

## EXCLUSIVE FOR KEA & KPSC EXAMS

### MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Compiled - The Hindu,  
IE, PIB, Prajavani



**LENSE**  
(Latest Events and  
News Analysis Series)



### FEATURS

- ✓ Day wise analysis
- ✓ Classes in YouTube
- ✓ Mains & Prelims Oriented
- ✓ Monthly Coverage
- ✓ Analysis through MCQS

- ✓ Ashtamudi Lake
- ✓ Ramsar COP15 Outcome
- ✓ Apna ghar initiative
- ✓ Bio-Fortified Potatoes
- ✓ HQ-16 Missile
- ✓ RS-28 Sarmat

**News of National / International / Karnataka**

1,2, and 3 AUG 2025

1. Ins himgiri
2. Ashtamudi lake
3. Human outer planet exploration
4. Indo-burma ramsar regional initiative (ibrri)
5. Bluebird satellite.
6. Mithun
7. Red panda
8. Matri van initiative.
9. Pm national dialysis programme
10. Kopili river
11. Apna ghar initiative.
12. Mahanadi river

#### 1. Ins himgiri

### Navy takes delivery of **Project 17A** frigate *Himgiri* from GRSE

*Himgiri* is a reincarnation of the erstwhile *INS Himgiri*, a **Leander-class frigate**, that was decommissioned on May 6, 2025, after 30 years of glorious service to the nation

Ship Name	Builder	Status / Notes
INS Nilgiri	MDL (Mumbai)	First ship of Project 17A; undergoing trials
INS Himgiri	GRSE (Kolkata)	Second ship; advanced outfitting
INS Udaygiri	MDL	Under trials; expected commissioning soon
INS Dunagiri	GRSE	Under construction/outfitting
INS Taragiri	MDL	Outfitting stage
INS Vindhyagiri	GRSE	Launched by President of India; outfitting
INS Mahendragiri	MDL	Seventh & last ship of Project 17A



## 2. Ashtamudi lake

### Kerala HC directs State government and SWAK to constitute Ashtamudi Wetland Management Unit

The Bench asks to finalise an **integrated management plan** for the **wetland** within six months

## ASHTAMUDI LAKE

#### CURRENT CONTEXT



- Kerala HC (Aug 2025): Wetland Management Unit ordered.
- Reason: Pollution, encroachment, tourism threats.
- Linked to: Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.
- Focus: Community, sustainable conservation.

#### BACKGROUND

- Kollam district, Kerala.
- Brackish-water, estuarine lake.
- 8 branches ("octopus shape").
- Name: 'Ashta' (eight) + 'mudi' (peaks), Malayalam.
- 2nd largest estuary in Kerala.
- Kollam: Ancient port, coir industry.

#### PRELIMS FACTS

- Ramsar Site: 2002.
- Inflow: Kallada River.
- Outflow: Neendakara estuary → Arabian Sea.
- Rich in: Mangroves, karimeen (pearl spot fish), birds.
- Kettuvallam: Traditional houseboats.
- Entry points to Kerala backwaters.



**Q1) With reference to Ashtamudi Lake, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a palm-shaped estuarine lake connected directly to the Arabian Sea.
2. It is India's first Marine Ramsar Site.
3. It is a major habitat of the Indian otter and supports extensive mangrove forests.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer: a) 1 and 3**

- It is *one of India's largest estuarine systems* → Statement 1 correct.
- It is **not** the first Marine Ramsar site (That is *Chilika Lake* in earlier classification) → Statement 2 incorrect.
- It has mangroves & otters → Statement 3 correct.

## 3. Human outer planet exploration

## 'Station' in Ladakh begins research to simulate life on Moon, Mars

Selected crew will take turns to inhabit the station and will undergo extensive physiological and psychological studies to assess human adaptability and resilience in conditions **simulating deep space environments**, says Protoplanet, which has launched the station and has ISRO among its collaborators

Q1) HOPE missions can help in studying "cold traps" on the lunar poles. A cold trap refers to:

- (a) A region of extremely high albedo
- (b) A location where temperatures remain below 110 K, trapping volatiles



- (c) A zone where solar wind particles are absorbed
- (d) A crater filled with regolith that reflects no heat

**Answer: (b) A location where temperatures remain below 110 K, trapping volatiles**

Cold traps preserve volatiles like **water, CO<sub>2</sub>, methane**.

### 4. Indo-burma ramsar regional initiative (ibrrri)

Recently, the **Ramsar COP15** concluded with a side event of Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative (IBRRI) for wetland conservation and restoration.



#### Ramsar COP15 Outcomes:

1. Victoria Falls Declaration
2. Resolutions to protect migratory birds, river dolphins
3. Promote traditional knowledge in wetland conservation
4. IUCN Red List to identify priority wetlands

## 5. Bluebird satellite.

# After NISAR, ISRO gearing up for next U.S. collaboration with BlueBird communications satellite launch

BlueBird satellite to be launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on board LVM3, ISRO's heaviest launch vehicle, formerly known as GSLV-Mk III, says ISRO chairman V. Narayanan

Q1. With reference to BlueBird satellites, consider the following statements:

1. They operate in Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
2. They are based on small-satellite bus architecture.
3. They are jointly developed by NASA and ESA.



Which of the statements are correct?

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

Answer: a 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Statements 1 and 2 are correct—BlueBirds are LEO small-satellite class systems. They are not a NASA-ESA joint mission.

## 6. Mithun

Scientists and tribal farmers from the Northeast have jointly raised a request to the Central government to include Mithun (*Bos frontalis*) under key central sector schemes such as the National Livestock Mission (NLM).





Parameter	Information
Species	Ruminant species of the <b>Bovidae family</b>
Habitat	It is endemic to <b>Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram</b> (also found in some parts of <b>Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Bhutan</b> )
State Animal	<b>Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland</b>
IUCN	<b>Vulnerable; CITES Appendix I</b>

## 7. Red panda

# After 7 years, red panda cubs born in Sikkim ZOO

The captive red panda population at the **Himalayan Zoological Park near Gangtok** was nearly decimated by two outbreaks of **canine distemper**, a highly contagious and potentially fatal viral disease

**Q1) Which of the following protected areas is NOT a habitat of Red Pandas?**

1. Neora Valley National Park
2. Singalila National Park
3. Namdapha National Park
4. Kaziranga National Park

**Select the correct answer:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 4 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3 only

**Answer: B 4 only**

**Explanation:**

Red Pandas are **not found in Kaziranga**; the rest are their habitats.



## 8. Matri van initiative.

Recently, the **union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change**, along with the **Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs** presided over the ceremonial launched the **'Matri Van' initiative**.

Q1) Which of the following objectives are part of the Maitri Van Initiative?

1. Promotion of ecological restoration
2. Strengthening diplomatic partnership
3. Enhancing urban recreational green spaces
4. Conservation of native tree species

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B 1, 2 and 4 only

### 9. Pm national dialysis programme

The Government of India has significantly expanded the reach of the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP) and it is now operational across all 36 States and Union Territories, covering 751 districts.



**NEW HEALTH SCHEMES**

**PRADHAN MANTRI NATIONAL DIALYSIS PROGRAMME**

- Support is being provided to all States for provision of free dialysis services for poor, and subsidized services to all patients under NHM
- Under this, every facility will have 6 dialysis machines and will be extended up to 10 machines per facility
- Started in 219 districts across the country
- So far, 1,069 Dialysis Units, 2,319 Dialysis Machines have been made operational
- 1,06,717 patients availed services
- 11,04,118 dialysis sessions held

Q1. Consider the following statements about the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP):

1. It was launched under the National Health Mission (NHM).
2. It provides both haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis services.
3. Dialysis services under PMNDP are free for Below Poverty Line (BPL) patients.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: d) 1, 2 and 3

## 10. Kopili river

Recently, in a historic step towards the revival of Assam's river-based trade and sustainable logistics, **National Waterway-57 (River Kopili) was operationalized.**

### National Waterways Act, 2016

- Declared **106 new waterways**, adding to earlier NW-1 to NW-5.
- Enabled a **pan-India inland waterway grid**.

### Government Initiatives

- **Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP)** – World Bank-assisted; modernizing NW-1.
- **Arth Ganga Project** – economic activities around inland waterways.
- **Sagarmala Project** – port-led development with integration of IWT.

## 11. Apna ghar initiative.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas recently launched an ambitious initiative named 'Apna Ghar' aimed at improving truckers' long-haul journeys across the country.

### About Apna Ghar Initiative

- It is an initiative of the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**, Government of India.
- It aims to provide comfortable and hygienic **resting spaces for truckers across major highways** in the country.
- As of July 1, 2025, a total of 368 'Apna Ghar' units with 4,611 beds have been **set up by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)** at retail fuel outlets along national and state highways.
- The facilities at 'Apna Ghar' include:
  - Dormitories (10-30) beds
  - Restaurants/Dhabas
  - Self-cooking areas
  - Clean toilets
  - Dedicated **bathing areas** (Houdas)

## 12. Mahanadi river

After a prolonged legal battle over sharing Mahanadi River water in a designated tribunal, **Odisha and Chhattisgarh have** now expressed willingness to resolve the dispute amicably between themselves.



Name	Set-up in	States Involved
Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-I	1969	Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal	1969	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha
Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal	1969	Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra
Ravi and Beas Water Disputes Tribunal	1986	Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan
Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal	1990	Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry
Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II	2004	Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
Vansadhara Water Disputes Tribunal	2010	Odisha and Andhra Pradesh
Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal	2010	Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra
Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal	2018	Odisha and Chhattisgarh

**River :** Mahanadi

**Origin :** Sihawa Hills, Dhamtari district, Chhattisgarh

**Left bank tributarys :** Seonath, Hasdeo, Mand, Arpa

**Right bank tributarys :** Ib, Tel, Ong

**4, 5, and 6 AUG 2025**

1. Bio-Fortified Potatoes.
2. HQ-16 Missile.
3. Sea of Japan.
4. Sahel Region.
5. RS-28 Sarmat.
6. Asian Giant Tortoise.
7. India Electric Mobility Index.
8. UN World Food Programme.
9. PAHAL Scheme.
10. BIMSTEC.
11. Leap-1 Mission.
12. India Cine Hub Portal.

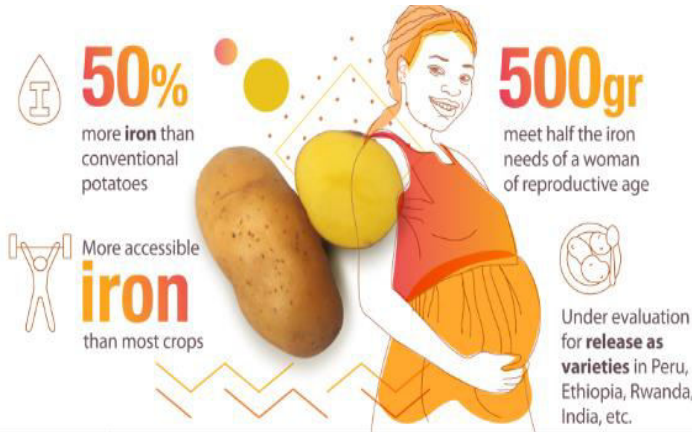
### 1. Bio-Fortified Potatoes.

India is taking a significant step in tackling micronutrient deficiencies and improving agricultural sustainability by introducing bio-fortified potatoes with enhanced iron content, developed by the International Potato Center (CIP) based in Peru.

#### 1. The Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) is located in:

- A. Shimla
- B. Lucknow
- C. Dehradun
- D. Patna

**Answer: A Shimla**



### 2. HQ-16 Missile.

The United States military publicly unveiled a mockup of a Chinese HQ-16 surface-to-air missile system, drawing attention at this year's Experimental Aircraft Association 'AirVenture Show' in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

#### HQ-16 Surface-to-Air Missile (China)

- **Country:** China
- **Range:** Approx. 40–70 km
- **Category:** Medium-range Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM)
- **Users:** PLA Navy (ships), PLA Ground Force
- **Purpose:** Defence against aircraft, helicopters, UAVs, cruise missiles
- **Origin:** Based partly on the Russian Buk missile system
- **Export version:** LY-80 (used by Pakistan)



### 3. Sea of Japan.

China and Russia began joint naval drills in the Sea of Japan recently.



