steady	new PM or President of country X · first woman · country in the news
5	**Awards, books, authors**	~28	steady	Booker, Pulitzer, Jnanpith, Sahitya Akademi, Padma, Nobel, Oscars, Magsaysay
6	**Summits and groupings**	~20	steady	host city · chair · members (BRICS, SCO, G20, G7, BIMSTEC, GCC)
7	**Science, space, health**	~20	rising	ISRO missions · vaccines · first indigenous X
8	**Defence: exercises, missiles, operations**	~16	**rising fast (2024–25)**	exercise with which country · operation for which country · missile type
9	**Union Budget and Economic Survey**	~14	peaks in some years (2023 had 6)	allocation · fiscal deficit · "rupee comes from / goes to" · Survey highlights
10	**Infrastructure firsts**	~14	steady	first train, bridge, airport, pipeline
11	**Environment current affairs**	~14	steady	Ramsar sites · Forest Report · tiger, cheetah · climate summits
12	**Sports**	~15	**falling**	big events only: Olympics, Asian Games, CWG, World Cups
13	Days and themes	~6	low	theme of a UN day

@UPSCPSCDECODE

UPPCS Prelims 2026 Pack • ₹499 · English + हिंदी · Test Series included

Top 16 = 1 in 4 questions. The Pack covers the rest: 100+ sure-shot attempts from about 248 pages.

Gap Sheets · 113 pages — preview EN हिंदी
What UPPCS asked + **what it has not asked yet**

Repeat Lists · 50 pages — preview EN हिंदी
2,918 facts UPPCS asks again and again

Books · 85 pages
Book 2 (next 12 chapters) + the Top 16 Book



Five rules from the pattern

1. **The question style changed in 2023.** Old papers asked one-liners: "who, where, when". From 2023 on, most CA questions read "With reference to X, which statements are correct?" with two to four statements. So for each topic, know **three or four facts** (launch date, ministry, place, partner country, a number), not just the name.
2. **Recency window:** the 2024 paper asked mostly March–May 2024 events; the 2025 paper asked March–June 2025. For December 2026, the core window is **January–September 2026**, plus anything announced early in the year (Budget, Economic Survey, Padma awards).
3. **UP gets 3–8 questions every year.** Never skip the UP section.
4. **Schemes come in "chronological order" questions** (2017 ×2, 2020, 2024 ×3, 2025 ×2). Learn the **launch year** of every scheme that is new, renamed or "2.0".
5. **Reports: learn the publisher.** 2023, 2024 and 2025 each asked "Report X is published by..." (ILO, IMF, UNDP, CGWB). India's rank comes second.

Contents

- 1. What the last 10+ years of papers show
  - How many current affairs questions per paper (out of 150)
  - Which kinds get asked (2017–2025, about 270 CA questions, approximate)
  - Five rules from the pattern
- Contents
- Part 1: UP, Economy, Acts and Schemes
- 2.1 Uttar Pradesh
- 2.2 Budget, Economic Survey, Economy
- 2.3 New Acts, Bills, National Schemes and Decisions
- Part 2: Reports, Summits, Defence
- Part A. Reports and indices
  - A1. National reports and indices

@UPSCPSCDECODE

    - A2. International reports and indices
- Part B. Summits, groupings, world news
    - B1. Groupings and summits
    - B2. Climate and environment conferences
    - B3. Iran–Israel conflict and US–Iran MoU (places for the map)
    - B4. People, elections and world news
- Part C. Defence
    - C1. Exercises and operations
    - C2. Missiles and platforms
- Part 3: Science, Environment, Awards, Sports
    - 2.7 Science, Space, Health
    - 2.8 Environment
    - 2.9 Awards and Books
    - 2.9 Important Days (UN / international, with a 2026 theme)
    - 2.10 Sports

Part 1: UP, Economy, Acts and Schemes

2.1 Uttar Pradesh

UP Budget 2026–27

- Presented by Finance Minister **Suresh Kumar Khanna** on **11 February 2026**.
- Total expenditure **₹9,12,696 crore**, 27% above the 2025–26 revised estimate. Net expenditure (excluding debt repayment of ₹61,795 crore) is ₹8,50,901 crore.
- Fiscal deficit **₹1,18,481 crore = 3% of GSDP**. This matches the 16th Finance Commission limit of 3% for 2026–31.
- Revenue surplus **₹64,458 crore (1.6% of GSDP)**, lower than 2.4% in 2025–26 RE. Primary deficit ₹49,560 crore (1.2%).
- GSDP 2026–27 projected at **₹39.8 lakh crore**. Outstanding liabilities 23.1% of GSDP.

Likely ask: Fiscal deficit as % of GSDP, who presented the budget, which is the largest own-tax source.

UP Budget: rupee comes in, rupee goes out

- Rupee comes in: own tax revenue **39%**, share in central tax 31.4%, grants-in-aid 11.5%, public debt 13.5%, non-tax revenue 3.1%.
- Rupee goes out: capital 19.4%, other expenditure 19.1%, salaries 11.2%, **pension 11.1%**, salaries (aided institutions) 8.9%.
- Smaller heads: interest payment 7.6%, loan repayment 6.8%, subsidy 4.7%, assignment to local bodies 4.1%.
- **State GST** is the largest own-tax source: 45% of own tax revenue, ₹1,49,956 crore. State excise ₹71,278 crore.

Likely ask: Biggest head of expenditure, biggest source of own tax.

UP economy: sector shares, per capita income, population

- 2024–25 GSDP growth (constant prices) **9%**, against 6.5% for India. Shares: agriculture 27%, manufacturing 26%, **services 47%** (the sub-sector table in the same section gives different shares).
- Per capita income (net) **₹1,09,844** in 2024–25, up from ₹54,564 in 2016–17. Gross ₹1,26,304. Per capita GSDP ₹1,24,366 vs India ₹2,34,859.
- Population **25.19 crore** (March 2026 estimate), 17.8% of India. Would rank **5th** in the world as a country. TFR fell from 2.7 (NFHS-4) to **2.4** (NFHS-5).
- Sex ratio: only "sex ratio at birth **111 boys per 100 girls** (2011)" is given. Total sex ratio.
- UP is **first in milk production**; foodgrain 737.4 lakh MT in 2024–25. Second in increase in forest and tree cover.

Likely ask: Sector share, per capita income, population rank, TFR, which state leads in milk.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Noida International Airport, Jewar

- PM Modi inaugurated Phase-1 on **28 March 2026** at **Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar**. DGCA licence on 6 March 2026.
- Commercial operations began **15 June 2026**; first commercial flight by **IndiGo** from Lucknow.
- Cost **₹11,200 crore**. Operator: **Yamuna International Airport Pvt Ltd (YIAPL)**, 100% subsidiary of **Zurich Airport International AG**, under PPP.
- UP now has **5 international airports** (Lucknow, Varanasi, Kushinagar, Ayodhya, Jewar). Project approved in 2003 under PM Vajpayee.
- Phase I (one runway, one terminal) handles about **1.2 crore passengers a year**; up to 7 crore when all phases are done. Concession: **40 years** from 1 October 2021.

Likely ask: Location, operator, number of international airports in UP.

Ken-Betwa River Link

- Foundation stone laid by PM Modi at **Khajuraho** on **25 December 2024** (Vajpayee's 100th birth anniversary). It is the **first** project under the National Perspective Plan for river linking to reach the implementation stage.
- Ken and Betwa are tributaries of the **Yamuna**. It serves Bundelkhand in **Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh**.
- Phase I: **Daudhan Dam** on the Ken (96.7 m high, Panna and Chhatarpur districts), two powerhouses, **216.465 km** link canal ending at Barua Sagar near Jhansi.
- Cost **₹44,605 crore**; irrigation for **10.62 lakh ha**. UP districts: **Banda, Mahoba, Jhansi, Lalitpur**. Completion target 2030.
- Phase II: Lower Orr Dam, Kotha Barrage, Bina Complex. Protests at Chhatarpur in July 2026; compensation raised from ₹5 lakh to ₹12.5 lakh per family.

Likely ask: States, rivers, dam name, phase contents.

Ganga Expressway

- Inaugurated by PM Modi in **Hardoi** district on **29 April 2026**.
- **594 km**, six lanes (expandable to eight), design speed 120 km/h, greenfield, PPP model, cost **₹36,230 crore**.
- Runs through **12 districts** from **Meerut** to **Prayagraj**, including Bulandshahr, Hapur, Amroha, Sambhal, Badaun, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi, Unnao, Rae Bareli, Pratapgarh.
- Foundation stone laid 18 December 2021 at Shahjahanpur; construction began April 2022.
- Has a **3.5 km emergency landing strip** for Air Force planes in **Shahjahanpur**. Meerut–Prayagraj travel cut from 10–12 hours to about 6 hours.

Likely ask: Length, start and end districts, number of districts.

UP Startup Policy 2026

- Approved by the UP Cabinet on **6 July 2026**, chaired by CM Yogi Adityanath. Supports the **USD 1 trillion** economy vision.
- Sustenance allowance raised from ₹17,500/month for one year to **₹20,000/month for two years**.
- Prototype grant raised from ₹5 lakh to **₹10 lakh**; seed funding from ₹7.5 lakh to **₹15 lakh** (up to ₹50 lakh in exceptional cases).
- Deep-tech (AI, robotics, quantum, space): up to ₹20 lakh prototype, ₹30 lakh seed.

Likely ask: Which grant or allowance changed and by how much.

UP Startup Procurement Scheme 2026

- Approved **9 October 2026**; government order **12 October 2026**. Nodal agency: **UP Startup Mission**, with a module on **GeM**.
- Open to **DPIIT-recognised** startups under the UP Startup Policy 2026, with HQ in UP or at least **50%** workforce or operations in UP.
- Single-tender purchase up to **₹50 lakh** (₹1 crore for sunrise sectors).
- Payment split: **30%** on purchase order, **60%** after supply, **10%** after warranty.

Likely ask: Nodal agency, eligibility, single-tender limit.

UP Artificial Intelligence Mission, UP-AIM

- Approved **9 October 2026**. Outlay **₹2,000 crore** for 2026–27 to 2030–31 (₹225 crore in 2026–27).
- Runs under the **IT & Electronics Department**.
- **District AI Centres in all 75 districts**; one AI Fellow per district at ₹40,000/month for one year; over 200 AI skill labs.
- Targets: train **5 lakh** youth, develop 50,000 AI professionals, support 100 AI startups.

Likely ask: Outlay, department, number of district centres.

UP Interest Waiver Scheme 2026

- Approved 9 October 2026; notified **16 October 2026**. Covers tax demands outstanding up to **31 December 2025**.
- Waiver slabs: **100%** on principal up to ₹10 lakh; 90% for ₹10 lakh–₹1 crore; 75% for ₹1–5 crore; 50% above ₹5 crore.
- Valid across 75 districts for **3 months** from notification. Eligible penalties fully waived.

Likely ask: Waiver % for the first slab, duration, cut-off date.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

UP Paddy Procurement Policy 2026–27

- Approved **9 October 2026**. MSP **₹2,441/quintal** common paddy; **₹2,461** Grade-A.
- Target **65 lakh MT** through about 4,500 centres and eight agencies.
- Western UP: 12 Oct 2026 – 15 Feb 2027; Eastern UP: 1 Nov 2026 – 28 Feb 2027. Payment within **48 hours**.
- The Union MSP list also gives paddy common ₹2,441 and Grade A ₹2,461.

Likely ask: MSP of paddy, target, payment time.

UP Coarse Cereals Procurement Policy 2026–27

- Approved 9 October 2026; procurement **1 October to 31 December 2026**.
- MSP: maize **₹2,410**, bajra **₹2,900**, hybrid jowar ₹4,023, Maldandi jowar ₹4,073 per quintal.
- Targets: bajra 2.20 lakh MT (33 districts, 300 centres); jowar 50,000 MT (13 districts); maize 15,000 MT (25 districts).
- Biometric verification and direct bank payment.

Likely ask: MSP of bajra or maize, number of districts for bajra.

UP Sustainable Aviation Fuel Manufacturing Promotion Policy 2026

- Approved **9 October 2026**. Aim: make UP an **SAF manufacturing hub** using rice husk, wheat straw, sugarcane bagasse.
- Units: Large (₹200–500 crore), Mega (₹500–1,500 crore), Ultra-Mega (above ₹1,500 crore).
- Incentives: stamp-duty relief, interest subsidy, SGST reimbursement, **100% electricity-duty exemption for up to 10 years**.
- Nodal agency **UPNEDA**; effective for 5 years. "First state" claim.

Likely ask: Raw material, nodal agency, investment categories.

Reservation for former Agniveers in UP

- Cabinet approved the proposal on **15 September 2026**; amended rules reported **15 October 2026**.
- **20% horizontal reservation** in Transport Enforcement Constable posts.
- **3 years** age relaxation after four years of military service.
- Service covered: UP **Transport Department** only.

Likely ask: Reservation %, which department, age relaxation.

Minimum wage revision in UP

- Notification of **17 April**, effective retrospectively from **1 April 2026**, interim revision under the **Minimum Wages Act, 1948**.
- State divided into **three categories**. **Category I: Gautam Buddha Nagar and Ghaziabad**; II: districts with municipal corporations; III: the rest.
- Category I monthly wage: unskilled **₹13,690**, semi-skilled ₹15,059, skilled ₹16,868.
- Wage = basic + **Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA)**.

Likely ask: Which districts are Category I, unskilled wage figure.

Navayug Palika Yojana

- Approved by the UP Cabinet to expand the **Smart City Mission** to smaller urban bodies. Ministry is not applicable: it is a state scheme.
- Covers urban bodies in **58 district headquarters**: 55 municipal councils, 3 town councils (and Dadri council in Gautam Buddha Nagar).
- Outlay **₹583.20 crore a year**, **₹2,916 crore** over 5 years (2025–26 to 2029–30). **Fully state-funded**, no Centre share.

Likely ask: Number of urban bodies, total outlay, funding pattern.

Seva Sankalp Abhiyaan

- Run by the UP Government from **17 September to 17 October 2026**.
- Aim: publicise development projects and welfare schemes and encourage public participation.
- Ministry; it is a state campaign.

Likely ask: Duration, objective.

Visit My State campaign

- Launched on **13 May 2026** by UP Tourism Minister **Jaiveer Singh**.
- State-run museums give **free entry to children and families for two months**.
- Minister called global uncertainty an "opportunity in crisis".

Likely ask: Who launched it, what benefit.

Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Scheme

- Cabinet approved **21 July 2026**; budget **₹400 crore**.
- **50,000** meritorious female graduates (2025–26 batch), top **5%**, family income up to **₹12 lakh**.
- Free petrol scooter, registration, insurance, ISI helmet, 4 litres of petrol; bought via **GeM**; cannot be resold.
- Differently abled, destitute or martyr's daughters get 10% marks relaxation.

Likely ask: Number of beneficiaries, income limit, budget.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

UP Widow Pension Scheme

- Called the **Destitute Women Pension Scheme**: **₹1,000 per month** by DBT, usually paid quarterly at ₹3,000.
- Eligible: UP permanent resident, age **18 or above**, husband deceased, family income below **₹2 lakh** a year.
- Documents: identity proof, husband's death certificate, income certificate, bank details.

Likely ask: Monthly amount, income ceiling.

Chief Minister's Teachers' Cashless Medical Scheme

- Launched **8 July 2026** by CM Yogi Adityanath at **Varanasi** (Pandit Deendayal Hastkala Sankul).
- Cashless treatment up to **₹5 lakh** per beneficiary family.
- MoU with **State Bank of India** for extra social security and insurance for teachers.

Likely ask: Cover amount, launch place, bank partner.

UP leads: rooftop solar

- In June 2026 UP won awards at the **PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana** ceremony, organised by **MNRE**.
- First in the high-consumer-base category: **1,02,035** applications, 64,734 installations, 779 vendors (May 2026 performance).
- **Lucknow** is the top district, over 1 lakh installations (1.56 lakh by October 2026).
- October 2026: UP crossed **9 lakh** installations, over **3,000 MW**.

Likely ask: Which ministry, which state or district leads.

UP leads: Jan Aushadhi Kendras

- As of **30 June 2026**, UP is first with **4,226** Kendras under **PMBJP**.
- National target **25,000** Kendras by **March 2027**.
- Generic medicines at **50–80%** lower prices; portfolio 2,110 medicines and 315 surgical items.

Likely ask: Which state leads, national target, price saving.