### Geographic Features of sea of Japan

- Connected to the East China Sea via **Korea Strait**.
- Connected to the Pacific Ocean by:
  - **Tsugaru Strait**
  - **La Pérouse (Soya) Strait**
  - **Tartary Strait**
- Almost fully enclosed by land → **no significant tides**.
- Area of **Russia–Japan territorial disputes** (Kuril Islands).

### 4. Sahel Region.

Russia has tightened its grip over the Sahel region in West Africa, signing a key nuclear agreement with Niger recently.

**Q1) The Great Green Wall Initiative primarily focuses on planting trees across which two main bioclimatic zones?**

- Sahara and Congo Basin
- Sahara and Sahel
- Sahel and Kalahari
- Sahel and Horn of Africa

### Sahel region, Africa



**Answer: (b) Sahara and Sahel**





## 5. RS-28 Sarmat.

As tensions escalate between the United States and Russia, the spotlight is back on one of the deadliest weapons in Russia's nuclear arsenal, the RS-28 Sarmat intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), dubbed 'Satan 2' by NATO.



### About RS-28 Sarmat

- The RS-28 Sarmat is Russia's new generation intercontinental ballistic missile.
- It is named after the Sarmatian people of the fourth and fifth century BC.
- It has also been referred to in the West as the "Satan II".

## 6. Asian Giant Tortoise.

Recently, the Asian giant tortoise, the largest tortoise in mainland Asia, has been reintroduced into the Zeliang Community Reserve in Nagaland's Peren district.

**Q1) The Asian Giant Tortoise is listed under which Schedule of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (India)?**

- Schedule I
- Schedule II
- Schedule III
- Schedule IV

**Answer: (d) Schedule IV.**

**CITES Appendix 1**

**SPECIES IN NEWS** **Asian Giant Tortoise**





10 Asian giant tortoise को नागालैंड के Zeliang Community Reserve क्षेत्र में पुनः प्रविष्ट किया गया।

- Species: Asian Giant Tortoise (Manouria emys).
- IUCN Status: Critically Endangered.
- Habitat: Forested regions of Southeast Asia and Northeast India.
- Significance: Largest tortoise species in mainland Asia.
- It is the only tortoise that lays its eggs above ground in a nest, which the female constructs of leaf litter.
- They are native to South Asia found in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Singapore (Extinct).

## 7. India Electric Mobility Index.

Recently, NITI Aayog launched the India Electric Mobility Index (IEMI).

**Q1) Consider the following indicators included in the India Electric Mobility Index:**

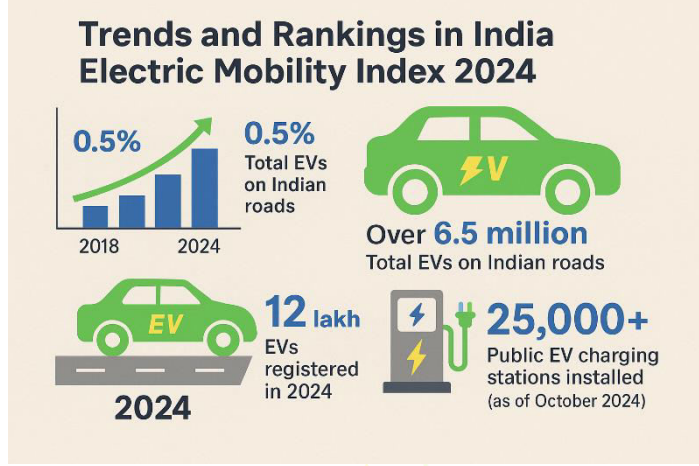
1. Policy framework
2. Charging infrastructure
3. Power grid readiness
4. EV manufacturing ecosystem

**Which of the above are used in the index?**

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

**Answer: (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

The index uses a multi-dimensional framework covering policy, infra, power, and manufacturing.



## 8. UN World Food Programme.

Recently, India launched a new collaborative initiative with the support of the UN World Food Programme to strengthen Rice Fortification and Supply Chain Management in Nepal.

### About UN World Food Programme

- It is a branch of the United Nations that deals with hunger eradication and promotes food security in the world.
- It is the world's largest humanitarian agency and was established in 1961.
- The organization's work is guided by Sustainable Development Goal 2, which aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030.
- It operates in more than 120 countries, provides food assistance during emergencies and works with communities to enhance nutrition and generate resilience.
- **Funding:** WFP is funded by voluntary donations from governments, corporates and private donors.
- It is a member of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- WFP was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020.



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ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO & AAO/RFO

## 9. PAHAL Scheme.

The Indian government has deactivated more than 4 crore duplicate or inactive domestic LPG connections under its PAHAL direct benefit transfer scheme, the Petroleum Minister told parliament recently.

**Q1) Which of the following benefits are provided under PMUY?**

1. Deposit-free LPG cylinder
2. Free first refill
3. Free hotplate (stove)

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

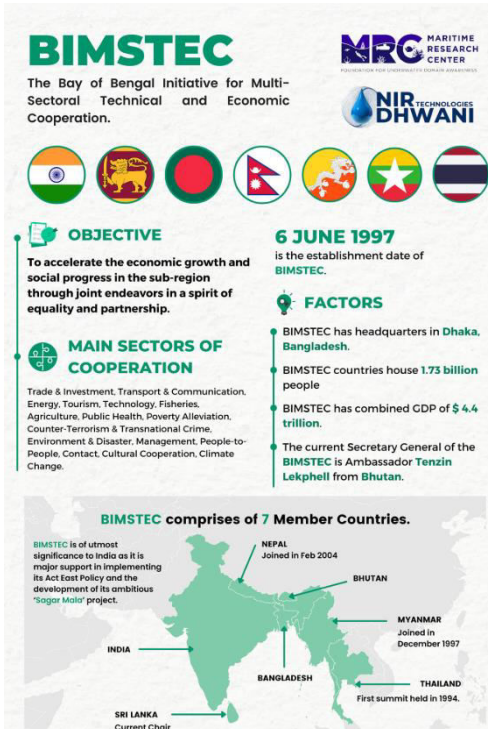
**Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3**

All are provided, though refill support depends on budget decisions.



## 10. BIMSTEC.

The first-ever BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival was recently held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.



**Q1) Which of the following countries are members of BIMSTEC?**

1. India
2. Sri Lanka
3. Thailand
4. Nepal
5. Pakistan

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Answer: (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only**

**Pakistan is NOT a member.**

**Members (7):**

India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand

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### 11. Leap-1 Mission.

A budding space tech startup Dhruva Space from India, is set to launch its first commercial satellite mission called LEAP-1.

- It is developed by Dhruva Space and Australia-based Akula Tech and Esper Satellites.

- The mission carries **two distinct payloads**:
  - **Nexus-01**: It features an advanced artificial intelligence (AI) module.
    - AI module promises unprecedented **on-orbit intelligence** with onboard data processing and AI/ML model re-training capabilities for rapid, near-real-time insights.
    - AI flexibly supports applications such as **fire detection and spectral analysis**, continuously improving via live sensor data retraining.
  - **Esper Satellites' OTR-2 mission**: It is equipped with a cutting-edge hyperspectral imager.



### 12. India Cine Hub Portal.

Recently, the central government urged states to use India Cine Hub Portal to facilitate Global film Production locally.

#### About India Cine Hub Portal

- It was launched on June 28, 2024.
- It is a single-window system streamlining filmmaking permissions, incentives, and resource mapping across India.
- It was set up by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India in the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) with a view to promote and facilitate film shootings by foreign filmmakers in India.

7<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

1. Trump raises U.S. tariffs on Indian imports to 50% Sour
2. Flood in Uttarkashi
3. Nilgiri Tahrs
4. Lalit Kala Akademi
5. Biochar
6. Decoding China — the lessons for a vulnerable India

### 1 Trump raises U.S. tariffs on Indian imports to 50% Sour

**Why in news:** U.S. President Donald Trump announced a steep hike in tariffs on Indian imports, increasing them from 25% to 50%.

## Trump raises U.S. tariffs on Indian imports to 50%

U.S. President signs executive order for 25% tariff on Indian goods on top of the 25% announced on July 31; one part takes effect from August 7, the rest after 21 days; 'extremely unfortunate', says MEA

**Q1. Which of the following correctly defines a tariff?**

- A) A tax imposed only on domestic goods
- B) A tax imposed specifically on imported or exported goods
- C) A general fee collected on services
- D) A tax on income

**Answer:** B) A tax imposed specifically on imported or exported goods

**Q2. Which statement is correct regarding duties?**

- A) Duties are only imposed on imports
- B) Duties are any government-imposed taxes or fees on goods, services, or transactions
- C) Duties are only for protecting domestic industries
- D) Duties are only applied to exports

**Answer:** B) Duties are any government-imposed taxes or fees on goods, services, or transactions

### 2 Flood in Uttarkashi

**Why in news:** A devastating flash flood in Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand, caused by torrential rains, has resulted in casualties and destruction, exposing the vulnerability of the Himalayan region to extreme weather events driven by climate change

## Cloudburst

- A cloudburst means **rainfall of more than 100 mm (10 cm) in one hour.**
- It happens when **thunderclouds** form and release all their water suddenly.

### 3 Nilgiri Tahrs

**Why in news:** A recent joint census by Kerala and Tamil Nadu forest departments has recorded a total population of **2,668 Nilgiri Tahrs**, offering updated data on the endangered species and prompting renewed focus on conservation efforts.

### Nilgiri Tahrs recent joint census

A joint census in Kerala and Tamil Nadu has reported a population of 2,668 Nilgiri tahrs. According to Forest department officials, 1,365 tahrs belong to Kerala and 1,303 to Tamil Nadu. The Eravikulam National Park (ENP) is home to the largest contiguous population of Nilgiri tahr in Kerala, numbering 841.

### Survey finds **1,365** Nilgiri tahrs in Kerala

Population Estimation 2025, jointly done in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, has pegged the Nilgiri tahr number at 2,668

#### 1 Which of the following statements about the Nilgiri Tahr is correct?

1. It is the **State Animal of Kerala .**
2. It is primarily found in the **Western Ghats between 1200–2600 metres altitude.**
3. The species shows **sexual dimorphism**, with males having a distinct saddle-shaped patch on the back.



Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

**Answer: (b) 2 and 3** (State animal Of Tamil Nadu)

### 4 Lalit Kala Akademi

**Why in news:** The 64th National Exhibition of Art (NEA), organized by Lalit Kala Akademi, was recently inaugurated in New Delhi to showcase contemporary visual art from across India.

#### 1. The primary objective of the Lalit Kala Akademi is to—

- (a) Promote performing arts in India
- (b) Promote visual and plastic arts such as painting and sculpture
- (c) Preserve ancient manuscripts and literature
- (d) Develop Indian classical music traditions

**Answer:** (b) Promote visual and plastic arts such as painting and sculpture

**2. Consider the following statements about the Lalit Kala Akademi:**

- 1. It was established in 1954 as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture.
- 2. Its headquarters is located in New Delhi.
- 3. It is one of the three national academies of art and culture in India.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer:** (d) 1, 2 and 3

**5 Biochar**

Why in news: With India's carbon market set to launch in 2026, biochar is emerging as a scalable and low-cost carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) removal solution, produced from agricultural and municipal waste.

**biochar's potential**

India generates over 600 million metric tonnes of agricultural residue and over 60 million tonnes of municipal solid waste every year. A significant portion of both is burnt openly or dumped in landfills, leading to air pollution from particulate matter and greenhouse gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and CO<sub>2</sub>.

**1. Biochar is often promoted as a tool for climate change mitigation. Which of the following statements best explains its mechanism in reducing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>?**

- A) Biochar decomposes rapidly in soil, releasing nutrients that enhance plant growth.
- B) Biochar is a stable form of carbon that can remain in soil for centuries, sequestering carbon.



- C) Biochar reacts with water to form carbonates that directly absorb CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere.
- D) Biochar increases soil pH, which chemically converts CO<sub>2</sub> into methane.

**Answer:** B) Biochar is a stable form of carbon that can remain in soil for centuries, sequestering carbon.

**Explanation:** Biochar is produced by pyrolysis of biomass. Its carbon structure is highly stable, allowing it to persist in soil for hundreds to thousands of years, effectively acting as a long-term carbon sink.

8<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

1. Election Commission of India
2. Groundwater contamination is fuelling chronic illnesses
3. 11th National Handloom Day
4. WHO Classifies Hepatitis D as Cancer-Causing
5. Uranium Hexafluoride

### 1 Election Commission of India

**Why in news:** The Election Commission of India (ECI) held a formal interaction with a delegation from the Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), led by its president Chirag Paswan, to discuss issues related to electoral preparedness and party representation. **Constitutional Status**

**EC holds meeting with LJP (Ram Vilas) over electoral issues'**



**1 Consider the following statements regarding the Tenure and powers of Election Commissioners in India:**

1. The Chief Election Commissioner cannot hold any other office of profit during tenure.
2. The Election Commission has powers to supervise and control the entire process of elections to the offices of President and Vice-President.
3. Decisions of the Election Commission are always subject to the approval of the President of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

**Answer: A** – Statements 1 and 2 are correct.

## 2 Groundwater contamination is fuelling chronic illnesses

**Why in news:** The 2024 Annual Groundwater Quality Report by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) highlights alarming levels of contamination in groundwater across India, with severe public health consequences.

# India's toxic taps: how groundwater contamination is fuelling chronic illnesses

TH Premium

Groundwater pollution is silent, invisible, and slow—but its damage is irreversible. With over 600 million people depending on it every day, this is a public health emergency, not just an environmental issue

## 1) Which of the following statements about fluoride contamination in groundwater is correct?

- A) It is primarily caused by industrial effluents in urban areas.
- B) Excessive fluoride can lead to **skeletal fluorosis**.
- C) Fluoride contamination is only observed in coastal regions.
- D) It can be easily removed by boiling the water.

**Answer: B)** Excessive fluoride can lead to **skeletal fluorosis**

**Explanation:** High levels of fluoride in groundwater, common in parts of Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka, can cause dental and skeletal fluorosis. Boiling water does not remove fluoride.

## 3 11th National Handloom Day

**Why in news:** The Ministry of Textiles celebrated the **11th National Handloom Day** on August 7, 2025, recognizing the contributions of weavers and promoting indigenous handloom products.

# National Handloom Day 2025: Date, Theme, Origin, Significance, and Celebrations

National Handloom Day 2025 Date, History and Theme: This year marks the 11th anniversary of the day and will be celebrated on 7th August 2025, with the theme "Weaving Innovation into Tradition."

## 1 Consider the following state-wise handloom clusters:

1. Bhagalpur – Jamdani
2. Pochampally – Ikat
3. Varanasi – Banarasi
4. Sambalpur – Sambalpuri

Which of the above is correctly matched?

- A) 1, 2, 3 only
- B) 2, 3, 4 only
- C) 1, 2, 3, 4
- D) 1 and 4 only

**Answer: C) 1, 2, 3, 4**

**History:** The day was chosen, to commemorate the 'Swadeshi Movement', which was launched on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1905.

It aimed to boycott British goods in favour of Indian-made products, including handloom textiles.

First National Handloom Day was celebrated in 2015.



#### 4 WHO Classifies Hepatitis D as Cancer-Causing

**Why in news:** The World Health Organisation (WHO) has reclassified Hepatitis D virus (HDV) as a human carcinogen, highlighting a growing global public health crisis related to viral hepatitis and its cancer-causing potential.

## What is hepatitis D, the deadly viral disease now given a cancer tag by WHO?

The World Health Organisation has classified hepatitis D as a cancer-causing infection. The health agency called hepatitis D a carcinogen as the little-known virus can silently raise the risk of liver cancer.

#### 1 Regarding Hepatitis D virus (HDV):

1. It can only infect individuals who have HBV.
2. Co-infection with HBV increases risk of fulminant hepatitis.
3. There is a specific vaccine for HDV.

Which statements are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

**Answer: B) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** HDV requires HBV for replication. Co-infection or super infection increases severity. There is **no specific HDV vaccine**, but HBV vaccine indirectly prevents HDV.

#### 5 Uranium Hexafluoride

**Why in news:** India countered US criticism over its oil trade with Russia by pointing out the US's continued import of Russian **Uranium Hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>)** for nuclear energy, drawing attention to global nuclear fuel dependencies

## India pointed out US's uranium purchases from Russia. Here's what Trump said

India said that the United States continues to import key materials from Russia, including **uranium hexafluoride for its nuclear industry, palladium for electric vehicles**, as well as fertilisers and chemicals.

**Q1) Which of the following statements is correct regarding uranium enrichment?**

1. It increases the proportion of U-235 in uranium.
2. It converts U-238 into U-235.

- A) Only statement 1 is correct  
B) Only statement 2 is correct  
C) Both statements are correct  
D) Neither statement is correct

**Answer:** A) Only statement 1 is correct

**Explanation:** Enrichment increases the concentration of U-235 but does not convert U-238 into U-235.

**Q2) Which of the following statements about uranium is correct?**

1. Uranium is a naturally radioactive element.
  2. U-235 is more abundant than U-238.
- A) Only statement 1 is correct  
B) Only statement 2 is correct  
C) Both statements are correct  
D) Neither statement is correct

**Answer:** A) Only statement 1 is correct

**Explanation:** U-238 is more abundant (~99.3%), while U-235 is ~0.7%.

**9<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

- 1 **Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project**
- 2 **World Tribal Day 2025**
- 3 **Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile System**
- 4 **Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration (HOPE) Space Analog Mission**



## 1 Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project

**Why in news:** A sudden landslide struck the dam site of the under-construction Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydroelectric Project in Helang, Chamoli district, Uttarakhand, injuring 12 workers, including four critically.

### Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project

Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project is located on **Alaknanda River**, a major tributary of the Ganga River, in the district Chamoli in the state of **Uttarakhand**....



### Q1) Consider the following statements:

1. Gomti River is a left-bank tributary of the Ganga.
2. Chambal and Betwa are left-bank tributaries of Ganga.
3. Gandak River joins the Ganga from Nepal side.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 2 only
- C) 1, 2 and 3
- D) 3 only

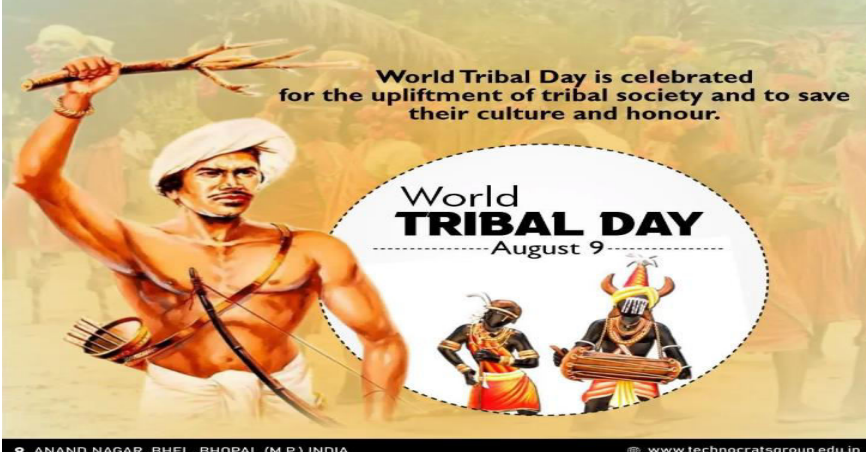
**Answer: A) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Gomti and Gandak are **left-bank tributaries**.

- Chambal and Betwa are **right-bank tributaries** (they join Yamuna, not Ganga directly).

## 2 World Tribal Day 2025

**Why in news:** The Adivasi Girijana Sangham has urged tribal representatives, youth, and elected leaders to actively participate in World Tribal Day celebrations on August 9, focusing on resolving tribal issues and protecting indigenous rights.



**Q1) Match the Following – Tribes of the World**

Column I (Tribes)	Column II (Region/Characteristic)
A. Maasai	1. East Africa (Kenya & Tanzania)
B. Inuit	2. Arctic region (Canada, Greenland)
C. Pygmies	3. Congo Basin (Central Africa)
D. Bedouins	4. Arabian Deserts
E. Aborigines	5. Australia

**Options:**

- A. A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4, E-5  
B. A-2, B-3, C-4, D-5, E-1  
C. A-3, B-4, C-5, D-1, E-2  
D. A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3, E-5

**Answer: A. A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4, E-5**

**Q2) Match the Following – Tribes and Their Habitat**

Column I (Tribe)	Column II (Habitat)
A. Bushmen (San)	1. Kalahari Desert
B. Yakuts	2. Siberia (Russia)
C. Red Indians	3. North America
D. Ainu	4. Japan
E. Zulu	5. South Africa

**Options:**

- A. A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4, E-5  
B. A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3, E-5  
C. A-3, B-2, C-5, D-4, E-1  
D. A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2, E-5

**Answer: A. A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4, E-5**

**3 Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile System**

**Why in news:** The United States has recently deployed its Long-Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW), nicknamed "Dark Eagle," during the Talisman Sabre military drills in Australia, marking its first overseas operational deployment

### Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile System

Dark Eagle is a long-range hypersonic anti-missile system developed by the United States, which is capable of intercepting enemy missiles in mid-air.



**Q1) Which of the following missile(s) are nuclear capable?**

1. Agni-II
2. Prithvi-II
3. Akash
4. Nirbhay

**Select the correct answer:**

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2 and 4 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 2 and 4 only

**Answer: B) 1, 2 and 4 only**

**Explanation:**

- Agni-II and Prithvi-II are nuclear capable ballistic missiles.
- Nirbhay (cruise missile) can carry nuclear warheads.
- Akash is a conventional surface-to-air missile.

### 4 Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration (HOPE) Space Analog Mission

**Why in news:** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has inaugurated the Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration (HOPE) at Tso Kar Valley, Ladakh, to simulate extraterrestrial conditions for long-duration space missions.

## 'Station' in Ladakh begins research to simulate life on Moon, Mars

Selected crew will take turns to inhabit the station and will undergo extensive physiological and psychological studies to assess human adaptability and resilience in conditions simulating deep space environments, says Protoplanet, which has launched the station and has ISRO among its collaborators

**1 Consider the following statements regarding the Gaganyaan-1 mission:**

1. It is India's first uncrewed test flight under the Gaganyaan programme.
2. The mission is scheduled for launch in December 2025.
3. The spacecraft will carry a humanoid robot named Vyommitra to simulate astronaut conditions.

Which of the above statements are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

**Q2 Consider the following statements regarding the Gaganyaan-1 mission:**

1. It is India's first uncrewed test flight under the Gaganyaan programme.
2. The mission is scheduled for launch in December 2025.
3. The spacecraft will carry a humanoid robot named Vyommitra to simulate astronaut conditions.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 2 and 3 only  
C) 1, 2, and 3  
D) 1 only

**Answer: C) 1, 2, and 3**

*Explanation:* Gaganyaan-1 is the first uncrewed test flight, scheduled for December 2025, and will carry Vyommitra to simulate astronaut conditions.

**10 & 11<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

1. Missing Names' on SIR list
2. Telangana's Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)
3. River Yamuna: Water Levels Near Warning Mark
4. Lion conservation
5. Nagakunda Pushkarani Stepwell Restoration
6. INS Tamal

#### 1. Missing Names' on SIR list

**Why in news:** The first phase of Bihar's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) led to large-scale deletions from the draft electoral roll, triggering debates on procedural safeguards, documentation requirements and possible demographic biases. The draft list published after SIR shows a notable fall in the number of registered voters, prompting claims and legal challenges

## What happens to 'missing names' on Bihar SIR list?

TH Premium

What is the next phase in the special intensive revision of electoral rolls? When will the final list be released?



**Q1) During SIR, Form 6, 7, 8, and 8A are used for what purposes respectively?**

- A) Inclusion, Deletion, Correction, Transposition of entries
- B) Deletion, Correction, Inclusion, Transposition
- C) Inclusion, Correction, Deletion, Transfer
- D) Inclusion, Deletion, Correction, Transfer

**Answer:** A) Inclusion, Deletion, Correction, Transposition of entries

**Explanation:**

- **Form 6:** Inclusion of name
- **Form 7:** Deletion of name
- **Form 8:** Correction of details
- **Form 8A:** Transposition within the same constituency

## 2 Telangana's Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)

**Why in news:** The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, once hailed as Telangana's lifeline and the world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project, is facing investigation over alleged irregularities, cost overruns, and structural failures.