UP leads: domestic tourism

- India Tourism Data Compendium 2026: UP is first in domestic tourist visits in 2025, about **155.74 crore** (the same entry also prints 1557.42 crore).
- Next: Tamil Nadu (36.30 crore), Andhra Pradesh (35.39 crore), West Bengal (29.43 crore).
- Centres: Ayodhya, Varanasi, Prayagraj, Mathura, Vindhyachal. Figure includes the 2025 **Mahakumbh**.

Likely ask: Which state is first, second state.

UP PMMVY 102%

- By **31 July 2026**, UP reached **102.14%** of its PMMVY registration target for FY 2026–27.
- **4,06,058** registered against target 3,97,567.
- Benefit: **₹5,000** in two instalments for the first child; **₹6,000** for a second child if a girl.
- Over ₹86.55 crore paid by DBT in 2,61,369 instalments.

Likely ask: Benefit amount for first child, the achievement %.

Lucknow: UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy

- UNESCO named **58** new Creative Cities; **Lucknow** joins as a **City of Gastronomy** for **Awadhi** culinary heritage.
- Designated on **31 October 2025** (PM's message, 1 November 2025). Hyderabad is India's other City of Gastronomy (2019).

Likely ask: Category of the creative city, which heritage cuisine.

Kalinjar Fort: National Geo-Heritage Site

- **Geological Survey of India (GSI)** declared the **Eparchaean Unconformity near Kalinjar Fort, Banda district** a Geo-Heritage Site of National Importance.
- Resolution adopted **6 March 2026** at the **176th GSI Foundation Day**.

Likely ask: District, body that declared it.

Parichha Dam: World Heritage Irrigation Structure

- **International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)** recognised the **140-year-old Parichha Weir, Jhansi**, in August 2026.
- Built across the **Betwa River**; **1,174 m** long; irrigates Bundelkhand.
- Award ceremony scheduled **14 October 2026** at the 26th ICID Congress, **Marseille, France**.

Likely ask: District, river, recognising body.

Neem Karoli Baba Spiritual Tourism Circuit

- Introduced in **September 2026**; links **four** sites.
- Akbarpur (**Firozabad**), birthplace; Neem Karoli Ashram (**Farrukhabad**).
- Hanuman Setu Temple (**Lucknow**); Samadhi Temple (**Vrindavan**).

Likely ask: Birthplace district, number of sites.

Vedaranyam eco-spiritual park

- Described as **India's first eco-spiritual park**.
- Location: **Thakurnagar, near the helipad in Naimisharanya, Sitapur**.

Likely ask: District, "first" claim.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Tharu Tribal Museum award

- **Tharu Janjati Museum and Living Heritage Landscape**, Imlia Koder, **Balrampur**.
- **Gold Award**, "Championing Cultural Diversity" category, ICRT Indian Subcontinent Responsible Tourism Awards 2026 (4 September 2026).

Likely ask: District, award category.

AK-203 'Sher' rifle, Amethi

- **Indo-Russian Rifles Pvt Ltd (IRRPL)** test-fired the first **100% indigenised AK-203 'Sher'** in August 2026.
- Place: **Korwa Ordnance Factory, Amethi**.

Likely ask: Place, company, partner country (Russia via IRRPL).

National Military Drone Technology Hub, IIT Kanpur

- On **14 October 2026** Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** said the proposed hub at **IIT Kanpur** had progressed and approval was nearing completion.
- Status: **proposed**, not yet approved.

Likely ask: Location, who announced.

India–France National Centre of Excellence in Aeronautics

- Announced by PM Modi: **NCoE for Skilling in Aeronautics and Defence**.
- Place: **National Skill Training Institute (NSTI), Kanpur**.
- Year of announcement.

Likely ask: Place, partner country, field.

Namo Bharat and Meerut Metro

- PM Modi inaugurated the **Namo Bharat Rapid Rail and Meerut Metro** route on **22 February 2026** in **Meerut**.
- Length. "First" claim.

Likely ask: Date, city.

Lucknow–Kanpur Expressway

- **63 km**, six-lane, inaugurated **13 July 2026** at **Jhau Kheda, Unnao**.
- Described as the country's **first expressway built with automated, intelligent machine-guided construction technology**.

Likely ask: Length, "first" claim.

Japan City near Noida airport

- Announced **19 August 2026** by CM Yogi Adityanath at the **UP–Japan Investment Meet 2026**, New Delhi.
- **500 acres**, YEIDA **Sector 5A**, about **4 km** from Noida International Airport, Jewar.
- Aim: industrial, commercial and residential ecosystem for Japanese firms.

Likely ask: Area, distance from airport, partner country.

UP Rural Abadi Records Act ("Gharauni Act") 2025 and SVAMITVA

- Passed by the UP Legislature; Governor's assent on **2 January 2026**.
- Gives legal framework for rural residential records created under **SVAMITVA** (**Ministry of Panchayati Raj**, drone-based surveys).
- UP: **90,573** villages targeted and drone-surveyed; 1.05 crore property cards prepared (Lok Sabha answer, 29 July 2025).
- All-India (January 2026): **3.06 crore** property cards, 1.86 lakh villages.

Likely ask: What the Act does, which ministry runs SVAMITVA.

Flag hoisting at Ram Temple, Ayodhya

- **25 November 2025**: PM Modi hoisted the **Dharma Dhwaja** on the Shikhara at the **Dhwajarohan Utsav**.
- Flag is a **right-angled triangle**, 10 ft high, 20 ft long, saffron.
- Symbols: **radiant Sun**, **Om**, **Kovidara tree**.

Likely ask: Date, symbols on the flag.

Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0

- Anchored by the **Ministry of Education**; knowledge partners **IIT Madras and BHU**; aligned with **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat**.
- Earlier editions: KTS 1.0 (16 Nov–16 Dec **2022**); KTS 2.0 (17–30 Dec 2023, Namo Ghat); KTS 3.0 (15–24 Feb 2025, theme **Sage Agastya**).
- **KTS 4.0**: 2–15 December 2025, theme **"Tamil Karkalam – Let Us Learn Tamil"**. Closing ceremony held for the first time in Tamil Nadu, at **Rameshwaram**.

Likely ask: Which ministry, partners, theme of the third or fourth edition.

UP's other "firsts"

- First high-tech **Media Tower**: **Bareilly**. **National Cow Culture Museum**: Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Veterinary Science University, **Mathura**.
- First state-level **Braille library**: DSMNRU, **Lucknow** (4 January 2026; 4,000+ books). First government hospital **AI clinic**: GIMS, **Greater Noida**.
- First **AI-enabled state university pilot**: **CCSU, Meerut** (28 January 2026; MSDE with Google Cloud). **Purvanchal's first yarn plant**: **Mirzapur**.
- India's first **Basmati organic demo farm**: **Pilibhit**, **APEDA** 70-year lease.

Likely ask: District for each first.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

World Bank air-quality programme for UP

- **World Bank, Government of India and Government of UP** signed an agreement to support UP's **Clean Air Plan**.
- Focus: integrated air-quality solutions and jobs for youth and women. Loan amount.

Likely ask: Partner, name of plan.

Regional Meteorological Centre, Lucknow

- Inaugurated **8 June 2026** by Union Minister **Dr Jitendra Singh** and CM Yogi Adityanath.
- Serves **UP, Uttarakhand** and nearby regions with impact-based forecasts.
- Doppler Weather Radars: **17 (2014) to 50 (June 2026)**; 50 more proposed under **Mission Mausam**.

Likely ask: Date, radar numbers, mission name.

Lucknow hosts BRICS statistics meeting

- **3–4 August 2026**: Meeting of Heads of National Statistical Offices of BRICS, **Lucknow**, under India's BRICS Chairship 2026.
- Theme: **"Quality Statistics as Driver of Change"**.

Likely ask: City, theme.

2.2 Budget, Economic Survey, Economy

Union Budget 2026–27: themes and fiscal numbers

- Tabled by **Nirmala Sitharaman** on **1 February 2026**. Core theme: **three Kartavyas** (growth push; aspirations and capacity; Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas).
- Total expenditure **₹53.47 lakh crore** (+7.7% over RE). Fiscal deficit **4.3% of GDP** (4.4% in 2025–26 RE). Revenue deficit 1.5%. Debt-to-GDP 55.6%; target about 50% by March 2031.
- Public capex **₹12.2 lakh crore** (from ₹11.2). Interest payments about 26% of expenditure.
- Rupee comes from: income tax **21%**, corporation tax 18%, borrowings 24%. Rupee goes to: states' share of taxes **22%**, interest **20%**, defence 11%.

Likely ask: Fiscal deficit %, biggest source and biggest use of the rupee, capex figure.

Union Budget 2026–27: ministry allocations and schemes

- **Defence** has the highest allocation, **₹7.85 lakh crore (15%)**, then Road Transport 6%, Railways 5%, Home Affairs 5%.
- **VB-G RAM G** gets **₹95,692 crore**, the highest scheme allocation. Subsidies ₹4,54,773 crore; food ₹2,27,629 crore, fertiliser ₹1,70,799 crore.
- New: **Biopharma SHAKTI** (₹10,000 crore), **India Semiconductor Mission 2.0**, ECMS raised to ₹40,000 crore, CCUS ₹20,000 crore, SME Growth Fund ₹10,000 crore.
- Seven high-speed rail corridors include **Delhi–Varanasi**; new Dedicated Freight Corridor **Dankuni to Surat**; Rare Earth Corridors in Odisha, Keralam, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu.

Likely ask: Largest ministry allocation, name of new scheme, rare earth states.

Union Budget 2026–27: tax changes

- Income-tax slabs **unchanged**. **MAT cut from 15% to 14%**; MAT credit accumulation ends April 2026.
- **STT increased** on futures and options. All share buybacks taxed as capital gains.
- **TCS** on education, medical remittances and overseas tour packages cut to **2%**.
- Tax holiday until **2047** for foreign firms providing global cloud services from Indian data centres; IFSC holiday extended from 10 to **20 years**.

Likely ask: New MAT rate, TCS rate, IFSC holiday.

Economic Survey 2025–26 highlights

- Real GDP growth estimate **7.4%** (First Advance Estimates, FY26); FY27 projected **6.8–7.2%**. Reorganised into **17 chapters**.
- Lowest-ever CPI inflation: **1.7%** average (April–December 2025). GNPA **2.2%**. Forex reserves **USD 701.4 billion** (16 January 2026).
- Services share of GVA record **56.4%**. Total exports record USD 825.3 billion in FY25; services exports USD 387.6 billion. India largest remittance recipient (USD 135.4 billion).
- India fourth nation with autonomous satellite docking (**SpaDeX**). Extreme poverty **5.3%** (2022–23). GII rank **38th** in 2025.

Likely ask: Growth estimate, inflation, number of chapters, rank.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

16th Finance Commission report 2026–31

- Chair **Dr Arvind Panagariya**; constituted **31 December 2023** under **Article 280**. Report submitted 17 November 2025; tabled **1 February 2026**.
- States' share stays **41%** of the divisible pool.
- Weights: income distance **42.5%**, population 17.5%, demographic performance 10%, area 10%, forest 10%, contribution to GDP 10%.
- UP's share **17.62%** (15th FC: 17.94%). Grants about ₹9.47 lakh crore; no revenue deficit, sector-specific or state-specific grants. Centre fiscal deficit target 3.5% by 2030–31.

Likely ask: Chair, vertical share, criterion with highest weight, UP share.

New GDP series, base year 2022–23, and provisional GDP 2025–26

- **MoSPI** released the new series on **27 February 2026**, replacing the **2011–12** base. Reason: 2022–23 is a normal post-COVID year with good data.
- Provisional estimates (5 June 2026): real GDP growth **7.7%** in 2025–26 (Q4: 7.8%); real GDP ₹323.12 lakh crore; nominal GDP ₹346.36 lakh crore (+8.9%).
- Q1 FY 2026–27: real GDP growth **7.8%**.
- CPI base year is **2024=100**.

Likely ask: Base year, release body, growth figure.

Income-Tax Act 2025

- In force from **1 April 2026**, replacing the **Income-tax Act, 1961**.
- **536 sections, 23 chapters, 16 schedules** (old Act: 819+ sections). Single **"Tax Year"** replaces Assessment Year and Previous Year.
- **Form 130** replaces Form 16. TDS/TCS consolidated in sections 392–394.
- Effective zero tax up to **₹12 lakh** (new regime, AY 2026–27); standard deduction **₹75,000**. Income-Tax Rules 2026 notified by CBDT.

Likely ask: Date in force, what replaces Form 16, number of sections.

VB-G RAM G Act 2025

- **Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025**. In force **1 July 2026**, repealing **MGNREGA, 2005**.
- Guarantee raised from 100 to **125 days** a year; wage floor **₹300/day** for 2026–27.
- Funding: **60:40** (Centre:State) for most; **90:10** for Northeastern and Himalayan states. UTs without legislatures: full Centre.
- Four priority areas: water security, rural infrastructure, livelihood infrastructure, climate resilience. Central share ₹95,692.31 crore.

Likely ask: Which Act it repeals, days of work, funding ratio.

RBI monetary policy, October 2026

- **63rd MPC meeting**, 5–7 October 2026, chaired by Governor **Sanjay Malhotra**.
- Repo rate raised by **25 bps from 5.25% to 5.50%**. SDF 5.25%, MSF 5.75%, Bank Rate 5.75%.
- RBI projects real GDP growth **7.1%** and CPI 5.2% for FY 2026–27. Inflation target **4%** (band 2–6%) for 2026–31.
- Next MPC: 2–4 December 2026.

Likely ask: New repo rate, MSF rate, inflation band.

Forex reserves record

- Record **USD 729.328 billion** in the week ended **21 August 2026** (previous record 728.494 billion, 27 February 2026).
- Eighth straight weekly rise; gold reserves USD 114.218 billion.
- **USD 785.706 billion** as of 4 September 2026. FCNR(B) deposits brought USD 65.40 billion.

Likely ask: Record value, largest component (foreign currency assets USD 591.333 billion).

Polymer ₹10 and ₹20 banknotes

- Government approved the **RBI proposal for field trials** of ₹10 and ₹20 polymer notes.
- Proposal: **one billion notes of each**, 200 crore notes, about ₹3,000 crore.
- Under **Sections 24 and 25 of the RBI Act, 1934**. Procurement by **BRBNMPL** (RBI subsidiary).
- Paper notes stay legal tender. Australia issued the first polymer note in **1988**.

Likely ask: RBI Act sections, subsidiary name, first country.

CBDC-based food subsidy under PMGKAY

- Food subsidy given as programmable **Digital Rupee (e-rupee)** tokens in CBDC wallets.
- Pilot: **15 February 2026** in **Gujarat** (Amit Shah); **26 February 2026** in **Puducherry**.
- Launched for **Chandigarh and Dadra & Nagar Haveli** on **14 August 2026** by **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**.

Likely ask: Scheme name, pilot states.

57th GST Council meeting

- **8 October 2026**, New Delhi, chaired by **Nirmala Sitharaman**.
- Simplified **FORM GST REG-01**; simplified registration for small e-commerce sellers under **Rule 14B**.
- Refund acknowledgement time cut from **15 to 10 days**. Minimum **₹10,000** tax for a show-cause notice.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Likely ask: Meeting number, form simplified, refund days.

IDBI Bank restructuring

- **CCEA** on **14 October 2026** approved the buyer for a **60.72%** stake: **10955230 Canada Inc.**, parent **Fairfax Financial Holdings**.
- Price about **₹52,878.08 crore**; bid **₹81 per share**. Government sells 30.48%, **LIC** sells 30.24%.
- IDBI became a DFI on 1 July 1964; classed private sector bank from 21 January 2019 after LIC took 51%.

Likely ask: Stake sold, buyer's parent, seller shares.

PMJDY completes 12 years

- Launched by PM Modi on **28 August 2014**; 12 years on 28 August 2026. National Mission for Financial Inclusion.
- **59.09 crore** accounts by 19 August 2026; women hold about **55.7%**; deposits ₹3,16,514 crore.
- Accident insurance **₹2 lakh** for accounts opened after 28 August 2018; overdraft up to **₹10,000**. RuPay card.
- Guinness record: 18,096,130 accounts in one week (23–29 August 2014).

Likely ask: Launch date, insurance cover, overdraft limit.

UPI completes 10 years

- Pilot launched **11 April 2016**; 10 years on 11 April 2026.
- Record monthly volume **22.64 billion** in March 2026; 24.51 billion in August 2026.
- FY 2025–26: 24,161.69 crore transactions worth about ₹314 lakh crore. About **49%** of global real-time payment volume (2025).