## What is Telangana's Kaleshwaram project? What is the controversy around it? | Explained

The project was conceived by the BRS government, headed by K. Chandrasekhar Rao, to provide irrigation facilities to over 16 lakh acres in 13 districts of Telangana



### Q1) Statement Type

**Statement I:** The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project draws water from the confluence of the Godavari and Pranahita rivers.

**Statement II:** The project has three major barrages — Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla.

**Which of the following is correct?**

- a) Only Statement I is true
- b) Only Statement II is true

- c) Both I and II are true  
d) Both I and II are false

**Answer: c) Both I and II are true**

**Explanation:** Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) starts at the **Godavari-Pranahita confluence near Medigadda**, with **three major barrages** to lift and store water in multiple stages.

**Q1) Identify the Incorrect Pair**

**Project River**

- a) Kaleshwaram Project – Godavari River  
b) Sriram Sagar Project – Manjeera River  
c) Devadula Lift Scheme – Godavari River  
d) Jurala Project – Krishna River

**Answer: b) Sriram Sagar Project – Manjeera River**

**Explanation:** Sriram Sagar is on the **Godavari River**, not the Manjeera tributary.



### 3 River Yamuna: Water Levels Near Warning Mark

**Why in news:** The Yamuna river's water level in Delhi is approaching the warning threshold, raising concerns of potential flooding and prompting precautionary measures by authorities. This is significant for disaster management, hydrology, and urban planning.



**Q1) Statement I:** The Lakhwar-Vyasi project is being constructed on the upper Yamuna.

**Statement II:** It is located in Himachal Pradesh.

**Codes:**

- A) Only I is correct
- B) Only II is correct
- C) Both are correct
- D) Both are incorrect

**Answer:** A) Only I is correct

*Note:* It is located in Uttarakhand, not Himachal Pradesh.

#### 4 Lion conservation

**Why in news:** India's Asiatic lion population has increased from 674 (2019) to 891 (2024–25), marking a major conservation achievement under **Project Lion** and community-based protection efforts in Gujarat's Gir landscape

## India has set an example in lion conservation: Bhupender Yadav

The rise in population of Asiatic lion shows India's intimate relationship with nature and wildlife, says Bhupender Yadav; praises the unique bond between the **pastoralist Maldhari community** and lions as a model of coexistence

**Q1) Consider the following statements about Asiatic Lions:**

1. Asiatic Lions are found only in Gir National Park, Gujarat.
2. They are listed as Endangered under the IUCN Red List.
3. The lion population in India is now 700 individuals.
4. Asiatic Lions are also called "Persian Lions" due to their historical range.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only
- B) 2, 3, and 4 only
- C) 1, 2, and 4
- D) 1 and 3 only

**Answer:** C) 1, 2, and 4( not 700 lions its 891 in numbers)

#### 5 Nagakunda Pushkarani Stepwell Restoration

**Why in news:** A 10th–11th century Kalyani Chalukya-era stepwell, *Nagakunda Pushkarani*, in Sudi village of Karnataka's Gadag district is undergoing major restoration under the 'Adopt a Monument' scheme. This initiative aims to revive heritage architecture while promoting sustainable water conservation and tourism.

## A unique Kalyani Chalukya-era stepwell emerging from obscurity in Gadag

The Nagakunda Pushkarani is a stepwell — similar in form and function to the more famous ones like **Rani ki Vav or Adalaj in Gujarat** — that is poised for revival thanks to the **'Adopt a Monument' scheme** of the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage

Updated - August 11 2025 11:00 am IST - MVS/IRI

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1. Which of the following temples were built during the Kalyani Chalukya period?

- A) Mahadeva Temple at Itagi
- B) Virupaksha Temple at Pattadakal
- C) Kedareshwara Temple at Balligavi
- D) Chennakesava Temple at Belur

**Answer: A, C**

**Explanation:**

- Mahadeva Temple, Itagi – finest example of Kalyani Chalukya architecture.
- Kedareshwara Temple at Balligavi – also built by Kalyani Chalukyas.
- Virupaksha and Chennakesava temples were by badami chalukyas and Hoysala rulers, respectively.

Q2) Consider the following statements about Kalyani Chalukya architecture:

1. They introduced the “sandbox” technique for temple foundations.
2. Their temples are characterized by star-shaped plans and detailed sculptures.
3. They heavily influenced the later Hoysala architectural style.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

**Answer: B) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- The sandbox foundation is primarily a Hoysala innovation.
- Kalyani Chalukya temples influenced Hoysalas and featured intricate sculptures and ornate pillars

## 6 INS Tamal

**Why in news:** INS Tamal, India’s newest stealth frigate, completed a three-day port call at Casablanca, Morocco, enhancing bilateral defence ties and advancing maritime diplomacy during its return voyage from Russia

### INS Tamal Completes Successful Port Visit to Casablanca, Strengthening India–Morocco Naval Ties

INS Tamal concludes a three-day port call at Casablanca, Morocco, enhancing India–Morocco naval cooperation through joint exercises and cultural exchanges.



Q1) . Match the following Indian frigates with their features:

Frigate	Feature
I. Shivalik-class	1. Stealth, multi-role capabilities
II. Talwar-class	2. Modified Russian Krivak-class design
III. Godavari-class	3. First indigenous guided-missile frigates

Options:

1. I-1, II-2, III-3
2. I-3, II-2, III-1
3. I-2, II-3, III-1
4. I-1, II-3, III-2

Answer: 1. I-1, II-2, III-3

12<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

1 Karnataka State Education Policy Commission Recommends Two-Language Policy

2 Rare Blue Pinkgill Mushroom Discovered in Meghalaya

3 Barda Wildlife Sanctuary

4 World Elephant Day

5 Axiom-4 crop seeds under study

1 Karnataka State Education Policy Commission Recommends Two-Language Policy

**Why in news:** The Karnataka State Education Policy (SEP) Commission has proposed a **two-language policy** for all Kannada and English medium schools, replacing the existing three-language formula.

**Karnataka SEP panel recommends two-language policy, Kannada/mother tongue as medium of instruction**

The SEP has proposed to **mandate Kannada/mother tongue** as the medium of instruction at least until Class 5, and preferably up to Class 12 (II PUC)

Q1) Consider the following statements regarding the Karnataka State Education Policy (KSEP):

1. It replaces the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in the state.
2. It follows the 5 + 3 + 3 + 4 structure for school education.
3. It proposes Kannada or the mother tongue as the medium of instruction up to Class 5.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

A. 1 and 3 B. 2 and 3 C. Only 2 D. All 3

**Answer: A (1 and 3 are correct)** It follows 2+8+4 structure (2 years pre-primary + 8 years elementary + 4 years secondary).

**Q2) Consider the following statements regarding the NEP 2020:**

1. It is India's third education policy since Independence.
2. It replaces the National Policy on Education of 1986.
3. It aims to achieve 100% Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in school education by 2030.

Which of the above statements are correct?

A. 1 and 2 B. 2 and 3 C. 1 and 3 D. All three

**Answer: A (1 and 2 are correct)** — GER target is 100% for preschool to secondary by 2030, not for all education

## 2 Rare Blue Pinkgill Mushroom Discovered in Meghalaya

**Why in news:** Scientists from the Botanical Survey of India have recorded *Entoloma hochstetteri*, a rare blue mushroom, in the East Khasi Hills of Meghalaya — the first such record in India.

### Q1) Statement-based Question

**Statement 1:** Mushrooms are rich in proteins and vitamins.

**Statement 2:** They can be grown using agricultural waste like straw.

**Statement 3:** Mushrooms perform photosynthesis.



Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only  
B. 1 and 3 only  
C. 2 and 3 only  
D. 1, 2, and 3

**Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

**Q2) Statement 1:** *Agaricus bisporus* is commonly known as the Button Mushroom.

**Statement 2:** It is cultivated mainly in tropical regions at high temperatures.

Options:

- A. Only Statement 1 is correct  
B. Only Statement 2 is correct  
C. Both are correct  
D. Both are incorrect

**Answer: A. Only Statement 1 is correct**

**Explanation:** *Agaricus bisporus* (Button Mushroom) prefers **cool climates (14–20°C)**, not tropical high-temperature regions.

### 3 Barda Wildlife Sanctuary

**Why in news:** The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, in collaboration with Gujarat's Forest and Environment Department, celebrated World Lion Day 2025 at Barda Wildlife Sanctuary, highlighting its importance as a potential second home for the Asiatic Lion.

**Q1) Consider the following statements about Asiatic lions:**

1. Asiatic lions are found only in the Gir Forests of Gujarat, India.
2. They are classified as "Vulnerable" by the IUCN as of 2025.
3. Asiatic lions are slightly larger than African lions.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 1 and 3 only  
C) 2 and 3 only  
D) All three

**Answer: A) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- Asiatic lions are **found only in Gir Forest, Gujarat** — the last remaining habitat in the wild.
- They are listed as "**Vulnerable**" on the IUCN Red List.
- They are **slightly smaller**, not larger, than African lions.

**Q2) Which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. Asiatic lions have a visible fold of skin along their belly.
2. They are protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. The Supreme Court has ordered relocation of Asiatic lions to Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.

- A) 1 only  
B) 1 and 2 only  
C) 2 and 3 only  
D) All three

**Answer: D) All three**

**Explanation:**

- The **belly fold** is a unique physical trait of Asiatic lions.
- They enjoy **top protection under Schedule I** of the Wildlife (Protection) Act.
- The **Supreme Court** has directed their **relocation to Kuno National Park** to create a second population for conservation.

### 4 World Elephant Day

**Why in news:** World Elephant Day 2025 was observed on August 12, highlighting conservation issues and awareness about elephants.

## World Elephant Day to be celebrated in Coimbatore on August 12

India is home to nearly 60% of the world's wild elephant population.

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding Indian elephants:**

- 1 Indian elephants are found only in India.
- 2 Both male and female Indian elephants have tusks.
- 3 Project Elephant focuses on habitat protection and corridor conservation.

**Which of the statements above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: b) 3 only (Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect).**

### 5 Axiom-4 crop seeds under study

**Why in news:** India's space biology research has entered a new phase with post-flight studies on crop seeds sent to the International Space Station (ISS) under the Axiom-4 mission.

The Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST) and the Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) have begun post-flight studies on the crop seeds that were sent to the International Space Station (ISS) on the Axiom-4 mission.

**1) Which of the following statements regarding the Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) are correct?**

1. It was the first government-sponsored human spaceflight for India, Poland, and Hungary in over 40 years.
2. The mission was launched aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.
3. Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla served as the mission commander.
4. The mission focused on conducting scientific experiments in microgravity.

**Options:**

- A) 1, 2, and 4 only
- B) 1, 3, and 4 only
- C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- D) All of the above

**Answer: A) 1, 2, and 4 only**

**Explanation:**

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- Statement 1 is correct as Ax-4 marked the first government-sponsored human spaceflight for India, Poland, and Hungary in over 40 years.
- Statement 2 is correct; the mission was launched aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.
- Statement 3 is incorrect; Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla served as the pilot, not the mission commander.
- Statement 4 is correct; the mission focused on conducting scientific experiments in microgravity.

13<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

1 Aadhaar, Voter ID No Proof of Citizenship

2 Bhagirathi River

3 Indian Air Force's Focus on Long-Range Missiles Post Operation Sindoor

4 Satellite Internet

5 New Projects under India Semiconductor Mission

#### 1 Aadhaar, Voter ID No Proof of Citizenship

**Why in news:** The Bombay High Court has ruled that possession of Aadhaar, PAN, or Voter ID does not confer citizenship, reaffirming the primacy of the Citizenship Act, 1955 in determining nationality. The judgment comes in the backdrop of ongoing debates on illegal migration, NRC, and the misuse of Indian identification documents

## Aadhaar, voter ID not proof of citizenship, says Bombay High Court rejecting bail plea of alleged Bangladeshi man

Babu Abdul Ruf Sardar has been accused of illegally entering India from Bangladesh and obtaining forged Indian identity documents

#### Q)Consider the following statements:

- 1 Aadhaar card can be used as proof of citizenship or domicile.
- 2 Voter ID card is issued only to citizens of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only \
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: B) 2 only**

#### 2 Bhagirathi River

**Why in news:** recent cloudburst in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand, a water body resembling a 1-km-long lake has formed on the Bhagirathi River near Harsil, prompting urgent drainage operations by authorities.

## Uttarakhand: 1-km-long 'lake' forms on Bhagirathi near Harsil after cloudburst

The water body was formed after debris and uprooted trees carried downstream by the floodwaters from **Khair Ganga and Tel Gad** blocked the river's natural flow.

**Question: Match the Following**

Match the hydroelectric projects with their rivers:

Project	River
A) Koteswar HEP	1) Alaknanda
B) Vishnuprayag HEP	2) Bhagirathi
C) Chilla HEP	3) Alaknanda
D) Dakpathar HEP	4) Yamuna

**Options:**

- A) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
- B) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- C) A-2, B-3, C-3, D-4
- D) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4

**Answer:** C) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

## 3 Indian Air Force's Focus on Long-Range Missiles Post Operation Sindoor

**Why in news:** Following the success of Operation Sindoor, where the Indian Air Force effectively used long-range stand-off weapons against enemy targets, the IAF is prioritising the induction of advanced air-to-air and air-to-ground missiles with strike ranges exceeding 200 km to enhance strategic deterrence and ensure operational safety.

## IAF prioritises induction of long-range missiles after Operation Sindoor success

The IAF is also pressing for rapid progress on **Project Kusha**, an indigenous initiative led by DRDO to develop a long-range air defence missile system

**Which of the following is/are true regarding the strategic significance of Project Kusha?**

1. It will integrate with existing Indian air defence systems like S-400 and Akash-NG.
2. It aims to reduce India's dependence on foreign defence imports.
3. It is primarily a naval ballistic missile program.

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All three

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

#### 4 Satellite Internet

**Why in news:** Elon Musk's Starlink is set to launch in India, introducing a paradigm shift in connectivity. Unlike terrestrial internet infrastructure, satellite internet offers high-speed connections even in the remotest areas and can be deployed rapidly during disasters or conflicts.

## How does satellite internet work? | Explained

Why are ground-based internet networks economically unviable? How does the dual nature of satellite internet manifest? What are the three main orbits in which such satellites are deployed? Will it be more expensive than terrestrial broadband?

**Q1) Consider the following statements about satellite internet:**

1. Satellite internet provides connectivity via geostationary satellites orbiting at about 35,786 km above Earth.
2. It can provide high-speed internet comparable to fiber optic broadband in all areas.
3. Starlink is an example of a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite internet system.

**Which of the statements are correct?**

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All three

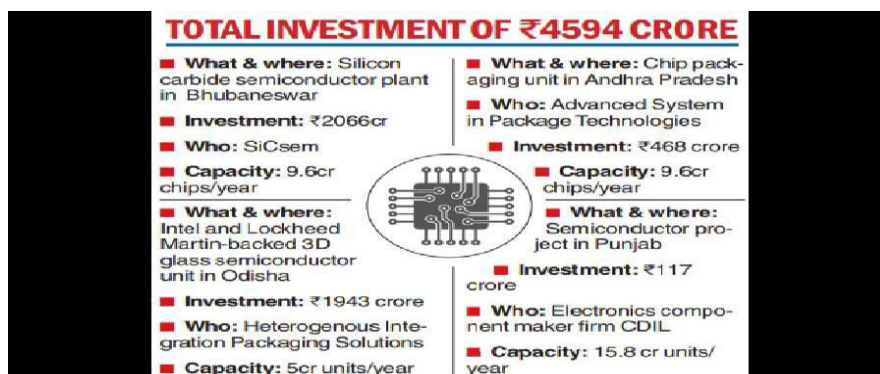
Answer: b) 1 and 3 only

#### 5 New Projects under India Semiconductor Mission

**Why in news:** The Union Cabinet has approved four new projects under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) with a cumulative investment value of ₹4,594 crore.

## Govt. approves four semiconductor plants in Odisha, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh

The four projects will have a cumulative value of ₹4,594 crore, and are being supported by the India Semiconductor Mission



**Q1) Consider the following statements about semiconductor chips:**

1. A semiconductor chip is a small piece of semiconductor material, usually silicon, that contains integrated circuits.
2. Chips are only used in computers and smartphones.
3. India unveiled its first indigenous 32-bit microprocessor **Vikram 3201** in 2025.

**Which of the statements are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 1 and 3 only  
C) 2 and 3 only  
D) All three

**Answer: B) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Statement 2 is incorrect because semiconductor chips are also used in cars, industrial equipment, satellites, AI devices, IoT devices, etc.

**Q) Which of the following is true regarding Vikram 3201, India's first indigenous microprocessor?**

1. Developed by **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**.
2. It is a 32-bit microprocessor used in space and satellite applications.
3. Launched as part of the **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)**.

**Options:**

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 2 and 3 only  
C) 1 and 3 only  
D) All three

**Answer: C) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Vikram 3201 is part of India's push for semiconductor self-reliance under ISM; its main application is in space tech but it's not yet widely deployed.

**14<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

**1 Government Revises Export Strategy Amid Rising U.S. Trade Pressures**

**2 1950 Assam Earthquake**

**3 India –Russia**

**4 Forest Rights Titles Missing in Chhattisgarh**

**5 Bandipur Tiger Reserve**

## 1 Government Revises Export Strategy Amid Rising U.S. Trade Pressures

**Why in news:** Amid rising U.S. tariffs on key Indian export sectors, the Government of India has revised its **Export Promotion Mission** to provide credit support, faster clearances, and targeted incentives to MSMEs. The move aims to shield exporters from adverse trade measures and maintain competitiveness in global markets.

### Centre working on multi-Ministry export promotion scheme to counter Trump tariff impact

Tariff-hit sectors such as textiles and chemicals to become new focus of existing scheme announced in the last Budget; **MSME exporters to get credit guarantees**, speedy clearances, and export incentives

**Q1) Consider the following statements about the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) launched in India:**

1. It is a six-year scheme from FY 2025–26 to FY 2030–31.
2. It is jointly driven by the Ministries of Commerce, MSME, and Finance.
3. The Department of Commerce is the lead implementing agency.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 2 and 3 only  
C) 1 and 3 only  
D) All of the above

**Answer:** D) All of the above

## 2 1950 Assam Earthquake

**Why in news:** The 1950 Assam earthquake, one of the most powerful in recorded history, exposed the seismic fragility of the Himalayas. Experts warn that rapid infrastructure growth in tectonically active zones could amplify disaster risks in the future.

### 75 years since Assam quake, Himalayas prep for large hydro projects

As the **Indian plate moves** forward, earthquakes are an integral part of its future. Yet scientists' current knowledge doesn't allow us to predict when, where or how strong the next quake will be. For now, they only know the Central Himalayas are the most potentially active segment and could generate a 1950-type earthquake in future

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding earthquake zones of India:**

1. India is divided into four seismic zones (Zone II, III, IV, V) based on intensity of earthquakes.
2. Zone V represents the areas with the highest seismic risk.
3. The Himalayan region falls under Zone IV and V.



4. Peninsular India is mostly in Zone III and II.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- D) All of the above

Answer:

**C) 2, 3, and 4 only**

Explanation:

- India is officially divided into **five seismic zones (Zone I to Zone V)**, not four. So statement 1 is partially incorrect.
- **Zone V** indicates areas with **highest seismic risk**, mainly in the **Himalayan belt and Northeast India**.
- **Peninsular India** mostly lies in **Zone II and III**, which are relatively low to moderate risk zones

### 3 India –Russia

**Why in news:** External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will visit Moscow on August 21 for high-level talks with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, ahead of the annual India–Russia summit. Around the same time, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi is expected to visit New Delhi, with talks focusing on the India–China border issue.

## Jaishankar to visit Moscow; Wang Yi to be in New Delhi

India to step up engagements with China and Russia; move come amid uncertainty in trade ties with U.S. after it imposed high tariffs; China likely to continue border talks during its Foreign Minister's visit

### 4 Forest Rights Titles Missing in Chhattisgarh

**Why in news:** Thousands of forest rights titles in Chhattisgarh have reportedly disappeared from official records within the last 17 months, raising concerns about the integrity of **Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006** implementation and its impact on tribal welfare.

## Thousands of forest rights titles go missing in Chhattisgarh records, officials claim 'reporting error'

Community forest rights titles in Rajnandgaon halved from 40 to 20, according to monthly progress reports; Bastar sees individual titles drop by over 2,700, though there is no FRA process to withdraw titles

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA):**

1. It recognizes the rights of forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers over forest land and resources.
2. It gives ownership rights over reserved forests to private individuals.
3. Community rights like grazing, fishing, and collecting minor forest produce are also recognized under the Act.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Answer: b) 1 and 3 only**

*Explanation:* The Act does **not** give ownership rights to private individuals over reserved forests, but it recognizes individual and community rights for forest-dwelling communities.

### 5 Bandipur Tiger Reserve

**Why in news:** A Kerala tourist narrowly survived a wild elephant attack inside **Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR)**, Karnataka. This incident has drawn attention to **human-wildlife conflict** issues in eco-sensitive zones and the significance of maintaining safety protocols in protected areas.

## Tourist who almost lost his life while going close to elephant for selfie in Bandipur identified

The Forest Department after an inquiry, established the identity of the person, and tracked him to Nanjangud

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding tiger reserves in India:**

1. India has 58 tiger reserves as of 2025.
2. Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of tiger reserves in India.
3. Sundarbans Tiger Reserve is the largest tiger reserve in India.

**Which of the statements are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All three

**Answer: A) 1 and 2 only** (Largest tiger reserve is Nagarajun tiger reserve Andhra Pradesh and Smallest tiger reserve is Bore tiger reserve Maharashtra)

15<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

1 SC Directs EC to Publish Names of 65 Lakh Excluded Voters in Bihar

2 Cloudburst in Kishtwar's Chositi village

3 Yudh Abhyas Military Exercise

4 SabhaSaar AI Tool

5 HIV/AIDS Testing Before Marriage

### 1.Sc Directs EC to Publish Names of 65 Lakh Excluded Voters in Bihar

**Why in news:** The Supreme Court has directed the Election Commission (EC) to ensure transparency by publishing the list of approximately 65 lakh voters excluded from Bihar's draft electoral roll.

## Supreme Court directs ECI to publish names, reasons for excluding 65 lakh electors from Bihar draft roll

'People have a right to know. A high degree of transparency is required to inspire voters' confidence,' says Supreme Court

Column A (Committee)	Column B (Key Recommendation)
Tarkunde Committee (1975)	A) Suggested collegium for appointment of Election Commissioners
Dinesh Goswami Committee (1990)	B) Recommended State funding of elections
Indrajit Gupta Committee (1998)	C) Recommended NOTA and inner-party democracy

### 2 Cloudburst in Kishtwar's Chositi village

**Why in news:** A cloudburst in **Chositi village**, Kishtwar district, Jammu division, triggered a flash flood that caused massive destruction on August 14, 2025

## J&K cloudburst kills at least 40, over 100 missing

Officials said remote terrain and poor mobile connectivity affected rescue operations; with more rain forecast, the administration fears that access to the village and rescue efforts could get hit

### Q1) Consider the following statements regarding the Jhelum River:

1. The Jhelum River originates from the Verinag Spring in the Anantnag district of Jammu & Kashmir.
2. It flows through Wular Lake before entering Pakistan.
3. It is the largest tributary of the Chenab River.

#### Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Answer: a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Jhelum originates from Verinag Spring, flows through Wular Lake, and joins Chenab( Larger tributary of chinab is Marusudar)

### Q2) Consider the following statements regarding the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) and its relevance to J&K:

1. Under the treaty, India can use the waters of the Eastern Rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) for unrestricted use.
2. Western Rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) were reserved for Pakistan, but India can use them for run-of-the-river projects.
3. The treaty was signed in 1960 under the supervision of the United nation

#### Which are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Answer: a) 1 and 2 only**( under supervision of World Bank)



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### 3 Yudh Abhyas Military Exercise

**Why in news:** India and the United States will conduct the 21st edition of their joint military exercise, *Yudh Abhyas*, in Alaska this month

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding Dharma Guardian 2025:**

1. It was conducted in Japan.
2. It focused on counter-terrorism operations.
3. It was a naval exercise.

**Which of the statements is/are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

**Answer:** A) 1 and 2 only

### 4 SabhaSaar AI Tool

**Why in news:** The Government of India is set to launch an AI-powered tool named 'SabhaSaar' in Tripura on Independence Day 2025.