Likely ask: Launch year, share in global real-time payments.

IBC completes 10 years

- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016** enacted **28 May 2016**; **IBBI** established **1 October 2016**.
- By 31 March 2026: **1,419** resolution plans approved; over **₹4 lakh crore** realised for creditors.
- Creditors got about 95% of fair value and 167% of liquidation value.

Likely ask: Enactment year, regulator, creditor realisation.

Startup India completes 10 years

- Launched by PM Modi on **16 January 2016**; **16 January** declared **National Startup Day** in 2022.
- Startups from fewer than 500 (2014) to over **2 lakh**; unicorns from 4 to nearly **125**. India is the third-largest startup ecosystem.
- States' Startup Ranking 5.0: **Gujarat** Best Performer (Category A); **Uttar Pradesh** a Top Performer (Category A).

Likely ask: Launch date, National Startup Day, UP's rank category.

MSP for 14 kharif crops 2026–27

- **CCEA**, chaired by PM Modi, approved on **13 May 2026**.
- Paddy common **₹2,441**, Grade A **₹2,461** per quintal. Highest MSP: **Sesamum ₹10,346**, then Nigerseed ₹10,052.
- Biggest rise: **Sunflower seed ₹622**, Cotton ₹557, Nigerseed ₹515, Sesamum ₹500.
- Rule: MSP at least **1.5 times** all-India weighted average cost (A2+FL), from Budget 2018–19. Top margin: Moong 61%.

Likely ask: Paddy MSP, crop with biggest rise, cost rule.

Third Advance Estimates 2025–26

- Released **27 May 2026** by Agriculture Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**.
- Record foodgrain **376.563 million tonnes**, up 5.3% from 357.732.
- Rice record **154.024 million tonnes**; wheat 120.657; maize record 55.093.
- Sugarcane also a record, about **500 million tonnes**; oilseeds about 43 million tonnes.

Likely ask: Record foodgrain figure, growth %.

MSME Development (Amendment) Act 2026

- Amends the **MSMED Act, 2006**; introduced in the **Rajya Sabha** on 28 July 2026 by **Jitan Ram Manjhi**; assent **13 August 2026** (Act No. 16 of 2026).
- **CPSEs must settle MSME invoices through TReDS**; memorandum filing free and voluntary.
- Mediation within **90 days**; buyer challenging an award deposits **75%**.
- Classification (from 1 April 2025): micro up to ₹2.5 crore investment; small ₹25 crore; medium ₹125 crore.

Likely ask: Which platform for invoices, mediation days, deposit %.

Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme

- Cabinet approved **15 July 2026**; notified by **MeitY** 21 August 2026. Outlay **₹62,500 crore**, FY 2026–27 to 2030–31.
- Succeeds **PLI-LSEM**, which ended 31 March 2026.
- Incentive **2.25% to 5%** of eligible sales; extra up to 1.5% for components; extra 3% for Indian brands (design and R&D).

Likely ask: Outlay, scheme it succeeds, incentive range.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme, ECMS

- Notified **8 April 2025**; initial outlay **₹22,919 crore**, raised to **₹40,000 crore** in Budget 2026–27.
- 17 September 2026 update: **106 projects in 15 states**, ₹69,548 crore expected investment; 38 plants producing.
- Turnover-linked incentive for 6 years; capex incentive for 5 years.

Likely ask: Outlay, number of approved projects.

First chip fabrication plant at Dholera

- **Tata Semiconductor Manufacturing** SEZ at **Dholera, Gujarat**, called India's first commercial fab by PIB.
- Cabinet approved the project **29 February 2024**; SEZ notified **9 April 2026**.
- **66.166 hectares**; capacity **50,000 wafer starts a month**; investment ₹91,000 crore; about 21,000 jobs.
- ISM now has **12** approved projects (₹1.64 lakh crore).

Likely ask: Place, company, state.

India's FDI inflow FY 2024–25

- Total **USD 81.04 billion** (provisional), 14% above USD 71.28 billion in FY 2023–24.
- Top source: **Singapore 30%**, Mauritius 17%, United States 11%.
- Top state: **Maharashtra 39%**, Karnataka 13%, Delhi 12%.
- Top sector: services 19%; computer software and hardware 16%.

Likely ask: Top source country, top state.

2.3 New Acts, Bills, National Schemes and Decisions

Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill 2026

- Introduced in Lok Sabha **16 April 2026**; **failed** on 17 April: **298 for, 230 against**, 352 needed (special majority) out of 528.
- Aim: raise Lok Sabha strength from **550 to 850** (815 states, 35 UTs); restart delimitation on a census decided by Parliament; earlier one-third women's reservation.
- Amendments proposed to **Articles 81, 82 and 170** (and a population definition in Articles 55, 330, 332).

Likely ask: Result of the vote, maximum Lok Sabha strength, articles.

Renaming of the state to Keralam

- The state's **Legislative Assembly** passed a resolution on **24 June 2024**.
- **Union Cabinet** (PM Modi) approved the proposal on **24 February 2026**.
- Under **Article 3**, the President sent the Alteration of Name Bill, 2026 to the state Assembly for its views. The Bill passed **both Houses in the Monsoon Session 2026**; it amends the **First Schedule**.

Likely ask: Date of Cabinet approval, who approved.

Census 2027

- Cabinet approved on **12 December 2025**; cost **₹11,718.24 crore**. **16th Census, 8th since Independence**; first by **digital means** (mobile apps, self-enumeration).
- **Two phases**: Houselisting (original window 1 April–30 September 2026) and Population Enumeration (**February 2027**). Reference date **00:00 hours, 1 March 2027**.
- **Caste enumeration** decided by the **Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs on 30 April 2025**. Legal base: **Census Act, 1948**; Union List **Entry 69**.
- 40 questions; about **30 lakh** field staff. Census 2021 was postponed due to COVID-19.

Likely ask: Phases, reference date, entry in Union List, first digital census.

Special Intensive Revision (SIR) Phase III

- Announced by the **Election Commission** on 14 May 2026; began **30 May 2026**. Covers **16 states and 3 UTs**; not Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Ladakh.
- Legal basis: **Articles 324 and 326** and Sections 16, 19, 21, 22 of the **RP Act, 1950**. **Supreme Court** upheld it on **27 May 2026**.
- **3.94 lakh** BLOs; **36.73 crore** electors.
- Phase I: **Bihar** (2025). Phase II: nine states and three UTs including **Uttar Pradesh**; final electorate about 45.81 crore (down about 10.2%).

Likely ask: Articles, phases, which states were in Phase II.

Assembly election results 2026

- Polling: Assam, Keralam, Puducherry on **9 April**; Tamil Nadu **23 April**; West Bengal two phases (23 and 29 April). Counting **4 May 2026**.
- **West Bengal**: BJP 208 of 294; **Suvendu Adhikari** first BJP CM (9 May); ended 15 years of TMC rule. Turnout about 93.7%.
- **Tamil Nadu**: **TVK** 108 seats; **C. Joseph Vijay** CM (10 May), first non-DMK/AIADMK CM since 1967.
- **Keralam**: UDF 102 of 140; **V.D. Satheesan** CM (18 May). **Assam**: BJP 82 of 126; **Himanta Biswa Sarma** second

@UPSCPSCDECODE

term (12 May). **Puducherry**: **N. Rangasamy** CM (13 May); NDA 18 of 30.

Likely ask: Which CM, which party first, turnout record.

Bihar election 2025

- Turnout **67.25%**, highest since 1951; women 71.77%, men 62.73%.
- **NDA 202** seats; BJP 89 (largest), JD(U) 85, RJD 25. **Maithili Thakur** youngest MLA (Alinagar).
- **Nitish Kumar** sworn in for the **10th time** on 20 November 2025; **Samrat Choudhary** became Bihar's first BJP CM on **15 April 2026**.

Likely ask: Turnout, seats of NDA, first BJP CM.

Tribunals Reforms Act 2026

- Introduced by Law Minister **Arjun Ram Meghwal**; Lok Sabha passed 10 August 2026; assent **13 August**; in force **25 August 2026**.
- Creates a judiciary-led **National Tribunals Commission (NTC)**; repeals and replaces the **2021 Act**.
- Applies to **16** tribunals, appellate tribunals and authorities.

Likely ask: New body created, number of tribunals, Act it replaces.

Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Act 2026

- Amends the **2024 Act** (in force 21 June 2024). Introduced 27 July 2026 by **Dr Jitendra Singh**; assent **31 July 2026**.
- Individuals: imprisonment **5–10 years**, fine up to **₹50 lakh**. Service providers: fine up to **₹5 crore**, debarment 8 years. Organised crime: **7–10 years**, fine minimum ₹10 crore.
- **Two-month** investigation period; **Special Fast-Track Courts**, trial within **three months** of charge sheet.

Likely ask: New punishment, bodies covered, trial deadline.

Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act 2026

- Puisne judges raised from **33 to 37**; total strength **34 to 38** including the CJI. First increase since **2019**.
- Cabinet approved 5 May 2026; Lok Sabha voice vote 3 August; assent **11 August 2026**.
- Original 1956 Act: 10 judges plus CJI.

Likely ask: New total strength, base Act year.

MMDR Amendment Act 2026

- Amends the **MMDR Act, 1957**. Passed 13 August 2026; assent 17 August; in force **22 August 2026**.
- **Section 9D** restricts State taxes, cesses and levies on mineral rights and mineral-bearing land; Centre can set conditions via **Section 13** rules.
- Past unpaid State levies become invalid; amounts already paid are not refunded.
- Background: **July 2024**, nine-judge bench (8:1) held royalty is a contractual payment, not a tax. States may tax mineral rights under **Entry 50**.

Likely ask: What the amendment limits, Entry 50, royalty ruling.

NCDC (Amendment) Act 2026

- Amends the **NCDC Act, 1962**. Introduced 10 August 2026; assent **14 August 2026**.
- **NCDC**: statutory body set up 1963, under the **Ministry of Cooperation**.
- Allows **direct loans and grants** to any cooperative society or eligible entity; widens "foodstuffs"; removes rural-area restriction.
- **97th Amendment (2011)**: Article **19(1)(c)**, **Article 43B**, **Part IXB**.

Likely ask: Ministry, 97th Amendment articles.

Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act 2026

- Amends **Section 13** of the **1969 Act**. Assent **6 August 2026**; in force **1 October 2026** (Registrar General of India, under MHA).
- Delay over 1 year but within 2 years: order of **District Magistrate / SDM / Executive Magistrate**.
- Delay over **2 years**: order of a **Judicial Magistrate of the First Class** (Section 13(3A)).
- Normal reporting period **21 days**; late fee for registration within 30 days.

Likely ask: Who orders registration after two years, normal reporting days.

Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Act 2026

- Assent **11 August 2026**; Lok Sabha passed 30 July 2026; Cabinet approved 5 May 2026. Amends the **1971 Act**.
- Disrupting the singing of **Vande Mataram** is now an offence, same as the National Anthem.
- Section 3: imprisonment up to **three years**, or fine, or both.
- Vande Mataram: **Bankim Chandra Chatterjee (1875)**, in *Anandamath* (1882); sung by Tagore at the INC session of **1896**.

Likely ask: Penalty, composer, year of first singing.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Assam Uniform Civil Code Act 2026

- Introduced 25 May 2026; Assembly passed **27 May**; presidential assent **29 September 2026**. Linked to **Article 44**.
- **Third state** after Uttarakhand and Gujarat; first in the North-East. Scheduled Tribes excluded.
- Marriage age **21 (men), 18 (women)**; polygamy up to **7 years**; live-in registration within **one month**.

Likely ask: Which state is third, marriage age, article.

Gujarat UCC 2026

- Assembly passed **24 March 2026**; assent **17 September 2026**. Committee chaired by **Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai** (retired Supreme Court judge).
- Monogamy compulsory; marriage age 21 and 18; registration within **60 days**; Scheduled Tribes exempt.

Likely ask: Committee chair, states with UCC (Uttarakhand first).

Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0

- Cabinet approved **10 March 2026**. JJM first launched **15 August 2019** (target: every rural household by 2024; only 3.23 crore, 17%, had taps).
- Total expenditure **₹8.69 lakh crore**, Centre ₹3.59 lakh crore. Target: all **19.36 crore** rural households by **December 2028**.
- New platform **"Sujalam Bharat"** (every village gets a **Sujal Gaon ID**); **"Jal Arpan"**; annual **"Jal Utsav"**. Ministry: **Jal Shakti**. States join through reform-linked MoUs.

Likely ask: Launch year of JJM, 2.0 target year, platform name.

UDAN: 10 years and Modified UDAN

- **RCS–UDAN** launched **21 October 2016** under the **National Civil Aviation Policy, 2016**; first flight **Shimla–Delhi, April 2017**.
- By October 2026: **687 routes, 95 aerodromes**; airports **74 (2014) to 166 (2026)**.
- **Modified UDAN**: Cabinet approved **25 March 2026**; **10 years**, FY 2026–27 to 2035–36; **₹28,840 crore**; **100 airports and 200 helipads**. Formally launched **4 July 2026**.
- Full form: Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik.

Likely ask: Launch year, outlay, number of new airports.

DDU-GKY 2.0

- Run by the **Ministry of Rural Development**; training batches from **October 2026**.
- **24 states and UTs** allotted targets: **5.6 lakh** candidates, over 1,200 projects.
- Launch year.

Likely ask: Ministry, target number.

National Coastal Mission 2.0

- Implementation guidelines launched **30 September 2026** by **Bhupender Yadav** (**MoEFCC**).
- **Central Sector Scheme**, outlay **₹767 crore** for 2025–26 to 2030–31; NCM 1.0 merged from 16 May 2025.
- Covers **nine coastal states** and **four UTs**; mangrove and coral reef conservation.

Likely ask: Ministry, scheme type, outlay.

Samudra Manthan National Offshore Exploration Scheme

- Cabinet approved **31 July 2026**; Phase-I outlay **₹84,084 crore** up to FY 2030–31.
- **Central Sector Scheme** of the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**.
- Aim: add over **600 MMTOE** of reserves. ₹43,200 crore for 60 wells; ₹28,534 crore for data acquisition.
- PM first spoke of "Samudra Manthan" at the Red Fort on Independence Day **2025**.

Likely ask: Ministry, outlay, target reserves.

PM-RAHAT

- Launched by PM Modi on **13 February 2026**; full name **Prime Minister – Road Accident Victims' Hospitalisation and Assured Treatment Scheme**.
- Under **Section 162 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988**; notified 5 May 2025.
- Cashless cover up to **₹1.5 lakh**, for up to **7 days**, on all roads.
- Paid from the **Motor Vehicle Accident Fund**; hospitals paid within 10 days. First decision of the PM after moving to **Seva Teerth**.

Likely ask: Cover amount, days, Act section.

Bharat VISTAAR

- AI-powered farmer digital public infrastructure, launched **17 February 2026** at **Jaipur** by **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** (Agriculture Ministry).
- Phase 1 in **Hindi and English**. Announced in Union Budget 2026–27 as a multilingual AI tool linking AgriStack and ICAR packages.

Likely ask: Ministry, launch city, languages.

Bharat Taxi

- India's first **cooperative-led ride-hailing** platform; tagline "Driver is the Owner". Operator: **Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Ltd (STCL)**, multi-state cooperative.
- Established **6 June 2025**; launched **5 February 2026**; UP launch **23 September 2026** in Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Kanpur, Prayagraj.
- Drivers are called **Saarthis**; authorised capital ₹300 crore.

Likely ask: Operator, UP cities, "first" claim.

©UPSCPSCDECODE

DAANVEER

- Launched **29 July 2026** by Panchayati Raj Secretary **Vivek Bharadwaj** at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- **Ministry of Panchayati Raj**; links **Meri Panchayat** app with **DigiHaat** marketplace; donors give computer bundles to Gram Panchayats.
- Tagline **"Give Back to Your Village"**; voluntary.

Likely ask: Ministry, tagline, what donors give.

Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan

- Launched by PM Modi on **2 August 2026**; **100 Sundays (100 weeks)**.
- Over **one crore** youth at 28,000+ locations; began as a **pilot in Kashi, UP** in 2025 (**Kashi Declaration**).

Likely ask: Duration, origin of the pilot.

SARTHAK-PDS

- **CCEA** approved continuation and integration on **27 May 2026**; central outlay **₹25,530 crore**, up to **31 March 2031**.
- Ministry; full form.

Likely ask: Outlay, end date.