## How AI tool will bring structure, uniformity to minutes of gram sabha meetings across country

'SabhaSaar' will be rolled out in Tripura on Independence Day and made available to other states later.

**Q1) Which of the following is NOT a feature of the SabhaSaar AI tool?**

- A) Automated generation of meeting minutes
- B) Multilingual transcription and translation
- C) Real-time video conferencing for meetings
- D) Integration with e-GramSwaraj

**Answer:** C) Real-time video conferencing for meetings

## ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO &AAO/RFO

Exercise Name	Participant Nations
Sampriti	India & Bangladesh
Mitra Shakti	India & Sri Lanka
Maitree Exercise	India & Thailand
Vajra Prahar	India & US
Yudh Abhyas	India & US
Nomadic Elephant	India & Mongolia
Garuda Shakti	India & Indonesia
Shakti Exercise	India & France
Dharma Guardian	India & Japan
Surya Kiran	India & Nepal
Hand in Hand Exercise	India & China
SIMBEX	India & Singapore
Shakti Exercise	India & France
CORPAT	India & Thailand



## 5 HIV/AIDS Testing Before Marriage

**Why in news:** Meghalaya is considering mandatory HIV/AIDS testing before marriage, following Goa. The proposal has sparked debate over balancing public health imperatives with individual rights, consent, and stigma.

## Pre-marriage HIV/AIDS test could be made mandatory in Meghalaya

State's Health Minister says a law in this regard is being considered owing to the rising number of HIV cases

### Q1) Consider the following statements regarding HIV/AIDS in India:

1. Mizoram has the highest adult HIV prevalence in India as of 2025.
2. National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) launched 'Project Sunrise' for prevention of AIDS in northeastern states.
3. India has successfully eliminated mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All three

**Answer:** A) 1 and 2 only

**Explanation:** Mizoram has the highest HIV prevalence in India (2.70%), and NACO launched 'Project Sunrise' for HIV prevention in 8 northeastern states. India has **not yet** fully eliminated mother-to-child transmission.

16<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

- 1 SC Collegium cannot dictate names to High Court Collegiums
- 2 GST Rate Rationalisation Proposal by Centre
- 3 Demographic Challenges
- 4 Trump, Putin Shake Hands Ahead of Ukraine Talks
- 5 Yet again, plastic treaty talks end in stalemate
- 6 Sudarshan Chakra: India's Indigenous Air Defence Mission by 2035

## 1 SC Collegium cannot dictate names to High Court Collegiums

**Why in news:** Chief Justice of India (CJI) B.R. Gavai clarified that the Supreme Court Collegium, while powerful in judicial appointments, cannot dictate names to High Court Collegiums.

## Supreme Court Collegium cannot dictate names to High Court Collegiums: CJI Gavai

Chief Justice says in a federal judiciary, the Supreme Court and the State High Courts are neither superior nor inferior to each other, and the relationship is that of mutual respect

**Q1) Consider the following statements about the Supreme Court Collegium:**

1. It is headed by the Chief Justice of India.
2. It consists of the CJI and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court.
3. Its recommendations can be rejected permanently by the President of India.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All three

**Answer:** a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect because the executive can return a recommendation only once for reconsideration. If reiterated, it must be accepted.

## 2 GST Rate Rationalisation Proposal by Centre

**Why in news:** The Government of India has proposed a major reform in the GST structure, reducing the number of tax slabs

## Major GST shake-up: 12% and 28% slabs to be axed

**Only 5% and 18% slabs to be retained;** 99% of items currently in the 12% slab will be moved to the 5% rate and 90% of goods and services in the 28% bracket will move to 18%; there will be no cess of any kind over and above the GST rates

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding the recent GST reforms in India:**

1. The GST Council has simplified the tax structure to a two-slab system of 5% and 18%, removing the earlier 12% and 28% rates.
2. A new 40% GST rate has been introduced for luxury and sin goods such as tobacco, aerated drinks, and high-end automobiles.
3. Individual health and life insurance premiums are now exempt from GST.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

**Options:**

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 2 and 3 only  
C) 1, 2, and 3  
D) 1 only

**Answer: C) 1, 2, and 3**

**Explanation:** The recent GST reforms have indeed simplified the tax structure to two main slabs: 5% and 18%, eliminating the 12% and 28% rates. Additionally, a 40% rate has been introduced for luxury and sin goods, and individual health and life insurance premiums are now exempt from GST.

**Q2) Consider the following statements about decision-making in the GST Council:**

1. Decisions are taken by a three-fourth majority of the weighted votes of members present and voting.
2. The Central Government has a weightage of one-third of total votes, while the States collectively have two-thirds.
3. The Council requires unanimous approval for all decisions.

**Which of the statements is/are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 2 and 3 only  
C) 1, 2, and 3  
D) 1 only

**Answer: A) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Decisions are taken by a three-fourth majority with weighted votes (Central: 1/3, States: 2/3). Unanimity is not required.

### 3 Demographic Challenges

**Why in news:** The government had earlier proposed a panel to address demographic challenges, but it was never constituted. Now, PM Modi has announced a High-Powered Demography Mission, highlighting concerns of demographic shifts and their impact on national security and development planning.

## Government proposal in 2024 for a panel on 'demographic challenges' never took off

In her Interim Budget speech on February 1, 2024, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the committee will be formed to consider the challenges arising from "fast population growth and demographic changes"

### 4 Trump, Putin Shake Hands Ahead of Ukraine Talks

**Why in news:** The U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin met at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, for a high-profile summit. The meeting aims to reshape the Ukraine war dynamics and redefine U.S.–Russia relations amidst heightened global tensions.

## Alaska Summit: Trump, Putin fail to reach deal to end **Ukraine war** in first meeting since conflict began

After the two leaders met, Donald Trump insisted that the onus going forward might be on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy “to get it done”

**Q1) Consider the following statements about Alaska’s geography:**

1. Alaska is the largest state in the USA by area.
2. Alaska borders Canada.
3. Alaska has no active volcanoes.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

**Answer: A) 1 and 2 only**( Alaska has **over 130 volcanoes** that have erupted in the last 10,000 years. About **50 of these** are active today.)

### 5 Yet again, plastic treaty talks end in stalemate

**Why in news:** The latest round of **Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC 5.2)** talks in Geneva, aimed at developing a legally binding global treaty to end plastic pollution, ended without consensus.

## Yet again, countries fail to agree on treaty to end plastic pollution

Multiple draft versions of the text couldn’t reconcile deep differences between blocs of nations on whether cutting plastic production was integral to ending plastic pollution

### 6 Sudarshan Chakra: India’s Indigenous Air Defence Mission by 2035

**Why in news:** PM Narendra Modi announced the launch of ‘Sudarshan Chakra’ mission on Independence Day 2025.

## Mission Sudarshan Chakra to develop indigenous aerial defence system **by 2035**, says PM Modi

Shield system will provide complete security for strategic and civilian areas such as **hospitals, railways, faith centres** within **ten years**; named in honour of Lord Krishna’s mythological shield

**Q1) Consider the following statements about Mission Sudarshan Chakra:**

1. It is India's latest integrated air and missile defence initiative announced in 2025.
2. Its primary goal is to develop an indigenous fleet of fighter jets.
3. It aims to enhance India's capability against aerial threats, including missiles and drones.

**Which of the statements above is/are correct?**

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) All three

**Answer:** B) 1 and 3 only

**17 & 18<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

**1 Bill to decriminalise minor offences to be introduced in the Lok Sabha**

**2 Uttarakhand Cabinet approves Minority Educational Institutions Bill 202**

**3 Opposition to Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project in Karnataka**

**4 Impact of ethanol blending**

**5 Sanskrit Inscription of Vijayanagara Period discovered at Sri Venugopala Swamy Temple**

**1 Bill to decriminalise minor offences to be introduced in the Lok Sabha**

**Why in news:** The Jan Vishwas (Amendment) Bill, 2025, introduced by Union Minister Piyush Goyal in the Lok Sabha, seeks to decriminalize minor offences across multiple laws. It aims to strengthen **trust-based governance** and improve the **ease of doing business** by reducing unnecessary legal hurdles.

## Bill to decriminalise minor offences to be introduced in the Lok Sabha on Monday

Over 350 provisions are proposed to be amended through the Bill; the legislation is part of the government's effort to improve the country's business climate

**Q1 Consider the following statements about Ordinary Bills:**



1. An Ordinary Bill can be introduced in either House of Parliament.
2. The President may refuse to give assent to an Ordinary Bill.
3. Rajya Sabha can only delay an Ordinary Bill for 14 days.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**Answer: b) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Rajya Sabha can delay an Ordinary Bill for a maximum of **6 months**, not 14 days.

## 2 Uttarakhand Cabinet approves Minority Educational Institutions Bill 2025

**Why in news:** The Uttarakhand Cabinet has approved the **Uttarakhand Minority Educational Institutions Bill, 2025**, extending statutory recognition and benefits to minority educational institutions of Sikh, Jain, Christian, Buddhist, and Parsi communities.

### Uttarakhand Minority Educational Institutions Bill includes Sikh, Jain, Christian, Buddhist, Parsi institutions

**Benefits were previously available only to Muslim educational institutions;** if enacted, the study of Gurmukhi and Pali in minority educational institutions would also be recognised

**Q1) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Constitution of India does not define the term "minority."
2. The determination of minority status is based on religion and language.
3. The power to notify a community as a minority rests with the Central Government as well as state government.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

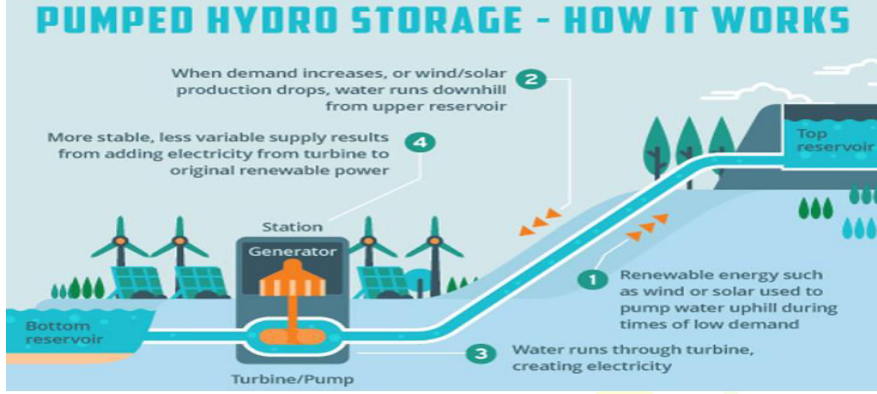
**Answer: A) 1 and 2 only( only central government have power to notify)**

## 3 Opposition to Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project in Karnataka

**Why in news:** Environmentalists and activists in Shivamogga adopted a resolution against the **Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project (PSP)**, citing ecological damage to the Western Ghats, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the world's biodiversity hotspots

## Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project opposed at environmental public hearing

Local people, politicians and environmentalists voice objections, even as none spoke in support of it at the hearing conducted by KPCL in Kargal, Sagar taluk; a similar hearing is to be held at Gerusoppa in Uttara Kannada district on September 18



### 1. Consider the following statements about the Sharavathi River:

1. The Sharavathi River originates near Ambutheertha, and it flows through shivamogga, uttarakannada and udupi districts.
2. It flows entirely within the state of Karnataka.
3. It joins the Arabian Sea near Honnavar in Uttara Kannada district.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 2 and 3 only  
C) 1, 2 and 3  
D) 1 and 3 only

**Answer:** B) 2 and 3 only (it flows through only two districts of Karnataka shivamogga and uttarakannada across this river linganamakki, talilkle and gerusoppa reservoir)

### 4 Impact of ethanol blending

**Why in news:** India has achieved 20% ethanol blending in petrol (E20) by 2025, ahead of its original 2030 target. While the programme has reduced crude oil import bills and boosted farmer income, concerns have emerged about its environmental sustainability, consumer acceptance, and trade implications.

## What has been the impact of ethanol blending?

How are petrol vehicle owners reacting to the E20 mandate? How environmentally friendly is India's dependence on sugarcane for ethanol? How has the U.S. reacted to India's booming ethanol economy? Why has the adoption of EVs in India been much slower compared to other large economies?