First National Counter Terrorism Policy: PRAHAAR

- Released by the **Ministry of Home Affairs** on **23 February 2026**; India's first national counter-terrorism policy and strategy.
- Follows the **April 2025 Pahalgam attack**; covers terror financing, cyber-attacks, drones, critical infrastructure.
- Names **Al-Qaeda and ISIS**; notes misuse of **CBRNED** materials, crypto wallets, dark web.

Likely ask: Policy name, ministry, date.

Defence Forces Vision 2047

- Released by **Rajnath Singh** on **10 March 2026**, prepared by **HQ Integrated Defence Staff**.
- Three eras: **Transition (till 2030)**, **Consolidation (2030–2040)**, **Excellence (2040–2047)**.
- 2025 was declared the **"Year of Reforms"** by the Ministry of Defence.

Likely ask: Phase names and years, who released.

Indian Maritime Doctrine 2025

- Released by the **Chief of the Naval Staff** on **2 December 2025** (updated doctrine).
- Navy Day 4 December 2025; theme **"Combat Ready, Cohesive, Credible, and Aatmanirbhar Force"**.
- Phases.

Likely ask: Who released it, Navy Day theme.

UPSC 100 years

- Completed **100 years on 1 October 2026**; founded **1 October 1926** under the **Public Service Commission (Functions) Rules, 1926**.
- Centenary event **"Manthan"**, Bharat Mandapam, 30 September–1 October 2026.
- **Satyendranath Tagore** was the first Indian in the ICS (joined 1864); ICS exam first held in India in **1922** (Allahabad). **Lee Commission 1924**; **Government of India Act, 1919**.

Likely ask: Founding year, first Indian in ICS, Lee Commission year.

Lakshadweep and J&K fully literate

- **Lakshadweep** declared 100% literate on **11 October 2026** (Administrator Praful Patel); **J&K** in September 2026, the **10th** state/UT under **ULLAS**.
- Criterion: at least **95%** of people aged 15+ can read and write.
- **Mizoram** was the first fully literate **state** (20 May 2025); **Ladakh** first unit (24 June 2024). Uttarakhand the sixth state (8 July 2026).

Likely ask: Scheme name, threshold, first state.

Sikkim: first paperless judiciary

- Declared **1 May 2026** by Chief Justice **Surya Kant** at Gangtok (Conclave on Technology and Judicial Education).
- First **State judiciary** in India to go fully paperless. CM: Prem Singh Tamang.

Likely ask: State, who declared it.

Keralam: extreme-poverty-free state

- Declared on **1 November 2025** (Keralam Piravi) in a special Assembly session by CM **Pinarayi Vijayan**.
- Keralam is the **first state** to reach this status.

Likely ask: First state, date.

UNESCO Tentative List: five new entries

- Announced **29 September 2026**; total **78** entries. Four in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Bagh Cave Paintings**, **Udayagiri Caves**, **Chambal Valley Temples** (Bateshwar, Padavali, Kakanmath, Morena), **Ginnorgarh Fort** (Sehore).
- **Sites of Satyagraha**: serial, transnational, **nine sites** (seven in India, two in South Africa).

Likely ask: Total entries, which state, South Africa sites.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Gyan Bharatam National Manuscript Survey

- Launched by the **Ministry of Culture** on **16 March 2026**; Gyan Bharatam announced in **Union Budget 2025–26**.
- India's first comprehensive **national map of manuscript repositories**; geo-tagged inventory.
- Creates a **"Manuscript Presence Map"**.

Likely ask: Ministry, launch year, product of survey.

Republic Day 2026

- **77th Republic Day**, Kartavya Path; theme **"150 years of Vande Mataram"**; 30 tableaux (17 states/UTs, 13 ministries).
- Chief guests: **Antonio Costa** (President, European Council) and **Ursula von der Leyen** (President, European Commission).
- Best state tableau: **Maharashtra**; best ministry tableau: **Ministry of Culture**. Popular choice: Gujarat first, **Uttar Pradesh** (Bundelkhand) second.

Likely ask: Chief guests, best tableau.

Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules 2026

- Notified by **MoEFCC** on **31 March 2026**; amends the **2016 Rules**.
- End-of-life disposal now includes co-processing, waste-to-energy, waste-to-oil, road construction. Converting plastic into feedstock counts as **recycling**.
- Recycled plastic packaging must meet **IS 14534:2023** and carry recycled-content labelling.

Likely ask: Standard number, date, ministry.

Age limits on social media for children

- **6 March 2026**: **Karnataka** announced a ban for children **below 16**; **Andhra Pradesh** below **13** within 90 days.
- **Economic Survey 2025–26** recommended age-based limits.
- **Australia**: Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024; under-16 limit from **10 December 2025**.

Likely ask: Which state, age limit, Australian law.

UGC Equity Regulations stayed

- **Supreme Court**, **29 January 2026**: kept the **UGC (Promotion of Equity in HEIs) Regulations, 2026** in abeyance; **2012 Regulations** continue.
- Framed after *Abeda Salim Tadvi v. Union of India (2019)*; bench of **Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan**.
- Provisions: **Equal Opportunity Centre** in every institution; Equity Committee meets within **24 hours** of a complaint.

Likely ask: Court, which regulations continue, covered groups (SC, ST, OBC).

Section 498A ruling

- Decided **3 August 2026**, *Dr Lokesh B.H. v. State of Karnataka*: the **Karnataka High Court** held 498A can cover a live-in relationship "in the nature of marriage" with intention to marry.
- **Section 498A IPC**: cruelty to a woman by husband or relatives; up to **three years** and fine. Now **Section 85 BNS**.
- Burden is on the woman to prove both conditions. *Indra Sarma (2013)*: live-in is not an offence.

Likely ask: Corresponding BNS section, conditions.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Part 2: Reports, Summits, Defence

Part A. Reports and indices

A1. National reports and indices

Report	Released by	India's rank / India's figure	Top country or state	UP's position (if given)
Performance Grading Index (PGI 2.0) 2025–26 (PGI-S 36 States/UTs, PGI-D 784 districts)	Ministry of Education, 7 Jul 2026	No State in top three grades (Utkarsh, Uttam-1, Uttam-2). Inter-State gap fell from **51%** (2017–18) to **31.4%**	Chandigarh 766.0 (only Uttam-3). Lowest: Meghalaya 525.7	Akanshi-1 grade (521–580), with 12 other States/UTs
All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2023–24 (14th edition)	Ministry of Education, 8 Jul 2026	GER 30.0 (female 31.2, male 28.9). Enrolment about 4.5 crore. Women **49.7%**. 64,756 HEIs	Nepal = **highest** share of foreign students (58,134 from 173 countries)	UP is listed **first** among the seven **highest**-enrolment States (UP, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, MP, Karnataka, Bihar, Rajasthan)
UDISE+ 2025–26	Ministry of Education, 7 Jul 2026	Teachers 1,02,73,020. Secondary dropout **7.0%**. Single-teacher schools 1,00,843. Zero-enrolment schools 5,663	Top State	
Crime in India 2024	NCRB (attached office of MHA, set up March 1986), 6 May 2026	58,85,867 cases (down about **6%**). Crime rate 418.9 per lakh. Cybercrime 1,01,928 (up **17.9%**). Murders 27,049	Charge-sheet rate: Keralam **94.5%** (top), Puducherry **91%**. Highest ST crimes: MP (3,165). Highest drug-overdose deaths: Tamil Nadu (313)	UP is **highest** in crimes against women (66,398), dowry-death cases (2,038 cases, 2,057 victims) and crimes against SC (14,642)
Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India (ADSI) 2024	NCRB (MHA), 6 May 2026	Accidental deaths 4,67,857 (rate 33.3). Suicides 1,70,746 (rate 12.2)	Highest share of accidental deaths: Maharashtra **16.2%**	UP **9.2%** share (third, after Maharashtra **16.2%** and MP **9.8%**)
Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) 2.0, FY 2023–24	Ministry of Panchayati Raj, 24 Apr 2026 (Panchayati Raj Day)	33 of 36 States/UTs took part. West Bengal did not. 2,59,867 panchayats. A+ = 0 panchayats	Most A-grade (Front Runner) panchayats: Tripura 943	UP has the most B-grade (18,905) and the most D-grade (6,124) panchayats
5th Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan (NCAP)	MoEFCC, 7 Sep 2026 (Swachh Vayu Diwas)	130 NCAP cities. 108 improved PM10 in 2025–26. 14 met NAAQS	Over 10 lakh: Lucknow 198, Indore 197, Jabalpur 195. 3–10 lakh: Rourkela 198.5. Below 3 lakh: Kalinga 198.5	Lucknow **1st** (over 10 lakh). Firozabad joint **2nd** (3–10 lakh). Ward awards: Zone4Ward70 Lucknow **1st**; Pryj31 Allahabad **3rd**
Status of Policing in India Report 2026 (theme: cybercrime, victim perspectives)	Common Cause and Lokniti-CSDS, 24 Sep 2026	Survey of 8,306 citizens in 15 States and Delhi. **13%** reported cybercrime. **54%** of victims = digital financial fraud	No ranking	
Consumer Justice Report 2026 (first edition, "Assessing the Capacity of Redressal Commissions")	India Justice Report (IJR), March 2026	11 indicators, score out of ten. Pending cases up **21%** (4.27 lakh in 2019 to 5.15 lakh in 2024)	Large and mid-sized: Andhra Pradesh **1st** (6.28). Small: Meghalaya **1st** (5.58)	UP **10th** among large and mid-sized (4.36). About **62%** of UP cases pending more than three years

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Report	Released by	India's rank / India's figure	Top country or state	UP's position (if given)
NFHS-6 (fact sheets)	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 29 May 2026. Conducted by IIPS Mumbai	TFR 2.0. Institutional births **90.6%**. Stunting **29.3%**. Full vaccination **87.1%**. 6.79 lakh households, 715 districts	Top State	
SRS Bulletin 2024 (Vol. 59-I)	Registrar General of India, 20 May 2026	Birth rate 18.3. Death rate 6.4. IMR 24. Natural growth rate 11.9. MMR 87 (2022–24)	Highest birth rate: Bihar 26.8. Lowest: Andaman and Nicobar 9.9. Highest IMR and death rate: Chhattisgarh (36 and 8.4). Lowest IMR: Manipur (2)	
Vital Statistics, Civil Registration System (CRS) 2024	Registrar General and Census Commissioner, 1 Jul 2026	Birth registration **99.1%**. Death registration **99.4%**. Sex ratio at birth 933 (excluding Sikkim)	Highest registered SRB: Arunachal Pradesh 1,050. Lowest: Nagaland 806	UP is in the **50%** to **80%** band for registration within 21 days (births and deaths)
National Health Accounts Estimates 2022–23		Total health spending **₹8,81,359 crore** = **3.37%** of GDP. Out-of-pocket **43.41%**. Government share **43.72%**	n/a	
Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2026 (second edition)	NITI Aayog, 11 Mar 2026	Five pillars: expenditure quality, revenue, fiscal prudence, debt index, debt sustainability	Achievers (major States): Odisha, Goa, Jharkhand	UP = Front-Runner (with Gujarat, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Karnataka)
Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2024 (4th edition)	NITI Aayog, 14 Jan 2026	Four pillars, 13 sub-pillars. First EPI was August 2020	Large States: 1 Maharashtra, 2 Tamil Nadu, 3 Gujarat. Small: Uttarakhand	UP **4th** overall. First among landlocked States
Investment Friendliness Index		100-point scale, 8 pillars, 84 indicators. Infrastructure has the **highest** weight (**25%**)	Gujarat 56.6, Maharashtra 53.7, Tamil Nadu 53.3, Goa 53.1, Odisha 52.4. Top performers (above 50): 5 States	UP = Frontrunner (45 to 50), with 14 others
PGI for Districts (PGI-D) 2024–25	Dept of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education	782 districts. 600 points. 70 indicators, 6 categories. No district in Utkarsh or Uttam-1	Diu 469 (Uttam-2). Kolhapur 463. Punjab and Keralam districts strong. All 14 Keralam districts in Uttam-2 or Uttam-3	
India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI) 2025 (second edition)	NITI Aayog with WRI India, 16 Sep 2026	16 indicators. Weights **50%** / **30%** / **20%**. Top Performer = 65 or above	Delhi 84, Maharashtra 78, Karnataka 73, Chandigarh 71, Goa 65	UP scored 51 = Front Runner. 58 in transport electrification
State of India's Environment (SoE) 2026	Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) and Down to Earth, 25 Feb 2026	Extreme weather on **99%** of days in 2025. 4,419 deaths. Only **15%** of people live within 10 km of a continuous air monitor	Worst State: Himachal Pradesh, 267 days. Then Keralam 173, MP 162	
First Census of Springs (Volume II, Part II)	Ministry of Jal Shakti, 25 Sep 2026 (India International Water Week, Bharat Mandapam)	14,468 springs in ten States. Reference year 2023–24. Not an all-India total	Manipur 3,941, then Maharashtra 3,652	

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Quick facts to hold: - **PGI grades from top**: Utkarsh, Uttam-1, Uttam-2, Uttam-3, Prachesta-1, -2, -3, Akanshi-1, -2, -3. PGI **first** report: 2019 (for 2017–18). Index introduced 2017. - **PGI-S**: maximum 1,000 points, 70 indicators. - **PAI grades**: A+ Achiever (90+), A Front Runner (75–90), B Performer (60–75), C Aspirant (40–60), D Beginner (below 40). PAI has nine themes. PAI 2.0 portal launched 26 May 2025. - NCAP launched 10 Jan 2019. Performance-linked grant **₹16,425 crore**. Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan began 2022–23. - IEMI **first** edition (IEMI 2024) was released 4 Aug 2025.

A2. International reports and indices

Report	Released by	India's rank / India's figure	Top country	UP's position
Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2026, 21st edition	Concern Worldwide, Welthungerhilfe and IFHV (Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict). Theme: **"No Security Without Food Security"**	**100th** of 122. Score 24.1 (**"serious"**). Stunting **29.3%**, wasting **19.0%**	24 countries below score 5 share ranks 1–24. Worst: Somalia **122nd** (47.0)	n/a
Global Gender Gap Report 2026, 20th edition (16 Sep 2026)	World Economic Forum (WEF)	**131st** of 145. Parity **64.5%**. **67th** in political empowerment	Iceland **93.0%** (**1st** for **17th** year)	n/a
World Happiness Report 2026, 14th edition (19 Mar 2026)	Wellbeing Research Centre, University of Oxford, with Gallup and UN SDSN	**116th** of 147	Finland 7.764 (**9th** year at top), Iceland, Denmark	n/a
World Press Freedom Index 2026	Reporters Without Borders (RSF)	**157th** of 180. Score 31.96. **"Very serious"** category. Was **151st** in 2025	Norway. Bottom: Eritrea **180th**	n/a
Rule of Law Index 2026 (21 Oct 2026)	World Justice Project (WJP)	**88th** of 143. Score 0.48. **3rd** of 6 in South Asia. Was **86th** in 2025	Denmark 0.90, Norway, Finland	n/a
Global Passport Index 2026	Global Citizen Solutions	**125th** of 197. Score 45.1. Was **124th** in 2025	Sweden 96.05	n/a
World Competitiveness Ranking 2026 (18 Jun 2026)	IMD Business School	**44th** of 70. Was **41st** in 2025	Singapore. Vietnam entered **first** time (**27th**)	n/a
QS World University Rankings 2027 (18 Jun 2026)	QS	52 ranked Indian institutions. Best: IIT Delhi **118th**	MIT (**1st** for **15th** year)	n/a
Global Risks Report 2026, 21st edition (14 Jan 2026)	World Economic Forum	No rank. India's top two-year risks: cyber insecurity, then wealth and income inequality	Short-term top global risk: geo-economic confrontation	n/a
World Inequality Report 2026, 3rd edition (Dec 2025)	World Inequality Lab (editors include Thomas Piketty, Lucas Chancel)	India: top **10%** earn **58%** of income. Bottom **50%** get **15%**. Top **1%** hold about **40%** of wealth	Global: top **10%** hold nearly **75%** of wealth	n/a
World Investment Report 2026 (7 Jul 2026)	UNCTAD (UN Trade and Development)	India inward FDI **$38.9 bn** in 2025 (up from **$27.1 bn**). Rank **13th** to **11th**. Outward **$35.7 bn**, **18th**	Inflows: US **$277 bn**, Singapore **$151 bn**, Hong Kong **$116 bn**	n/a
SIPRI Yearbook 2026, 57th edition (8 Jun 2026)	SIPRI (Stockholm, set up 1966)	Military spend **$92.1 bn** (**5th**, up **8.9%**). 190 warheads. **2nd largest** arms importer (**8.2%**)	Spending: US **$954 bn**, China, Russia. Top importer: Ukraine **9.7%**	n/a
Network Readiness Index 2025 (4 Feb 2026)	Portulans Institute	**45th** of 127. Score 54.43. **2nd** among lower-middle-income (after Vietnam)	United States 79.13	n/a

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Report	Released by	India's rank / India's figure	Top country	UP's position
Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2026 (12 Oct 2026)	UNDP and OPHI	MPI 0.069. Poverty incidence **16.4%**. About 23.78 crore poor in 2024 = **largest** number among countries covered	Highest poverty: Chad (0.517). Lowest: Serbia	n/a
World Economic Outlook, Oct 2026 (13 Oct 2026). Title: "Resilience Under Strain, Urgent Choices"	International Monetary Fund (IMF)	India growth 7.8 (FY 2025–26), 7.0 (FY 2026–27), 7.0 (FY 2027–28)	World growth **3.1%** in 2026	n/a
Index of Economic Freedom 2026, 32nd edition (March 2026)	The Heritage Foundation	**132nd**. **"Mostly Unfree"** band	Singapore 84.4, Switzerland, Ireland	n/a
Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI) 40 (16 Sep 2026)	Z/Yen Partners (London) and China Development Institute (Shenzhen)	GIFT City **37th** (up 9). Mumbai **49th**. New Delhi **56th**	New York, London, Hong Kong, Singapore	n/a
WEF Energy Transition Index 2026 (18 Jun 2026)	World Economic Forum with Accenture	**70th** of 120. Score 54.9 (up two places)	Sweden 75.3, Finland, Denmark	n/a
Emissions Gap Report 2026, 17th edition, "The Point of Return" (21 Oct 2026)	UNEP	India = third-**largest** emitter (4.5 bn tonnes CO2e). 3.1 tonnes per person vs world 6.4	Global emissions 58.4 GtCO2e in 2025	n/a
IQAir World Air Quality Report 2025, 8th edition (24 Mar 2026)	IQAir	India = **6th** most polluted country (PM2.5 48.9). Delhi = **4th** most polluted city (99.6). New Delhi = most polluted capital (avg PM2.5 82.2 µg/m³)	Most polluted country: Pakistan 67.3. Most polluted city: Loni, India (112.5)	n/a
Sustainable Development Report 2026 (23 Jun 2026)	Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)	**94th** of 169. Score 68.3. Up from **112th** in 2015	Finland, Sweden, Denmark	n/a
WHO Global TB Report 2025 (12 Nov 2025)	WHO	India has **25%** of global TB burden. Incidence 187 per lakh (2024), down **21%** from 237 in 2015	Global: 10.7 million fell ill in 2024	n/a
Global Methane Status Report (17 Nov 2025, COP30, Belem)		India figure	Sector shares: agriculture **42%**, energy **38%**, waste **20%**	n/a
WHO–UNICEF JMP report: WASH in Schools 2015–2025 (22 Sep 2026)	WHO and UNICEF (Joint Monitoring Programme)	Basic water **96.6%**, sanitation **80.8%**, hygiene **52.9%** (2024)	Global basic services: water **78%**, sanitation **77%**, hygiene **72%**	n/a
FAO Food Price Index	FAO	July 2026: 131.1 points (up **0.6%**). Highest since early 2023	Base period 2014–2016	n/a
Human Development Report 2025	UNDP	130 of 193	Iceland. Bottom: South Sudan	n/a
Global Innovation Index 2025	WIPO	**38th**	Switzerland, Sweden	n/a
Corruption Perceptions Index 2025	Transparency International	**91st**	Denmark **1st**. Somalia and South Sudan **185th**	n/a
Global Fire Power Ranking 2026	—	**4th**	USA, Russia, China	n/a
Global Peace Index 2026	Institute of Economics and Peace	**127th**	Iceland. Russia **163rd**	n/a

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Report	Released by	India's rank / India's figure	Top country	UP's position
Global Terrorism Index 2026	Institute of Economics and Peace	**13th**	Pakistan, Burkina Faso, Niger	n/a
Global Liveability Index 2026	Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)		Copenhagen, then Vienna	n/a
Democracy Index 2025	Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)	**47th**	Norway, New Zealand, Sweden	n/a
THE Asia University Rankings 2026	Times Higher Education	IISc Bengaluru joint **43rd**	Tsinghua, Peking, NUS	n/a
Nature Conservation Index 2025	Ben-Gurion University (Goldman Sonnenfeldt School) and BioDB.com	**172nd** of 180	Estonia, Denmark, Luxembourg	n/a
International IP Index 2026	US Chamber of Commerce	**43rd** of 55	US, UK, France	n/a
Responsible Nation Index 2026	World Intellectual Foundation	**16th** (score 0.5515)	Singapore, Switzerland, Denmark	n/a

Quick facts to hold: - **GHI weights**: undernourishment 1/3, under-five mortality 1/3, stunting 1/6, wasting 1/6. South Asia 23.5, world 18.1. - **Gender Gap four sub-indices**: economic participation, education, health and survival, political empowerment. Launched 2006. - WJP uses eight factors and 44 sub-factors. India's best factor: Open Government (**45th**). Worst: Civil Justice (**116th**). - WHR ranks on the Cantril Ladder (0–10). World Happiness Day: 20 March. - **RSF five indicators**: political, legal, economic, sociocultural, safety of journalists. India's South Asian neighbours: Nepal **87th**, Maldives **108th**, Sri Lanka **134th**, Bhutan **150th**, Bangladesh **152nd**, Pakistan **153rd**. - SIPRI nuclear stockpile (total inventory): Russia 5,420, US 5,042, China 620, India 190, Pakistan 170. - **Global MPI**: three dimensions, ten indicators. Poor if deprivation score is **33.3%** or more. - **SDR**: India up 18 places since 2015 (**112th** to **94th**). - **WIR (UNCTAD)**: India's top FDI source is Singapore, then Mauritius, US, Japan.

Part B. Summits, groupings, world news

B1. Groupings and summits

18th BRICS Summit 2026

- **Host**: New Delhi, 12–13 September 2026. Chair: India (its fourth presidency; earlier 2012, 2016, 2021). India took the chair on 1 January 2026.
- **Theme**: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability."
- **Members**: 11 full members and 10 partner countries. Together about **49.5%** of world population and about **40%** of world GDP.
- **Declaration**: New Delhi BRICS Leaders' Declaration. It condemned the 22 April 2025 J&K attack (26 killed). Modi proposed a BRICS Continuity and Implementation Mechanism.
- **Earlier**: **17th** Summit, Rio de Janeiro, 6–7 July 2025. **16th**, Kazan, Russia, October 2024.

Likely ask: host city and number of the 2026 summit, theme, or which earlier summit was in Rio.

BRICS 2026 sectoral meetings

- **First Sherpas and Sous-Sherpas meeting**: New Delhi, 9–10 February 2026. Led by Sudhakar Dalela.
- **13th Education Ministers' Meeting**: Odisha.
- Guwahati Declaration on Drug Control. **11th** Energy Ministers Meeting. **16th** National Security Advisers Meeting.
- **16th Agriculture Ministers' Meeting**: Indore, Madhya Pradesh, 12–13 June 2026. Indore Declaration.
- **Second Anti-Corruption Working Group**: hosted by DoPT.

Likely ask: match the declaration to the city (Guwahati = drug control, Indore = agriculture). UP link: Lucknow = statistics.

26th SCO Summit 2026

- **Host**: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 31 August to 1 September 2026. Chair: President Sadyr Japarov. SCO's **25th** anniversary.
- **Outcome**: Bishkek Declaration and 28 documents.
- SCO set up 15 June 2001. 10 full members. India and Pakistan joined 2017, Iran 2023, Belarus 2024. Secretariat: Beijing. RATS is in Tashkent.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

- **Next**: Pakistan holds presidency 2026–27 and hosts the 2027 summit. Lahore = SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital 2026–27.

Likely ask: venue, tourism capital, year of India's entry.

52nd G7 Summit 2026

- **Host**: Evian-les-Bains, France, 15–17 June 2026 (French presidency).
- India's **13th** participation. Modi's **7th** straight appearance.
- Declarations on public health and tech, migration and crime, economy and supply chains.
- **Before**: **51st**, June 2025, Kananaskis, Canada. Next: **53rd**, US, 2027.
- Japan's PM Takaichi introduced **"POWER Asia"** at the summit.

Likely ask: host country and city, edition number.

G20 Johannesburg Summit 2025 (20th)

- **Host**: Johannesburg, South Africa, 22–23 November 2025. First G20 summit on African soil.
- **Theme**: **"Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability."** Declaration reflects **"Ubuntu"**.
- Backed Mission 300 (electricity for 300 million Africans by 2030).
- Modi's **12th** G20. He proposed six initiatives, including a Traditional Knowledge Repository and Africa Skills Multiplier.
- **Next**: **21st** at Doral, Florida, 14–15 December 2026. **22nd**: Manchester, UK, 27–28 November 2027. Korea hosts 2028.

Likely ask: first G20 in Africa, host of the next summit.

Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting 2026

- **Members**: India, US, Japan, Australia. FMs **first** met September 2019. Leader level from 2021.
- Host city and date of this meeting:.
- **Outcomes**: Indo-Pacific Maritime Surveillance Collaboration (IPMSC). Quad Initiative on Indo-Pacific Energy Security. Quad Critical Minerals Framework. Port work with Fiji.

Likely ask: name of the new maritime or minerals initiative.

48th ASEAN Summit 2026 and 22nd ASEAN–India Summit

- **48th ASEAN**: Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, Philippines, 6–8 May 2026. Chair: President Marcos Jr. Theme: **"Navigating Our Future, Together."**
- ASEAN set up 8 August 1967 (Bangkok Declaration). 11 members after Timor-Leste joined in 2025. HQ Jakarta.
- **22nd ASEAN–India Summit**: Kuala Lumpur, 26 October 2025. Action Plan 2026–2030. 2026 = ASEAN–India Year of Maritime Cooperation. **23rd** expected in Manila, November 2026.

Likely ask: ASEAN HQ, number of members, ASEAN–India year theme.

India–EU Summit 2026 (16th)

- **Host**: New Delhi, 27 January 2026. Present: PM Modi, António Costa, Ursula von der Leyen.
- **Outcomes**: FTA negotiations concluded (talks began 2007, suspended 2013, resumed 2022). First India–EU Security and Defence Partnership. **"Towards 2030"** Strategic Agenda.
- FTA not in force by October 2026. CBAM remains a concern.

Likely ask: which agreement was concluded, years of FTA talks.

11th Raisina Dialogue 2026

- **Host**: New Delhi, 5–7 March 2026. Theme: "Samskara: Assertion, Accommodation, Advancement."
- **Chief guest**: Alexander Stubb, President of Finland.
- Organised by ORF with MEA. Launched 2016. Raisina Science Diplomacy Initiative launched in 2026.

Likely ask: organiser, chief guest.

First BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting 2026

- **Outcome**: Delhi Declaration (terrorism, organised crime, trafficking, cybercrime). Five major approvals, e.g. draft Convention Against Human Trafficking.
- **Proposed**: BIMSTEC Centre of Excellence for disaster management at Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- **BIMSTEC**: set up 6 June 1997 (Bangkok Declaration). 7 members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand. Secretariat Dhaka. Chair 2026: Bangladesh.

Likely ask: list of the seven members, secretariat city.

India–UK CETA (in force 15 July 2026)

- Concluded 6 May 2025. Signed in London, 24 July 2025. Operational 15 July 2026.
- 30 chapters. UK gives zero duty on nearly **99%** of Indian tariff lines.
- **Double Contribution Convention (DCC)**: signed 10 February 2026, operational with CETA.

Likely ask: signing city and year, what DCC does.

16th India–Japan Annual Summit 2026

- **Host**: New Delhi, 1–3 July 2026 (main meeting 2 July). Japan PM: Sanae Takaichi.
- 16 official outcomes. Special Strategic and Global Partnership (since 2014).
- Yamanashi–Uttar Pradesh partnership on hydrogen. 2027 = Year of Shared Horizons. **17th** summit in Japan, 2027.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Likely ask: PM of Japan, UP's Japanese partner prefecture.

3rd India–Nordic Summit and Norway visit

- **Host**: Oslo. Modi's visit 18–19 May 2026 (host PM Jonas Gahr Støre).
- **Nordic five**: Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden. Relationship = Green Technology and Innovation Strategic Partnership.
- **India–Norway** = Green Strategic Partnership.

Likely ask: host city, number of Nordic countries.

PM Modi's visits in 2026

- **Uzbekistan, 29–30 Aug 2026**: ties upgraded to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Highest award: **"Oliy Darajali Do'stlik"** Order. Trade target **$5 bn** by 2030.
- **Australia, 8–10 Jul 2026**: Third Australia–India Annual Summit, Melbourne, 9 July. Albanese host.
- **Italy, 19–20 May 2026**: ties upgraded to Special Strategic Partnership. Modi got FAO's Agricola Medal in Rome.
- **New Zealand, 10–11 Jul 2026**: Strategic Partnership. First Indian PM visit in four decades.

Likely ask: which partner got which new status.

WTO 14th Ministerial Conference (MC-14)

- **Host**: Yaounde, Cameroon, March 2026. No broad package agreed (WTO reform, e-commerce moratorium).

81st UN General Assembly President

- Khalilur Rahman (Bangladesh). Term began 8 September 2026. Theme: "Restoring Trust, Managing Transformation: A United Nations that Delivers for All."
- Won by secret ballot against Andreas Kakouris (Cyprus). Presidency fell to Asia-Pacific Group.

UNSC non-permanent members 2027–28

- **Elected 3 June 2026**: Austria, Kyrgyzstan, Portugal, Trinidad and Tobago, Zimbabwe.
- **Kyrgyzstan**: **first** time on the Council since joining the UN in 1992. Germany lost (104 votes).

28th Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers Conference (CSPOC)

- **Host**: New Delhi, 14–16 January 2026. Chaired by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. Inaugurated by PM Modi.
- 61 presiding officers from 42 countries. CSPOC started 1969. India hosted before: 1970–71, 1986, 2010. **29th**: London, 2028.

International IDEA Council 2026

- India chairs for 2026 (from 3 December 2025). Rep: CEC Gyanesh Kumar, Stockholm.
- **Theme**: "Democracy for an Inclusive, Peaceful, Resilient and Sustainable World." Vice-chairs: Mauritius and Mexico.

India AI Impact Summit 2026

- **Host**: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, 16–21 February 2026. First held in a Global South country.
- Three Sutras (People, Planet, Progress) and seven Chakras. Logo: Ashoka Chakra.
- India joined Pax Silica on 20 February 2026 (**10th** signatory). IndiaAI Mission has over 38,000 GPUs.

Likely ask: first Global South host, number of Chakras.

First UN Global Dialogue on AI Governance

- **Host**: Geneva, 6–7 July 2026. India's delegation led by MoS Kirti Vardhan Singh. Second session: New York, May 2027.
- **UN Scientific Panel on AI**: co-chairs Yoshua Bengio and Maria Ressa. 40 experts.

B2. Climate and environment conferences

COP30 (UNFCCC)

- **Host**: Belem, Brazil, 10–22 November 2025.
- **Outcome**: Belem Package (about 29 decisions), based on the Global Mutirao decision. Tropical Forest Forever Facility (target **$125 bn**). Belem 4x Pledge (quadruple sustainable fuels by 2035). Belem Action Mechanism for just transition.
- India said climate finance under Article 9.1 is a legal duty (**$1.3 trillion** a year) and opposed CBAM.
- **Next**: COP31 in Turkiye, 2026.

Likely ask: host city, what Mutirao means (community working together).

CMS COP15 (Bonn Convention)

- **Host**: Campo Grande, Brazil, 23–29 March 2026. Theme: **"Connecting Nature to Sustain Life."**
- **Outcome**: new or upgraded protection for 40 species. Convention covers over 1,200 species. Brazil holds presidency three years.
- **COP16**: Bonn, Germany, 2029 (**50th** anniversary of CMS, signed 1979).

Kigali Amendment, 10 years

- Adopted Kigali, Rwanda, 15 October 2016. In force January 2019. Phases down HFCs.
- India ratified in 2021. Freeze 2028; minus **10%** in 2032; minus **85%** in 2047.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

First International Conference on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels

- Host, date and outcome:. Background: COP28 Global Stocktake decision.
- **Three principles**: those ready move forward; implementation; focus on solutions.