**Q1) Which of the following crops are permitted for ethanol production under the 2018 Biofuel Policy?**

1. Sugarcane juice
2. Damaged food grains
3. Maize and surplus rice
4. Cottonseed oil

**Options**

- A) 1, 2 and 3 only  
B) 1 and 4 only  
C) 2 and 4 only  
D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Answer:** A) 1, 2 and 3 only

**Explanation:** The policy allows ethanol from **sugarcane juice**, **B-heavy molasses**, **surplus food grains like maize**, and **damaged food grains** unfit for human consumption.

### 5 Sanskrit Inscription of Vijayanagara Period discovered at Sri Venugopala Swamy Temple

**Why in news:** A Sanskrit inscription has been discovered on a pillar at the **Sri Venugopala Swamy Temple in Mereddipalli, Sri Sathya Sai district, Andhra Pradesh**. The inscription, written in **Nandi Nagari script**, dates back to the **early Vijayanagar period (14th century CE)**, reflecting the cultural and religious significance of the temple during the Sangama dynasty.

## Inscription in **Sanskrit** dating back to Vijayanagara period discovered

**Q1) Which of the following statements about the Vijayanagar epigraphy is/are true?**

1. The epigraphs mention "Nayankara" system



related to land grants to military chiefs.

2. Inscriptions use both the lunar and solar calendars.
3. They provide no evidence about trade or commerce.

- A. 1 only  
B. 1 and 2 only  
C. 2 and 3 only  
D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B. 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Many inscriptions refer to “Nayankara” grants. Trade references (customs, port taxes) are found, so statement 3 is wrong.

**Q2) The Hazara Rama Temple inscriptions at Hampi are significant because:**

1. They describe royal genealogy of the Vijayanagar kings.
2. They provide details about religious festivals and temple rituals.
3. They were written during the rule of Deva Raya II.

**Which of the above are correct?**

- A. 1 and 3 only  
B. 2 only  
C. 1, 2 and 3  
D. 1 only



**Answer: A. 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** The Hazara Rama inscriptions give royal lineage and were engraved during Deva Raya II's reign (1422–1446 CE)

**19<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

**1 Nominations to Assemblies**

**2 Unemployment rate declines to 5.2% in July: govt. survey**

**3 Zelenskyy says he is ready to work for peace**

**4 Indian astronaut will step on moon by 2040: Minister**

**5 New findings may have therapeutic implications in treating diabetes:**

**IISc**

**1 Nominations to Assemblies**

**Why in news:** A debate has arisen over the Lieutenant Governor's (LG) power to nominate members to Union Territory (UT) Assemblies **without consulting the Council of Ministers**

## Who decides nominations to UT Assemblies? | Explained

How should members be recommended to the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly? What does the Government of **Union Territories Act, 1963** state with respect to nominations to the **Puducherry Assembly**? What was the 'triple chain of command' opined by the Supreme Court in 2023?

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding the nomination of members to the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly by the Lieutenant Governor (LG):**

1. The LG can nominate five members to the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly, including two women, two Kashmiri migrants, and one displaced person from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir
2. The LG exercises this power at his/her discretion, without the aid and advice of the Council of Minister
3. Jammu & Kashmir, Puducherry, and Delhi are the only Union Territories with elected Legislative Assemblies.
4. The nomination process follows provisions laid down in the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (as amended in 2023).

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) Only 1 and 2
- b) Only 2 and 3
- c) 1, 2, and 4
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d) All of the above**

**Q2) Consider the following statements regarding the nomination of members to the Puducherry Legislative Assembly:**

1. The Central Government has the power to nominate members to the Puducherry Legislative Assembly.
2. The nominated members enjoy the same voting rights as elected members.
3. The maximum number of nominated members in the Puducherry Assembly is 5.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1 and 2 and 3

**Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**



**Explanation:**

- Under Article 239A of the Constitution, the **President (on advice of Central Government)** nominates **up to 3 members** to the Puducherry Legislative Assembly.
- These members **have equal voting rights** as elected ones.
- Hence, the maximum number is **3**, not 5.

**2 Unemployment rate declines to 5.2% in July: govt. survey**

**Why in news:** The government's Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) shows India's unemployment rate fell to 5.2% in July 2025, with a marginal rise in women's labour force participation. This provides insights into employment patterns, gender disparities, and rural-urban differences

## Government survey shows dip in unemployment rate

The Labour Bureau found that the unemployment rate in the country has come down by 0.4 percentile points to **5.2% in July from 5.6% in June**

**3 Zelenskyy says he is ready to work for peace**

**Why in news:** Former U.S. President Donald Trump proposed **Ukraine–Russia–U.S. (with EU support)** trilateral peace talks involving Zelenskyy and President Putin.

## Trump-Zelenskyy meeting in Washington highlights: German Chancellor confirms Zelenskyy-Putin meet within 2 weeks

President Donald Trump says he has begun arrangements for a face-to-face meeting between Vladimir Putin and Volodymyr Zelenskyy to discuss a pathway to **end Russia's invasion of Ukraine**

**Q1) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant is the largest in Europe.
  2. It is located near the Dnipro River in southeastern Ukraine.
- A. Both statements are correct, and Statement 2 is the correct explanation of Statement 1
- B. Both statements are correct, but Statement 2 is not the correct explanation of Statement 1
- C. Statement 1 is correct, Statement 2 is wrong
- D. Statement 1 is wrong, Statement 2 is correct

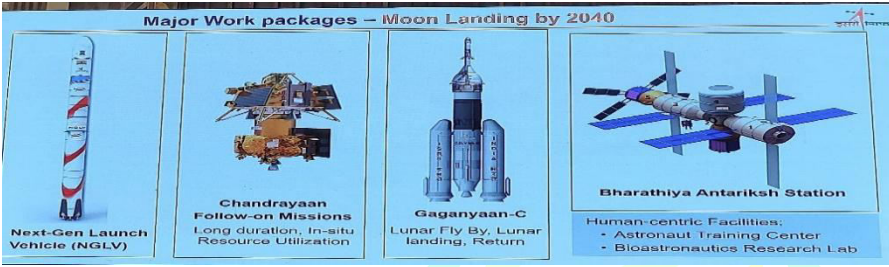
**Answer:** A. Both statements are correct, and Statement 2 explains Statement 1

#### 4 Indian astronaut will step on moon by 2040: Minister

**Why in news:** Union Minister Jitendra Singh announced in Lok Sabha that India aims for a human lunar landing by 2040.

## Indian astronaut to land on moon in 2040: Jitendra Singh in Lok Sabha

The space economy of the country will touch \$45 billion in next decade, Jitendra Singh tells Lok Sabha; discussion on first Indian aboard ISS remains inconclusive as House witnesses disruptions



#### Q1) Consider the following statements

**Statement 1:** India plans to send a manned lunar mission by 2040.

**Statement 2:** The manned lunar mission will be launched using the Gaganyaan spacecraft.

#### Options:

- A. Both statements are true, and Statement 2 is the correct explanation of Statement 1
- B. Both statements are true, but Statement 2 is not the correct explanation of Statement 1
- C. Statement 1 is true, Statement 2 is false
- D. Both statements are false

**Answer:** C Statement 1 is true, Statement 2 is false

**Explanation:** The Gaganyaan is designed for low Earth orbit; the manned lunar mission will require a separate spacecraft.

#### 5 New findings may have therapeutic implications in treating diabetes: IISc

**Why in news:** IISc researchers discovered how glucose entry into pancreatic beta cells is regulated, and how this process falters in Type-2 diabetes

## IISc team's new findings may have therapeutic implications in treating diabetes

The study shows how entry of glucose into the cell to kickstart insulin release falters in Type 2 diabetes and how restoring it could open new therapeutic avenues

### Q1) Consider the following statements

**Statement 1:** Diabetes mellitus is a metabolic disorder characterized by hyperglycemia.

**Statement 2:** Diabetes always results from an autoimmune attack on pancreatic cells.

#### Options:

- A. Both correct, Statement 2 explains Statement 1
- B. Both correct, Statement 2 does not explain Statement 1
- C. Statement 1 correct, Statement 2 incorrect
- D. Statement 1 incorrect, Statement 2 correct

**Answer:** C Statement 1 correct, Statement 2 incorrect

**Explanation:** Diabetes can result from insulin deficiency (Type 1), insulin resistance (Type 2), or other causes; autoimmune destruction is specific to Type 1.

20<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

- 1 Govt. Set to Introduce Bill to Ban Real Money Gaming Firms
- 2 Karnataka Cabinet Approves Internal Reservation Matrix for Scheduled Castes
- 3 CAG Flags Fiscal Concerns Over Karnataka's Guarantee Schemes
- 4 India and China see chance to reset ties
- 5 Black Panther Cub Spotted in Bhadra Tiger Reserve
- 6 Palm Civets Cause Disruption in Kerala High Court

### 1 Govt. Set to Introduce Bill to Ban Real Money Gaming Firms

**Why in news:** The Union Cabinet has approved the **Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025**. The Bill seeks to **ban real money games (RMGs)**, a multi-billion-dollar industry, by defining online gaming involving monetary stakes as illegal

## Centre to introduce law to prohibit real money gaming firms, official says

The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025 represents a significant shift in the Union government's attitude towards the real money gaming industry

### 2 Karnataka Cabinet Approves Internal Reservation Matrix for Scheduled Castes

**Why in news:** The Karnataka State Cabinet has approved a new internal reservation matrix for Scheduled Castes (SCs) by dividing the existing 17% SC reservation into sub-categories. This marks the culmination of a three-decade-old struggle among Dalit groups in the State for equitable distribution of reservation benefits

## Karnataka Cabinet approves internal quota, slicing SC reservation into three categories

The decision comes just over a year after the Supreme Court allowed internal reservation to be provided among Scheduled Castes

### Q1) Consider the following statements

1. Justice HN Nagamohan Das Commission recommended internal reservation among SCs.
2. The commission suggested sub-categorization for equitable distribution.
3. The commission increased total SC reservation from 15% to 20%.

- A. 1 and 2 correct  
B. 1 and 3 correct  
C. All correct  
D. Only 3 correct

**Answer:** A. 1 and 2 correct

### 3 CAG Flags Fiscal Concerns Over Karnataka's Guarantee Schemes

**Why in news:** The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has highlighted fiscal concerns over the Karnataka government's implementation of its five guarantee schemes. The report observed that the schemes are consuming a significant share of the state's resources, leading to fiscal deficit pressures and rising debt levels

## CAG flags fiscal burden due to Karnataka government's guarantee schemes

The auditor's analysis linked the implementation of these guarantees to a sharp increase in expenditure

**Q1) Consider the following statements:**

1. Fiscal deficit indicates the total borrowing requirement of the government.
2. A higher fiscal deficit always leads to higher economic growth.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: A 1 only**

**Explanation:** Fiscal deficit measures borrowing requirement; however, a higher fiscal deficit does not automatically guarantee higher growth.

**4 India and China see chance to reset ties**

**Why in news:** India and China are signaling a thaw in relations. PM Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping are expected to meet at the upcoming SCO summit amid efforts to resolve the long-standing boundary dispute.

## India, China ties showing positive trend, says Chinese FM Wang Yi

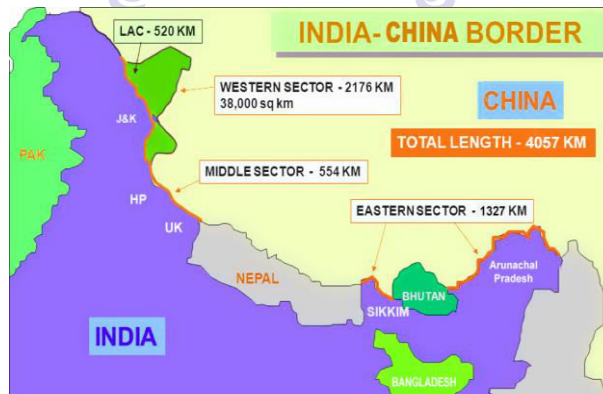
Wang Yi says that this year marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and India, and lessons could be learned from the past

**Q1. Consider the following statements:**

- Statement 1: The LAC in the western sector runs through Ladakh.  
Statement 2: China recognizes the McMahon Line as the border in the eastern sector.