B3. Iran–Israel conflict and US–Iran MoU (places for the map)

- **28 February 2026**: joint US–Israeli strikes. US name: Operation Epic Fury. Israel's name: Operation Roaring Lion. Iran's response: **"Operation True Promise"** waves.
- Ali Khamenei killed in Tehran on 28 Feb 2026. His son Mojtaba Khamenei named Supreme Leader on 9 March 2026.
- US–Iran talks in Islamabad, 11–12 April 2026, no deal.
- **17 June 2026**: US–Iran 14-point MoU. Signed by Trump and Pezeshkian. Reopen Strait of Hormuz in 30 days. 60-day talks on a nuclear deal. **$300 bn** reconstruction framework.
- **Places**: Strait of Hormuz (between Iran and Oman; Persian Gulf to Arabian Sea). Kharg Island (about **90%** of Iran's crude exports). Strait of Malacca (Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore).
- **Earlier, June 2025**: Israel's Operation Rising Lion; US Operation Midnight Hammer; India's Operation Sindhu.
- Modi got the Speaker of the Knesset Medal on 25 Feb 2026. In 2018 he got Palestine's Grand Collar.

Likely ask: strait or island on the map, name of the US operation.

B4. People, elections and world news

Nepal

- Balendra Shah (**"Balen"**) became PM on 27 March 2026. Youngest democratically elected PM. RSP won the 2026 election. Former Kathmandu mayor, rapper and engineer.
- **Gen Z movement**: September 2025, after a ban on 26 social media platforms. PM K. P. Sharma Oli resigned. Sushila Karki (ex-Chief Justice) became interim PM, Nepal's **first** woman PM.
- **Rasuwa flash flood**: 26 August 2026, near the Nepal–China border. Cause: rock–ice avalanche from Langtang Lirung. India sent NDRF teams.

Morocco

- **Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri** = Morocco's **first** woman Head of Government. Elections: 23 September 2026. PAM won 97 of 395 seats.

Japan

- **Sanae Takaichi** = Japan's **105th** PM and **first** woman PM, from 18 February 2026.

Venezuela

- Maduro captured by US forces on 3 January 2026 (Operation Absolute Resolve, Caracas). Delcy Rodriguez sworn in as acting president on 5 January 2026.
- Earthquakes of 7.2 and 7.5 on 24 June 2026 led to India's Operation Amistad.

Other world news

- Bulgaria joined the eurozone on 1 January 2026 (**21st** member).
- **Spain**: **first** European country to ban social media for under-16s (second after Australia, December 2025). Announced by PM Pedro Sanchez at the World Government Summit, Dubai.
- **Russia**: Sudan approved Russia's **first** naval base in Africa, near Port Sudan (Red Sea).
- **Operation Hawkeye Strike**: 19 December 2025, joint US–Jordan operation in Syria, after the 13 December ISIS attack in Palmyra.
- **Colombia**: 7.4 earthquake on 10 August 2026, epicentre near San Jose del Palmar, Choco. Largest in Colombia this century. New president Abelardo de la Espriella sworn in 7 August 2026.
- Cyclone Ditwah hit Sri Lanka in late November 2025. India's Operation Sagar Bandhu (launched 28 Nov 2025) used INS Vikrant, INS Udaygiri, INS Sukanya and an IAF C-130J.

Likely ask: which country got which Indian rescue operation.

India's humanitarian operations

Operation	Year	Country	Purpose
Maitri	2015	Nepal	Earthquake relief
Rahat	2015	Yemen	Evacuation
Sankat Mochan	2016	South Sudan	Evacuation
Samudra Setu	2020	Maldives, Iran, Sri Lanka	COVID-19 repatriation
Devi Shakti	2021	Afghanistan	Evacuation
Ganga	2022	Ukraine	Evacuation
Kaveri	2023	Sudan	Evacuation
Sagar Bandhu	Nov 2025	Sri Lanka	Cyclone Ditwah relief

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Operation	Year	Country	Purpose
Amistad	26 Jun 2026	Venezuela	Earthquake relief (two C-17 aircraft, two BHISHM cubes)

Part C. Defence

C1. Exercises and operations

Month is the 2026 month unless a 2025 date is shown.

Exercise	India + partner country	Place	Month 2026	Service
33rd SIMBEX-2026	India + Singapore	Visakhapatnam	Oct (21–26)	Navy (maritime exercise)
5th AUSTRAHIND 2026	India + Australia	Foreign Training Node, Thiruvananthapuram	Oct–Nov (19 Oct–1 Nov)	Military
MOUNTAIN GUARDIAN 2026	India + UAE	Foreign Training Node, Chaubatia, Uttarakhand	Oct (5–18)	Military
SAREX-2026	India only (National Maritime SAR Exercise)	Off Paradip coast, Odisha	Oct (8)	Maritime (service not named)
KAZIND 2026	India + Kazakhstan	Oskemen, Kazakhstan	Sep–Oct (28 Sep–11 Oct)	Military
24th VARUNA 2026	India + France	Toulon Naval Base, France	Sep	—
13th SLINEX-26	India + Sri Lanka	Visakhapatnam	Sep (17–21)	—
23rd Yudh Abhyas 2026	India + USA	Auli (Uttarakhand) and Mahajan Field Firing Range (Rajasthan)	Sep (15–28)	Military
4th Samudra Lakshman 2026	India + Malaysia	Lumut, Malaysia	Sep (9–12)	Navy (Indian Navy and Royal Malaysian Navy)
Colombo Security Conclave Table Top Exercise	—	Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam	Sep (9–11)	—
15th MAITREE 2026	India + Thailand	Surat Thani, Thailand	Aug (18–31)	Military
Udara Shakti 2026	India + Malaysia	Subang, Malaysia	Aug	Air Force (IAF and RMAF)
8th India–US Navy EOD Exercise 2026	India + USA	Southern Naval Command, Kochi, Keralam	Aug (10–14)	Navy
Sudarshan Shakti-V	India only (counter-hijacking mock drill)	IGI Airport, New Delhi	Aug	—
Tiger Lightning 2026	US + Bangladesh (India not a partner)	Bangladesh	Jul (19–31)	—
Pitch Black 2026	Multinational air-combat exercise	RAAF Darwin, Tindal (Northern Territory), Amberley (Queensland), Australia	Jul–Aug (20 Jul–7 Aug)	Air Force (air-combat)
Operation Southern Readiness 26-2	Multinational maritime security training	Southern Naval Command, Kochi	Jul (20–23)	Navy (maritime)
Operation Cy-Vajra 2026	Uttar Pradesh Police (cyber)		Jul (7–13)	Police

©UPSCPSCDECODE

Exercise	India + partner country	Place	Month 2026	Service
CINBAX-II 2026	India + Cambodia	Kampong Speu Province, Cambodia	May (4–17)	Military
Cyclone-IV	India + Egypt	Anshas, Egypt	Apr (9–17)	Special Forces
4th DIVEX 2026	India + Sri Lanka	Colombo, Sri Lanka	Apr (21–28)	Navy (Indian Navy and Sri Lankan Navy)
11th LAMITIYE 2026	India + Seychelles	Seychelles Defence Academy	Mar (9–20)	—
6th VAJRA PRAHAR-2026	India + USA	Special Forces Training School, Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh	Feb–Mar (24 Feb–16 Mar)	Special Forces
Vayu Shakti-2026-27	India only	Pokhran Firing Range, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan	Feb	Air Force
13th KHANJAR 2026	India + Kyrgyzstan	Missamari, Assam	Feb (4–17)	—
17th DOSTI 2026	India + Maldives + Sri Lanka	Maldives	Jan (16–19)	—
ICG–JCG Joint Exercise 2026	India + Japan	Mumbai	Jan (15–17)	Coast Guard

Late 2025 entries in the same list:

Exercise	India + partner country	Place	Date	Service
19th SURYA KIRAN-2025	India + Nepal	Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand	25 Nov–8 Dec 2025	—
Desert Cyclone-II	India + UAE	Abu Dhabi	18–30 Dec 2025	—
5th Harimau Shakti-2025	India + Malaysia	Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan	5–18 Dec 2025	—
10th GARUDA SHAKTI-2025	India + Indonesia	Special Forces Training School, Bakloh, HP	3–12 Dec 2025	Special Forces
8th Garuda-25	India + France	Mont-de-Marsan, France	16–27 Nov 2025	—
8th AJEYA WARRIOR-25	India + UK	Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan	17–30 Nov 2025	—
6th VINBAX-2025	India + Vietnam	Hanoi, Vietnam	11–27 Nov 2025	—
14th EKUVERIN-2025	India + Maldives	Thiruvananthapuram, Keralam	2–15 Dec 2025	—
29th MALABAR-2025	India, Japan, Australia, USA	Near Guam, Northern Pacific	10–18 Nov 2025	—
11th MITRA SHAKTI-2025	India + Sri Lanka	Foreign Training Node, Belagavi, Karnataka	10–23 Nov 2025	—

Likely ask: match exercise to partner (Yudh Abhyas = US, Varuna = France, Malabar = Quad four, Khanjar = Kyrgyzstan, KAZIND = Kazakhstan, Maitree = Thailand, SIMBEX = Singapore). UP link: Operation Cy-Vajra 2026 is a UP Police exercise.

C2. Missiles and platforms

Format: name · type · developer · **first** or test date.

- Agni-III · intermediate-range ballistic missile (two-stage, solid fuel, range over 3,000 km, payload 1.5 tonne) · developer · test-fired 6 February 2026 from ITR Chandipur, Odisha. Agni series ranges: Agni-1 700 km, Agni-2 2,000 km, Agni-3 3,000 km, Agni-4 4,000 km, Agni-5 5,000 km.
- Dhvani · hypersonic glide vehicle (Mach 5+, range 6,000–10,000 km) · DRDO · date. Still being developed.
- TARA (Tactical Advanced Range Augmentation) · glide kit that turns unguided bombs into precision weapons · Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad, DRDO labs · maiden flight trial 7 May 2026 with IAF off Odisha. First indigenous glide weapon.
- KAL · long-range one-way attack drone (up to 1,000 km, 50 kg warhead) · IG Defence, Noida (private) · flight trial at Pokhran Field Firing Range.
- Saksham C-UAS Grid (Situational Awareness for Kinetic Soft and Hard Kill Assets Management) · counter-drone system · Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) · Army began procurement.
- INS Mahendragiri · sixth Project 17A stealth frigate (Nilgiri class) · designed by Warship Design Bureau, built by Mazagon Dock, Mumbai · commissioned 11 July 2026 at Visakhapatnam. Over **75%** indigenous. Seventh ship Vindhyagiri still under construction.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

- **Project 17A order of commissioning**: Nilgiri (Jan 2025), Udaygiri (Aug 2025), Himgiri (Aug 2025), Taragiri (Apr 2026), Dunagiri (Jun 2026), Mahendragiri (Jul 2026).
- INS Aridhaman · nuclear submarine (7,000 tonnes), carries K-15 and K-4 SLBMs (K-4 range 3,500 km) · builder · date.
- INS Mangrol · third ASW Shallow Water Craft (Mahe class) · Cochin Shipyard, Kochi · commissioned 12 October 2026, Mumbai. Over **80%** indigenous. Program has 16 vessels (8 CSL, 8 GRSE). Earlier: INS Mahe (24 Nov 2025), INS Malvan (22 Jul 2026, Karwar).
- Malwan (ASW SWC) · Cochin Shipyard · delivered 31 March 2026. Named after Malwan, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.
- Agray (ASW SWC) · Garden Reach Shipbuilders (GRSE), Kolkata · delivered 30 March 2026. Fourth of eight GRSE vessels. Sanshodhak (survey vessel) was also delivered, the fourth and last of its class.
- ICGS Achal · Adamya-class fast patrol vessel, Indian Coast Guard · Goa Shipyard Limited · commissioned 9 May 2026.
- HANSA-3 NG · indigenous pilot trainer aircraft (all-composite) · CSIR–National Aerospace Laboratories, Bengaluru · production version launched 29 November 2025.
- GaN technology · Gallium Nitride chips for radar and electronic warfare · DRDO (GAETEC, SSPL) · SAMEER and ISRO's ISTRAC agreed on 13 May 2026 to use it for X-band deep-space amplifiers.
- 350 kg-thrust expendable turbojet engine · **first** indigenous · DRDO's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE), partner Azad Engineering, Hyderabad · delivered 22 July 2026.
- Cadet Training Ship Krishna (extra, from same pages) · **first** of three CTS · L&T, Kattupalli (Chennai) · launched 16 February 2026.

Likely ask: which organisation built X, which yard commissioned which ship, TARA = first indigenous glide weapon, Agni-III range.

Part 3: Science, Environment, Awards, Sports

2.7 Science, Space, Health

Space

Chandrayaan-3 Hop Experiment

- ISRO shared the findings on 18 May 2026.
- Vikram lander fired its engines and **"hopped"**, landing about 50 cm from its **first** spot.
- ChaSTE (lunar thermometer) was re-inserted at the new site, near the Moon's south pole.
- **Findings**: two-layer soil in the top 6.5 cm; soil gets denser and stickier with depth; engine blew away top 3 cm of soil.
- Hop was meant to test ascent for future sample-return missions.
- Chandrayaan-3 also won the 2026 Goddard Astronautics Award from AIAA.

Likely ask: what the hop tested; instrument name ChaSTE; south pole.

ISRO LVM3-M6

- **Launch date**: 24 December 2025, by ISRO/NSIL.
- **Payload**: BlueBird Block-2 of AST SpaceMobile (USA), 6,100 kg, the **heaviest** payload LVM3 has launched from India.
- Largest commercial communications satellite in low Earth orbit (223 m2 phased array).
- **104th** launch from Sriharikota; ninth successful LVM3 mission; third dedicated commercial mission.
- **Purpose**: direct-to-mobile 4G/5G connectivity.

Likely ask: launch vehicle name; payload weight; "heaviest"; customer country.

First GAGAN-based Landing

- Late June 2026, supervised by DGCA.
- An IndiGo Airbus A321 did **India's first** Satellite-Based Landing System approach using GAGAN instead of ILS.
- **GAGAN** = GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation, built by ISRO and Airports Authority of India.
- **Network**: 15 reference stations, 2 master control centres, 3 uplink stations, 3 geostationary satellites with GAGAN payloads.
- NavIC is India's separate regional navigation system.

Likely ask: full form of GAGAN; who built it; GAGAN vs NavIC.

SOLAR-1 (USA)

- Operated by NOAA; made operational on 10 June 2026.
- First US satellite built only for continuous operational space-weather observation.
- Old name SWFO-L1; renamed after it reached Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1.
- Launched 24 September 2025 on a SpaceX Falcon 9 from Launch Complex 39A, Kennedy Space Center.
- Final engine burn 23 January 2026; data goes to NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

Likely ask: agency; orbit point L1; rocket.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

India's First Orbital Data Centre Satellite "Pathfinder"

- **Announced 4 May 2026**: Pixxel and Sarvam partnership.
- Pixxel designs, builds, launches and operates it; Sarvam supplies the AI models.
- Single-satellite demonstrator; will be built at Gigapixel, Pixxel's facility.
- **Aim**: test data-centre-class chips working in space (like edge computing).

Likely ask: which two firms; what an orbital data centre is.

India's First Private EO Satellite Constellation

- IN-SPACe formalised the deal on 21 January 2026 with the Pixxel-led consortium **"Allied Orbits"**.
- **Members**: Pixxel Space India, Piersight Space, SatSure Analytics India, Dhruva Space.
- 12 satellites; investment above Rs 1,200 crore over five years; to be operational by 2029.
- **Sensors**: panchromatic, multispectral, hyperspectral, SAR.
- **Scheme**: Earth Observation Public-Private Partnership (EO-PPP).

Likely ask: regulator IN-SPACe; number of satellites; scheme name.

New Telescopes in Ladakh (Budget 2026-27)

- **National Large Solar Telescope (NLST)**: Merak, near Pangong Lake; 2-metre class; observes the Sun.
- National Large Optical-Infrared Telescope (NLOT): Hanle; 13.7-metre segmented mirror.
- Himalayan Chandra Telescope upgrade at Hanle: 2 m now, planned 3.7 m. First light 26 September 2000.
- **COSMOS-2 Planetarium**: Amaravati, by Indian Institute of Astrophysics.

Likely ask: match telescope to place; mirror size.

Artemis II (NASA)

- Lifted off from Kennedy Space Center on 1 April 2026.
- Crewed lunar flyby, not a landing; **first** humans near the Moon since 1972.
- Crew named the Orion capsule **"Integrity"**.
- Heat shield performed as expected; char loss much lower than Artemis I.
- Artemis III is listed for 2027 as a low-Earth-orbit test of SpaceX and Blue Origin landers.

Likely ask: flyby vs landing; Orion capsule; Artemis III plan.

JAXA Martian Moons eXploration (MMX)

- Launched 20 October 2026 on H3 Flight No. 10 from Tanegashima, Japan.
- **Aim**: **first** sample return from the Martian system; at least 10 g from Phobos.
- Arrives at Mars 2027; samples back on Earth 2031.
- Rover IDEFIX by France's CNES and Germany's DLR; NASA supplies MEGANE and P-Sampler.

Likely ask: country; moon name Phobos; "first".

Other space items

- SMOPS-2026 (spacecraft mission operations conference): 8-10 April 2026, Bengaluru; by ISRO, ASI and IAA.

Health

HPV Vaccination Drive

- Launched 28 February 2026 from Ajmer, Rajasthan.
- **Target**: 14-year-old girls in all 36 States and UTs; about 1.2 crore girls a year.
- Single 0.5 ml dose, free, voluntary, with parental consent.
- Campaign mode for three months; then routine immunisation days.
- Registration on U-WIN; stock tracked on e-VIN.

Likely ask: launch place; age group; platform name.

AdFalciVax Malaria Vaccine Candidate

- Developed by ICMR's Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC), Bhubaneswar.
- Recombinant multi-stage vaccine against Plasmodium falciparum.
- Still preclinical (TRL 4); licensed to five Indian companies (as of 17 June 2026).
- Stays effective up to 12 months at room temperature; cost about Rs 20 a dose.
- **WHO-recommended vaccines named**: RTS,S/AS01 (Mosquirix) and R21/Matrix-M.
- **India's goal**: zero indigenous malaria cases by 2027; elimination by 2030.

Likely ask: which institution; no cold chain needed; the two WHO vaccines.

Qdenga (TAK-003) Dengue Vaccine

- Takeda (Japan) vaccine; CDSCO subject expert committee recommended it for ages 4 to 60.
- Live-attenuated; covers all four dengue serotypes; DENV2 backbone.
- Two doses, three months apart.
- **Dengue cases**: 2,89,235 (2023), 2,33,519 (2024), 1,21,824 (2025).

Likely ask: maker; age range; doses.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

First State-funded BSL-4 Lab

- At Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC), Gandhinagar.
- **Foundation stone**: 13 January 2026 by Amit Shah.
- BSL-4 is the **highest** containment level (Ebola, Nipah, Marburg).
- **Only one civilian BSL-4 lab works now**: NIV Pune.

Likely ask: place; why "first" (state-funded); the Pune lab.

Bhutan Rabies Elimination

- WHO validated on 4 September 2026 that Bhutan eliminated dog-transmitted human rabies.
- First country in the WHO South-East Asia Region to do so.
- Zero human deaths since June 2023.
- WHO lists Bhutan, Chile and Mexico as validated.

Likely ask: region; which country.

ICMR Centre for High Altitude Medicine

- Foundation stone 12 October 2026 by J.P. Nadda.
- **Place**: Keylong, Lahaul and Spiti, Himachal Pradesh.
- ICMR's **first** dedicated centre of this kind.

Likely ask: place and state.

Other health items (short)

- **JAMA**: recognised as the **49th** human blood group system (ISBT 049), announced 14 September 2026.
- Aarogya Setu 2.0 launched 29 June 2026; Personal Health Record app under ABDM.
- Mission SEHAT launched 11 May 2026 by ICAR and ICMR.

Technology and Energy

First Hydrogen-Powered Train

- Inaugurated 17 July 2026 by PM Modi on the Jind-Sonipat section, Haryana (Northern Railway).
- Two 1200 kW power cars (2400 kW); eight trailer coaches. A 10-car set carrying about **2,600 passengers**.
- Max operating speed 75 kmph; design speed 110 kmph.
- Jind has the country's **largest** railway hydrogen storage (about 3,000 kg).
- **Fuel cell type**: PEMFC. Design approval by RDSO.

Likely ask: section; state; fuel cell type.

First LNG-Powered Train

- Flagged off 27 September 2026 by Amit Shah from Sabarmati, Ahmedabad (Gujarat).
- DEMU with two converted 1,400 HP power cars; replaces up to about **40%** of diesel.
- **Inaugural run**: Sabarmati to Mahesana.

Likely ask: place; diesel replaced (40%).

PFBR, Kalpakkam

- Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor reached **first** criticality on 6 April 2026.
- 500 MWe; designed by **IGCAR**, built by **BHAVINI** at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.
- India enters stage two of its three-stage nuclear programme (idea of Homi Bhabha).
- India would be second country after Russia with a commercial fast breeder reactor.

Likely ask: stage two; BHAVINI; second after Russia.

Param Pragya and LineShine (Supercomputers)

- **PARAM Pragya**: inaugurated 8 August 2026 by PM Modi at IIT Delhi's **57th** convocation; at IIT Delhi Sonipat campus.
- 400 NVIDIA A100 GPUs; 250 AI petaflops; Rs 120 crore from DST and MeitY.
- **LineShine (China, Shenzhen)**: No. 1 in TOP500, announced 23 June 2026; 2.198 exaflop/s; displaced El Capitan.
- **Top Indian system in the list**: AIRAWAT-PSAI (C-DAC), global rank 211.

Likely ask: which country has the fastest machine; what Param Pragya is for.

India's First Advanced 3D Semiconductor Packaging Unit

- Foundation stone laid in Bhubaneswar, Odisha; project by 3D Glass Solutions.
- Investment Rs 1,943.53 crore; glass-substrate packaging, not a fab.
- Odisha is **first** state with both a compound semiconductor fab and an advanced 3D packaging unit.

Likely ask: state; type of unit.

SEMICON India 2026

- Fifth edition; inaugurated by PM Modi on 17 September 2026 at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi; ran 17-19 September.
- **Theme**: "Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem". Linked to Semicon 2.0.

Likely ask: edition; theme.

Kavach 4.0

- RDSO developed Kavach; version 4.0 specification approved 16 July 2024.
- Approved for Varanasi division (Rs 223 crore, 614.75 route km) and Izzatnagar division (Rs 295 crore, 660 route km), North Eastern Railway.
- **Functions**: enforce speed limits, prevent Signal Passing at Danger.

Likely ask: developer RDSO; what it prevents.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

First Telecom Manufacturing Zone, Gwalior

- MoU between DoT and Madhya Pradesh on 30 July 2026.
- 350-acre cluster; Rs 493 crore Phase-I core infrastructure approved.
- Madhya Pradesh holds **51%** of the SPV; DoT **49%**.

Likely ask: city; equity split.

First Geothermal Wells (Ladakh)

- Two 1,000 m wells at Puga Valley, at about 14,000 feet.
- Pave the way for a 1 MW pilot geothermal plant, **India's first** demonstration-scale project.
- **Highest temperature**: 135 degrees C at 400 m depth.
- Inaugurated by Ladakh Lt Governor VK Saxena.

Likely ask: place Puga; capacity 1 MW.

Maitri II (Antarctica)

- Approval announced 4 October 2025 (Ministry of Finance); India's proposed fourth research station, in East Antarctica; ready by 2032.
- **Existing**: Maitri (since 1989), Bharati (since 2012). Dakshin Gangotri was **first** and operated a few years.
- Maitri is on the Schirmacher Oasis. Executed by NCPOR, Goa.

Likely ask: year of Maitri and Bharati; Schirmacher Oasis.

BHASHINI

- National initiative for multilingual, voice-enabled services; expands to **"BHAShA Interface for India"**.
- Under MeitY's Digital India BHASHINI Division.
- More than 36 languages in text, over 22 in voice; over 350 AI models.
- Showcased at Lucknow conference, 20 January 2026.

Likely ask: full form; ministry.

2.8 Environment

Ramsar Sites: Tally 103

- **15 October 2026**: Sauj Lake (Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh) is the **103rd**; Sukhna Wetland (Chandigarh) the **102nd**.
- **101st**: Glaw Lake (Lohit district), **first** from Arunachal Pradesh, announced 3 August 2026.
- **100th**: Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary (Surha Tal), Ballia, UP, on 5 June 2026.
- India had 26 sites in 2014. India is third globally behind the UK (176) and Mexico (144), as of August 2026.

Likely ask: UP's new sites; which number; global rank.

Project Cheetah and Cheetah Births

- **5 October 2026**: five cubs born at Kuno, Madhya Pradesh; mother KJP21 (Indian-born); father from Botswana.
- Population reported 60 (41 Indian-born); after one cub died on 12 October, 59.
- Project launched 17 September 2022 at Kuno with eight Namibian cheetahs.
- **18 February 2023**: twelve from South Africa. 28 February 2026: nine from Botswana reach Kuno; total imports 29.
- **2025**: programme extended to Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh.
- **Cheetah status**: Vulnerable; Asiatic subspecies Critically Endangered.

Likely ask: chronology of countries; Gandhi Sagar; Kuno.

Project Great Indian Bustard

- Launched 5 June 2013 by Rajasthan Chief Minister; Rajasthan was the **first** state with a dedicated project; started at Desert National Park, Jaisalmer.
- **14 June 2026**: 26 chicks hatched this year; captive stock 94 birds.
- GIB is Rajasthan's state bird; Critically Endangered; Godawan.

Likely ask: state bird; year of launch.

Ganges Soft-shell Turtle Tagging

- **India's first** satellite-tagged turtle released 15 May 2026 in Kaziranga, Assam.
- **Species**: Nilssonia gangetica; Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972; arrowhead markings on head; Endangered.

Likely ask: first satellite-tagged; park.

First Guide to Grasslands

- Launched 17 August 2026 at UNCCD COP17, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (17-28 August; theme **"Restoring Land, Restoring Hope"**).
- Guide to Grasslands and Other Open Natural Ecosystems; organised by ATREE under the Environment Ministry.
- 2026 is the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (Mongolia proposed; FAO leads).

Likely ask: COP17 host; rangelands year.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Project Him Sarovar

- Ladakh water-security project; launched 10 April 2026 by LG Vinai Kumar Saxena.
- **Phase I**: 50 water bodies (30 in Leh, 20 in Kargil); five completed by 12 June 2026.

Likely ask: UT; purpose (snow and snowmelt storage).

India Third in Renewable Capacity

- **IRENA end-2025**: India third with 250.50 GW, behind China (2,258.02 GW) and the US (466.45 GW). Brazil is fourth (228.20 GW).
- India reached **50%** non-fossil capacity in June 2025, five years early; **54.18%** on 30 June 2026.
- **2031-35 NDC (submitted 24 April 2026)**: **47%** emissions-intensity cut from 2005; about **60%** non-fossil capacity; extra carbon sink of 3.5-4.0 billion tonnes by 2035.
- Net zero target year 2070 (stated for NDC context).

Likely ask: India's rank; NDC targets.

Ethanol Blending and E85

- E20 **first** reached in 2025; programme began 2003; E10 achieved June 2022; phased E20 rollout began 6 February 2023.
- Ethanol Supply Year runs 1 November to 31 October.
- E85 launched 5 June 2026 (World Environment Day) by Hardeep Singh Puri at an IndianOil outlet, New Delhi.
- **E85**: 80-**85%** ethanol, for flex-fuel vehicles; priced about Rs 20 per litre lower than petrol.

Likely ask: E85 meaning; launch day; flex-fuel.

Green Energy Corridor Phase III

- Cabinet approved 30 September 2026.
- Outlay Rs 1,86,405 crore (transmission Rs 1,36,378 crore; 50 GWh battery storage Rs 50,000 crore); central support Rs 54,082 crore.
- **Targets**: evacuate up to 135 GW renewables and 50 GWh storage by FY 2032-33.
- Strengthens Intra-State Transmission System.

Likely ask: storage target; intra-state focus.

Net Zero Portal and NAPCC Dashboard

- Launched 16 September 2026 (World Ozone Day) in Mumbai by MoS Kirti Vardhan Singh.
- **Net Zero Portal**: voluntary registration and disclosure of net zero commitments.
- NAPCC Dashboard tracks the National Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

Likely ask: launch day; what each does.

PM Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)

- Cabinet-approved scheme for floating solar plus energy storage.
- **Target**: 5,000 MW floating solar; support Rs 1 crore per MW after commissioning.
- Potential about 102.18 GWp; about 700 MW operating at approval.

Likely ask: target; type of solar.

National Repository for Deep-Sea Fauna

- **"Bhavasagara"** Referral Centre at CMLRE, Kochi, Keralam, designated 24 March 2026 by MoEFCC.
- Holds over 3,560 identified voucher specimens from India's EEZ.
- CMLRE works under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Likely ask: place; ministry.

First Indigenously Designed Pollution Control Vessel

- ICGS Samudra Pratap, commissioned 5 January 2026 by Rajnath Singh in Goa.
- First of two built by Goa Shipyard Limited; over **60%** indigenous content; **largest** ship in the Coast Guard fleet.

Likely ask: builder; "largest".

Petroglyph Park, Twin Flower Fields (Ladakh)

- **India's first** Petroglyph Conservation Park: inaugurated 15 October 2026 by PM Modi at Sindhu Ghat, Leh.
- Twin flower fields at Choglamsar and Stakna, Leh: inaugurated 17 September 2026 (Sewa Diwas) by LG Saxena; 40 acres; 10,600 feet; claimed the **highest** flower fields in India.

Likely ask: place; first.

Centre of Excellence on Human-Wildlife Conflict

- Inaugurated 10 July 2026 by Bhupender Yadav at WII-SACON, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- National Human-Wildlife Conflict Portal also launched.

Likely ask: place; institute.

Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar 2026

- Fifth edition; 12-19 September 2026; led by Ministry of Earth Sciences; campaign began 5 July 2022.
- First national Ocean Olympiad held in the campaign.

Likely ask: ministry; meaning.

@UPSCPSCDECODE

GOBARdhan (CBG scheme)

- Cabinet approved 6 August 2026; launched 1 October 2026 by Hardeep Puri.
- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas leads; outlay Rs 23,731 crore (FY 2026-27 to 2035-36).
- **GOBARdhan** = Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan; started 2018 under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen).

Likely ask: expansion; lead ministry.

2.9 Awards and Books

Awards table

Award	Year	Winner(s)	Field/work	Note
Padma Vibhushan (5)	2026	Dharmendra Singh Deol (posthumous)	Art	Maharashtra
Padma Vibhushan	2026	K.T. Thomas	Public Affairs	Keralam
Padma Vibhushan	2026	N. Rajam	Art	Uttar Pradesh
Padma Vibhushan	2026	P. Narayanan	Literature and Education	Keralam
Padma Vibhushan	2026	V.S. Achuthanandan (posthumous)	Public Affairs	Keralam
Padma Awards total	2026	131 awards	5 Vibhushan, 13 Bhushan, 113 Shri	Announced 25 January 2026 (Republic Day)
Padma Bhushan (selected)	2026	Alka Yagnik; Mammootty; Uday Kotak; Vijay Amritraj; Piyush Pandey (posthumous); Shibu Soren (posthumous); Bhagat Singh Koshyari; V.K. Malhotra (posthumous)	Art; Art; Trade and Industry; Sports; Art; Public Affairs (3)	No UP name among the 13 Bhushan awardees. Amritraj is listed under USA
Padma Shri, UP names	2026	Anil Kumar Rastogi (Art); Ashok Kumar Singh (Science and Engineering); Buddha Rashmi Mani (Archaeology); Mangala Kapoor (Literature and Education); Praveen Kumar (Sports); Rajendra Prasad (Medicine); Shyam Sundar (Medicine); Raghupat Singh, posthumous (Agriculture)	Various	—
Padma Shri, well-known	2026	Rohit Sharma (Sports); Savita Punia (Sports); Prosenjit Chatterjee (Art)	Sports; Art	Rohit Sharma: Maharashtra; Savita Punia: Haryana
Jnanpith (60th)	2025 award, presented 13 July 2026	R. Vairamuthu	Tamil poet and lyricist	Third Tamil literary figure to get it; presented by Karan Singh in New Delhi
Sahitya Akademi	2025 (announced 16 March 2026)	24 languages. Hindi: Mamta Kalia, *Jeete Jee Allahabad* (memoir). English: Navtej Sarna, *Crimson Spring* (novel). Sanskrit: Sadhu Bhadreshdas. Urdu: Pritpal Singh Betab. Tamil: Sa. Tamilselvan	Books by language	Malayalam: N. Prabhakaran; Bengali: Prasun Bandyopadhyay. Yuva Puraskar:
72nd National Film Awards	films of 2024; announced 18 July 2026; ceremony 22 September 2026 at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat	Best Feature Film: *Article 370*. Best Actor: Mammootty (*Bramayugam*) and Kartik Aaryan (*Chandu Champion*). Best Actress: Yami Gautam. Best Director: Rajkumar Periasamy (*Amaran*)	Cinema	Jury head: Jayaraj. Popular film: *Kalki 2898 AD*
72nd National Film Awards, non-feature	2026	*Kakori*, directed by Kamlesh Mishra (Gopalganj, Bihar)	—	Best Documentary: *Ram-Nami* (Bharatbala Ganapathy). UP link:

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Award	Year	Winner(s)	Field/work	Note
Dadasaheb Phalke Award	2024	Anant Nag	Cinema	2023: Mohanlal; 2022: Mithun Chakraborty
Nobel Physiology or Medicine	2026	Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, Georg Nagel	Optogenetics, light-gated ion channels	Announced 5 October
Nobel Physics	2026	Francis Halzen	IceCube Neutrino Observatory	
Nobel Chemistry	2026	Henri B. Kagan, Kenso Soai	Asymmetric synthesis	Chirality
Nobel Literature	2026	Anne Carson	Poet and classicist, Canada	Announced 8 October
Nobel Peace	2026	Navanethem **"Navi"** Pillay	Peace and international law	South African jurist of Indian Tamil origin; ex-UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
Nobel Economic Sciences	2026	Robert E. Hall, Michael Woodford	Macro stabilisation	Announced 12 October
International Booker	2026	Yang Shuang-zi (Taiwan); translator Lin King	*Taiwan Travelogue*	First Mandarin-to-English translation to win; renamed Bukhman International Booker from 2027; announced 19 May 2026
Pulitzer	2026	Anand RK, Suparna Sharma (India), with Natalie Obiko Pearson (Bloomberg)	Illustrated Reporting and Commentary; project **"trAPPed"**	Indian journalists
Oscars (98th)	15 March 2026	*One Battle After Another* (Best Picture and Director, Paul Thomas Anderson); Michael B. Jordan (Actor, *Sinners*); Jessie Buckley (Actress, *Hamnet*)	Film	India's entry: *Homebound* (Neeraj Ghaywan). Intl Feature: Norway, *Sentimental Value*
Golden Globes (83rd)	11 January 2026	Drama: *Hamnet*; Musical or Comedy: *One Battle After Another*; Director: Paul Thomas Anderson	Film	Held at Beverly Hilton
Magsaysay	2026 (announced 31 August 2026)	Tommy Koh (Singapore); Runa Khan (Bangladesh); Bo Kyi (Myanmar)	Peace, public service, human rights	**68th** awards; theme **"A World for All"**; no Indian winner
Miss World	2026	Joiheiry Mola (Dominican Republic)	Pageant, Nha Trang, Vietnam, 5 September	India's Nikita Porwal in Top 40
Goldman Environmental Prize	2026	Six women: Iroto Tanshi (Nigeria), Borim Kim (South Korea), Sarah Finch (UK), Theonila Roka Matbob (Papua New Guinea), Alannah Acaq Hurley (US), Yuvelis Morales Blanco (Colombia)	Environment	**"Green Nobel"**; **first** all-women cohort; San Francisco, 20 April 2026
Tyler Prize	January 2026	Toby Kiers	Underground fungal networks	US evolutionary biologist
The Earth Prize	2026	Vivaan Chawchharia, Ariana Agarwal, Avyana Mehta	*Plas-Stick* (microplastics from water)	First Indian team to win
Whitley Awards ("Green Oscars")	2026	Parveen Shaikh, Barkha Subba (among six winners)	Conservation	UK-based fund; GBP 50,000 each
Vigyan Ratna	2026	Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar (posthumous)	Physics	Died 2025

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Award	Year	Winner(s)	Field/work	Note
Vigyan Shri (8)	2026	e.g. Gyanendra Pratap Singh (Agriculture); K. Thangaraj (Biology); Jayan N (Space Science)	Science	Vigyan Team Award: Aroma Mission CSIR Team
Gallantry	Independence Day 2026	78 awards (13 posthumous); 89 Mentions-in-Despatches	Kirti Chakra the **highest**; Bar to Shaurya Chakra: Maj Aditya Pratap Singh	
National Teachers' Awards	5 September 2026	48 teachers (26 men, 22 women)	Teaching	UP awardees: Dr. Renu Tripathi, Dr. Iftkhar Khan, Shalini Kushwaha. Presented by President Murmu
PM Rashtriya Bal Puraskar	26 December 2025	20 children	Bravery, art, environment, social service, science	UP: Ajay Raj (bravery); Pooja (environment)
Sangeet Natak Akademi	2024 and 2025, conferred 13 August 2026	115 artists	Performing arts	Fellows include Ramlal Bareth, Rita Ganguly, Sudharani Raghupathy
Rashtriya Lata Mangeshkar Alankaran Samman	2026	Shantanu Moitra	Music	28 September 2026
Lokmanya Tilak National Award	2026	Ajit Doval	National security	
Indira Gandhi Prize (Peace, Disarmament, Development)	2025, announced 21 January 2026	Graca Machel (Mozambique)	Humanitarian work	

Books and Authors (keep: leaders and public figures)

Book	Author
Bharatiya Ganatantra Ki Vijaygatha, Mera Jeevan, Mera Sangharsh	Ram Nath Kovind (former President of India)
Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles (autobiography)	Ram Nath Kovind
Belonging: A Journey of Love (memoir)	Sonia Gandhi
Apnapan: Narendra Modi Sang Mere Anubhav	Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Union Minister)
Commemorative volume on Operation Sindoor	Launched by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
The Emergency Diaries: Years that Forged a Leader	Launched by Home Minister Amit Shah
Tides of Time: Bharat's History through Murals in Parliament	Sudha Murty
Karuna: The Power of Compassion	Kailash Satyarthi
Four Stars of Destiny (autobiography)	Manoj Mukund Naravane
Ready, Relevant and Resurgent II: Shaping a Future Ready Force	Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan
Why the Constitution Matters: Selected Speeches	Justice D.Y. Chandrachud
The Voice of Justice: Justice Gavai Speaks	Edited by S. Sivakumar
Janata Ki Kahani, Meri Aatmakatha	Bandaru Dattatreya (Governor of Haryana)
A Different Kind of Power	Jacinda Ardern
Janpriya Neta Venkaiah Naidu: Udayagiri Se Uparashtrapati Tak	Acharya Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad
Agni Sarassulo Vikasinchina Kamalam Droupadi Murmu	Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad
Atal Bihari Vajpayee: The Eternal Statesman	Vijay Goel
Indira Gandhi and the Years that Transformed India	Srinath Raghavan
Modi's Niti Shastra: The World's His Oyster	Dr. Adish C. Aggarwala

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Book	Author
Sanskriti ka Panchva Adhyay (PM Modi's speeches on culture)	Dr. Prabhat Ojha, Ram Bahadur Rai
The One: Cricket, My Life and More (memoir)	Shikhar Dhawan
Different But No Less	Anupam Kher
The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny	Kiran Desai

2.9 Important Days (UN / international, with a 2026 theme)

Only days with a stated theme are kept.

Day	Date	2026 theme
International Day of Education	24 January	The power of youth in co-creating education
World Wetlands Day	2 February	Wetlands and traditional knowledge: Celebrating cultural heritage
World Cancer Day	4 February	United by Unique
International Day of Human Fraternity	4 February	Dialogue Over Division
Zero Tolerance for FGM Day	6 February	Towards 2030: No End To FGM Without Sustained Commitment and Investment
World Pulses Day	10 February	Pulses of the world: from modesty to excellence
World Radio Day	13 February	Radio and Artificial Intelligence: AI is a tool, not a voice
International Mother Language Day	21 February	Youth voices on multilingual education
World Civil Defence Day	1 March	Managing Environmental Risks for a Resilient and Sustainable Future
World Wildlife Day	3 March	Medicinal and Aromatic Plants: Conserving Health, Heritage and Livelihoods
International Women's Day	8 March	Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls
International Day of Mathematics	14 March	Mathematics and Hope
International Day of Happiness	20 March	Social Media and Happiness
International Day of Forests	21 March	Forests and Economies
World Down Syndrome Day	21 March	Together Against Loneliness
Elimination of Racial Discrimination Day	21 March	Mobilizing political will: 60 years of commemorating the day
World Water Day	22 March	Water and Gender
World Meteorological Day	23 March	Observing Today, Protecting Tomorrow
World Tuberculosis Day	24 March	Yes! We can end TB
Sport for Development and Peace Day	6 April	Sport: Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers
World Health Day	7 April	Together for health. Stand with science
International Earth Day	22 April	Our Power, Our Planet
World Malaria Day	25 April	Driven to End Malaria: Now We Can. Now We Must
World Press Freedom Day	3 May	Shaping a Future at Peace: Promoting Press Freedom for Human Rights, Development, and Security
World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day	8 May	United in Humanity
International Day of Light	16 May	Light, science and society: Advancing innovation and impact
World Telecommunication Day	17 May	Digital lifelines: Strengthening resilience in a connected world
International Day for Biological Diversity	22 May	Acting locally for global impact
World No Tobacco Day	31 May	Unmasking the appeal: countering nicotine and tobacco addiction

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Day	Date	2026 theme
World Environment Day	5 June	Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future
World Food Safety Day	7 June	From burden to solutions: safe food everywhere
World Oceans Day	8 June	Reimagine: Beyond the world we know, a new relationship with our ocean
World Day Against Child Labour	12 June	Red Card to Child Labour: Fair Play for Children, Decent Work for Adults
World Blood Donor Day	14 June	One Drop of Humanity. Give Blood. Save Lives
World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought	17 June	Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore
World Refugee Day	20 June	Get Involved Until Everyone Is Safe
International Day of Yoga	21 June	Yoga for Healthy Ageing
UN Public Service Day	23 June	Transforming Public Institutions: Advancing innovation, Participation, and Inclusion
Olympic Day	23 June	You Can Do This. Let's Move
International Day against Drug Abuse	26 June	World drug problem: persisting issues, new challenges, innovative responses
UN MSME Day	27 June	The Future Generation of MSMEs (AI-Driven Future: Economic Empowerment for the Next Generation of MSMEs)
World Zoonoses Day	6 July	One World, One Health: Prevent Zoonoses
World Population Day	11 July	Realizing the hopes and aspirations of young people
World Youth Skills Day	15 July	Skills for a Shared Future
International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	9 August	Honouring Indigenous Midwives: Safeguarding Life and Well-being
International Youth Day	12 August	Different Contexts, Common Aspirations
World Humanitarian Day	19 August	#ActForHumanity
International Literacy Day	8 September	Literacy for people, the planet and prosperity
World Suicide Prevention Day	10 September	Changing the Narrative on Suicide
International Day of Democracy	15 September	Bring human rights into focus
World Ozone Day	16 September	Global action for a cooler planet
World Patient Safety Day	17 September	Safe care for noncommunicable diseases
International Day of Peace	21 September	Invest in Peace: For Everyone, Everywhere, Every Day
World Maritime Day	24 September	From Policy to Practice: Powering Maritime Excellence
World Tourism Day	27 September	Digital Agenda and Artificial Intelligence to Redesign Tourism
International Translation Day	30 September	Linguistic Diversity and Language Rights
International Day of Non-Violence	2 October	Non Violence as a means to Peace and Development
World Teachers' Day	5 October	Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession
World Post Day	9 October	One postal network, infinite possibilities
World Mental Health Day	10 October	Lived experiences heard: real voices, real change
International Day of the Girl Child	11 October	End child marriage and invest in girls' rights
International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	13 October	Resilience Starts at Home
International Day of Rural Women	15 October	Rural Women Farmers Caring for Mother Nature
World Food Day	16 October	Innovate today, Nourish tomorrow

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Day	Date	2026 theme
Eradication of Poverty Day	17 October	Safe Homes for All
World Children's Day	20 November	My Day, My Rights
Elimination of Violence against Women Day	25 November	UNiTE to End Digital Violence against Women and Girls
World AIDS Day	1 December	Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response
International Civil Aviation Day	7 December	Safe Skies and Sustainable Future for All
Anti-Corruption Day	9 December	Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity
Human Rights Day	10 December	Human Rights, Our Everyday Essentials
UHC Day	12 December	Devastating human impact of unaffordable health costs
International Migrants Day	18 December	My Great Story: Cultures and Development

UN international years: 2026 is the International Year of the Woman Farmer and the International Year of Volunteers for Sustainable Development. 2026 is also the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.

2.10 Sports

Event	Host	Winner	India's result
Asian Games 2026 (20th)	Aichi-Nagoya, Japan; 19 Sep to 4 Oct 2026	China (169 gold, 341 total)	**4th**: 21 gold, 27 silver, 37 bronze = 85; second-best tally ever after 2022
Commonwealth Games 2026 (23rd)	Glasgow, Scotland; 23 Jul to 2 Aug 2026	Australia (70 gold, 171 total)	**4th**: 13 gold, 17 silver, 9 bronze = 39; Mirabai Chanu won **first** gold; 7 boxing golds
FIFA World Cup 2026 (23rd)	Canada, Mexico, USA; 11 Jun to 19 Jul 2026	Spain beat Argentina in final (second title; **first** was 2010)	
ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026	India and Sri Lanka; 7 Feb to 8 Mar 2026	India beat New Zealand in final, Ahmedabad	Champion; record third title; Sanju Samson Player of the Tournament
ICC Women's World Cup 2025 (13th)	India; 30 Sep to 2 Nov 2025	India beat South Africa; final at DY Patil Stadium, Navi Mumbai	Champion; **first** title
ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026	England and Wales; 12 Jun to 5 Jul 2026	Australia (**7th** title) beat England at Lord's	Final result; Shree Charani took most wickets (14)
46th FIDE Chess Olympiad	Samarkand, Uzbekistan; 15-27 Sep 2026	Open: Uzbekistan. Women: China	Open silver; Women bronze; won Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy for third straight time
FIDE Candidates 2026	Pegeia, Cyprus; 28 Mar to 16 Apr 2026	Javokhir Sindarov (Uzbekistan) wins right to face champion Gukesh	Vaishali Rameshbabu won Women's Candidates (to face Ju Wenjun)
FIDE Chess World Cup 2025 (11th)	Goa, India; 31 Oct to 27 Nov 2025	Javokhir Sindarov beat Wei Yi (China)	India hosted for second time after 2002; Indian placing. Trophy named Viswanathan Anand Trophy
BWF World Championship 2026	New Delhi; 17-23 Aug 2026	Men: Alex Lanier (France). Women: An Se Young (South Korea)	
Thomas and Uber Cup 2026	Denmark; 24 Apr to 3 May 2026	Thomas: China. Uber: South Korea	
Grand Slams 2026 (men)		Australian Open: Alcaraz. French Open: Zverev. Wimbledon: Sinner. US Open: Zverev	No Indian winner listed
Grand Slams 2026 (women)		Australian Open: Rybakina. French Open: Mirra Andreeva. Wimbledon: Linda Noskova. US Open: Rybakina	No Indian winner listed

@UPSCPSCDECODE

Event	Host	Winner	India's result
Khelo India Tribal Games 2026 (first edition)	Chhattisgarh (Raipur, Jagdalpur, Sarguja); 25 Mar to 3 Apr 2026	Karnataka (23 gold)	Mascot Morveer
Khelo India Winter Games 2026	Leh (20-26 Jan) and Gulmarg (23-26 Feb)	Army (9 gold)	Domestic event
Khelo India University Games 2025	Rajasthan; 24 Nov to 5 Dec 2025	Chandigarh University (42 gold)	Mascots Khamma and Ghani (camels)
25th Summer Deaflympics 2025	Tokyo, Japan; 15-26 Nov 2025	Ukraine (32 gold, 100 total)	**6th**: 9 gold, 7 silver, 4 bronze = 20

Extra: IPL 2026 champion Royal Challengers Bengaluru (second title). Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025 (Dhaka): India champion.

UPPCS Prelims 2026 Pack • ₹499 · English + हिंदी · Test Series included

Top 16 = 1 in 4 questions. The Pack covers the rest: 100+ sure-shot attempts from about 248 pages.



Telegram · YouTube · Instagram: @upscpscdecode · upscpscdecode.com

@UPSCPSCDECODE