**Options:**

1. Both statements are correct
2. Statement 1 correct, 2 incorrect
3. Statement 1 incorrect, 2 correct
4. Both statements are incorrect



**Answer: 2. Statement 1 correct, 2 incorrect**

**Explanation:** China does not recognize the McMahon Line; India does.

**5 Black Panther Cub Spotted in Bhadra Tiger Reserve**



**Why in news:** A rare black panther cub has been sighted in the Lakkavalli Range of Bhadra Tiger Reserve, Karnataka. This marks the first documented melanistic leopard cub in the reserve, adding to its ecological significance.

## Black panther cub spotted in Bhadra Tiger Reserve

'An adult black panther has been spotted earlier. Now the cub is a new entry. We are ensuring the territory of the family is not disturbed.'

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Black Panther:**

1. It is a melanistic variant of the Leopard (*Panthera pardus fusca*).
2. It is commonly found in dense forests of India such as Western Ghats and the Northeastern states.
3. It is listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

**Options:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

**Answer: D. 1, 2, and 3**

## 6 Palm Civets Cause Disruption in Kerala High Court

**Why in news:** Hearings before a Bench led by the Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court were adjourned after palm civets dirtied the ceiling and air-conditioning ducts of the courtroom.

## Civet problem forces Kerala High Court to adjourn for the day

Hearings before a Bench led by the Chief Justice were adjourned after urgent matters to allow cleaning of ceiling and air conditioner duct of courtroom reportedly dirtied by palm civets

**Q1) The Malabar Civet (*Viverra civettina*) is a critically endangered mammal endemic to India. Which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. It is primarily found in the Western Ghats region of Kerala and Karnataka.
2. Its natural habitat includes moist deciduous and evergreen forests, but it is also found in human-modified landscapes.
3. The species is classified as **Critically Endangered** by the IUCN due to habitat loss and hunting.
4. Conservation efforts include captive breeding programs in multiple Indian states.

**Options:**

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

**Answer:** A. 1, 2, and 3 only

**Explanation:**

- The Malabar Civet is endemic to the Western Ghats, mainly in Kerala.
- It prefers forested habitats but has been occasionally sighted near human settlements.
- Its population has drastically declined due to deforestation, hunting, and habitat fragmentation.
- Captive breeding programs are **not well established**, making in-situ conservation crucial.

**Q2) Which of the following statements about the Indian Palm Civet is/are correct?**

1. It is a nocturnal and arboreal mammal.
2. It primarily feeds on fruits but occasionally preys on small animals.
3. It plays a role in coffee cultivation by producing the famous "Civet Coffee" through its digestion of coffee berries.

**Options:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2, and 3
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1 and 3 only

**Answer:** B. 1, 2, and 3

**Explanation:**

- The Palm Civet is nocturnal and lives mostly in trees.
- Omnivorous: eats fruits, birds, insects, and small mammals.
- Its excreted coffee beans are collected to make the exotic Kopi Luwak coffee.

21<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

- 1 SC questions Governor's power to block State Bills
- 2 Pamba River included under NRCP
- 3 Jaishankar flags challenges that tariffs pose to India-Russia trade
- 4 Saltwater Crocodile Population Rises in Sundarbans
- 5 India successfully tests Agni-5 missile
- 6 India needs a national space law
- 7 Anna-Chakra: New Supply Chain Tool for PDS

### 1 SC questions Governor's power to block State Bills

**Why in news:** The Supreme Court raised concerns about the unchecked use of Governors' powers to withhold assent to State Bills, questioning whether elected governments are being undermined, and calling into focus the federal balance and constitutional morality.

## Should Supreme Court sit powerless as Governors block bills: CJI

Solicitor General tells top court to stick to its own turf, saying that delays in State Bills should be handled politically, not through court orders; the court is a custodian of the Constitution, says CJI

### 1. Consider the following statements

**Statement I:** The Governor can return any Bill passed by the State Legislature for reconsideration.

**Statement II:** The Governor can also return a Money Bill for reconsideration.

**Options:**

1. Both statements are correct.
2. Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
3. Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.
4. Both statements are incorrect.

**Answer: 2. Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.**

Explanation: A Money Bill cannot be returned for reconsideration; it can only be either assented to or reserved.

**2. Under Article 200, the Governor may:**

1. Give assent to the Bill
2. Withhold assent to the Bill
3. Reserve the Bill for the consideration of the President
4. Return the Bill to the Legislature (if not a Money Bill)

**Choose the correct answer:**

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1, 2, and 3 only
3. 1, 2, 3, and 4
4. and 4 only

**Answer: 3. 1, 2, 3, and 4**

## 2 Pamba River included under NRCP

**Why in news:** The Central Government has initiated steps to include **Pamba River** (Kerala) under the **National River Conservation Plan (NRCP)**, a flagship initiative for protecting and restoring major rivers.

## Pampa on the path for inclusion in National River Conservation Plan

River holds environmental & religious significance | Union Ministry for Jal Shakti asks state govt for detailed report

**Q1) Consider the following statements about the Periyar River:**

1. It is the longest river in Kerala.
2. It originates from the Western Ghats at Periyar Lake in Idukki.
3. It flows into the Arabian Sea.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

**Answer: 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Periyar originates from the Western Ghats and flows into the Arabian Sea. The longest river in Kerala is Bharathapuzha, not Periyar.

## 3 Jaishankar flags challenges that tariffs pose to India-Russia trade

**Why in news:** External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, during his Moscow visit, raised concerns about tariff and non-tariff barriers impacting India-Russia trade and pushed for early conclusion of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the Eurasian Economic Union.

## In Moscow, Jaishankar flags challenges that tariffs pose to India-Russia trade

Mr. Jaishankar also raised the issue of trade imbalance in **India-Russia trade that has expanded in the past few years**

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

- I. Tariffs are taxes imposed on imported goods.
- II. Trade refers to the exchange of goods and services between countries or regions.
- III. Tariffs encourage imports and promote free trade.
- IV. Trade can occur with or without tariffs.

**Which of the statements are correct?**

**Options:**

- 1. I, II, IV
- 2. I, III
- 3. II, III, IV
- 4. I, II, III, IV

**Answer: 1. I, II, IV**

**Explanation:** Tariffs are taxes on imports (I). Trade is the broader concept of exchanging goods and services (II). Tariffs generally restrict imports, so III is incorrect. Trade can happen with or without tariffs (IV).

#### 4. Global Solar Alliance plans to establish research hub in India

**Why in news:** The International Solar Alliance (ISA) announced plans to set up a Global Capability Centre (GCC) in India, envisioned as a "Silicon Valley for solar." This will strengthen global research, training, and innovation in solar energy, while enhancing India's role as a leader in renewable energy



### 'Silicon Valley of solar': Global solar alliance plans to establish research hub in India

17 centres of excellence in as many countries will provide testing, lab training, and a 'startup ecosystem', the Director General of the alliance said

**Q1: Consider the following statements about the Global Solar Alliance (GSA):**

- 1. It is an initiative of India to promote solar energy globally.
- 2. Its headquarters is in Gurugram, India.
- 3. Only developing countries with high solar potential can be members.
- 4. It was launched during the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris.



Which of the statements given above are correct?

**Answer:** 1, 2, 4

**Explanation:** GSA (now called **International Solar Alliance, ISA**) was launched by India and France in 2015 at COP21. Its HQ is in Gurugram, India (close to New Delhi). Membership is open to all countries between Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn.

### 5 Saltwater Crocodile Population Rises in Sundarbans

**Why in news:** The latest population survey conducted by the West Bengal Forest Department has shown an **increase in the number of saltwater crocodiles** in the **Sundarban Biosphere Reserve (SBR)** compared to last year.

## Saltwater crocodiles thriving in Sundarbans; 213 direct sightings in 2025

The West Bengal government has, in the last many decades, made significant efforts to conserve saltwater crocodiles, with a conservation and breeding facility in the form of the **Bhagabatpur Crocodile Project**

**Q1) Which of the following statements is correct?**

- A. Saltwater Crocodile and Gharial both live in brackish water.
- B. Saltwater Crocodile can live in saline or brackish water, whereas Gharial is strictly freshwater.
- C. Gharial can tolerate saline water, Saltwater Crocodile cannot.
- D. Both are found only in rivers.

**Answer:** B. Saltwater Crocodile can live in saline or brackish water, whereas Gharial is strictly freshwater.



**Q2) Consider the following statements:**

1. Saltwater Crocodile can tolerate both fresh and brackish water.
2. Gharial is critically endangered and found in deep rivers with sandbanks.
3. Both species are highly aggressive towards humans.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All 1, 2, 3

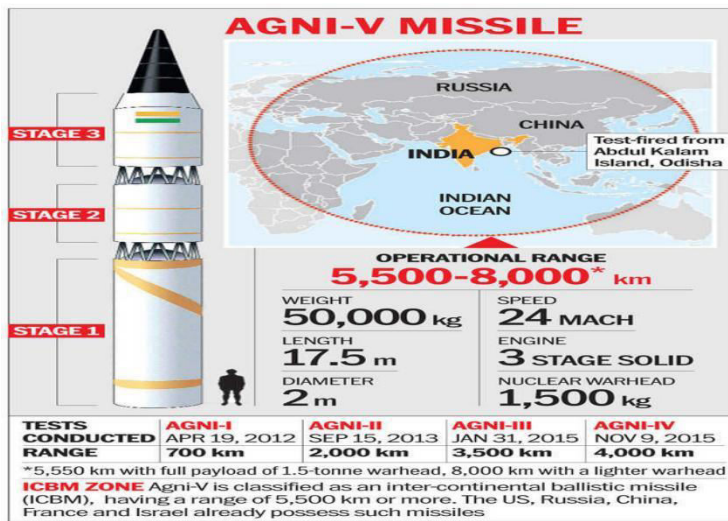
**Answer:** A 1 and 2 only

### 6. India successfully tests Agni-5 missile

**Why in news:** India successfully test-fired the indigenously developed Agni-5 missile from Chandipur, Odisha, validating operational and technical parameters, and strengthening India's strategic deterrence posture.

## India successfully test-fires Agni-5 ballistic missile

Ministry of Defence said the launch validated all operational and technical parameters and was conducted under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command



### 7 India needs a national space law

**Why in news:** India is preparing to celebrate its **second National Space Day on August 23**, and discussions are intensifying on the urgent need for a **national space law** to provide clarity, licensing, liability coverage, and a predictable framework for the space sector.

## Why India needs a national space law urgently | Explained

What does the **Outer Space Treaty of 1967** stipulate? Is it self-executing? Why is it important that countries enact their own national space legislations? What has been India's approach to space legislation? Why is creating affordable insurance frameworks for space startups crucial?

### Q1) Consider the following statements:

- Outer Space Treaty allows states to claim sovereignty over the Moon.
- States are liable for damages caused by their space objects.
- All space activities must be for peaceful purposes.

### Which statements are correct?

- I and II only
- II and III only

C) I and III only

D) I, II and III

**Answer: B) II and III only**

### 8. Anna-Chakra: New Supply Chain Tool for PDS

**Why in news:** The Union Minister of State for the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution informed about **Anna-Chakra**, a supply chain optimization tool for the Public Distribution System (PDS).

Shri Pralhad Joshi launches 'Anna Chakra', the Public Distribution System Supply chain optimisation tool and SCAN (Subsidy Claim Application for NFSA) portal

PDS Supply Chain Optimization to aid in improving efficiency, reducing costs, and ensuring timely delivery of essential commodities

SCAN portal to allow single window submission of subsidy claims, facilitate expeditious settlement process

Posted On: 05 DEC 2024 7:24PM by PIB Delhi

**Q1) Which of the following statements is correct regarding the "Anna Chakra" concept in India?**

1. It is a central system for ensuring round-the-year food security at the household level.
2. It integrates procurement, storage, and distribution of food grains.
3. It is implemented only in rural areas under the National Food Security Act.

**Options:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

**Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Anna Chakra is a conceptual "wheel" linking procurement, storage, transport, and distribution; it is not limited to rural areas.

**22<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

- 1 Should SC sit powerless as Governors block Bills: CJI
- 2 Kalai-II Hydroelectric Project
- 3 China Backs India at WTO Against U.S. Tariffs
- 4 INS Aridhaman
- 5 Directive to Address Gender Disparity in Organ Donations

## 1 Directive to Address Gender Disparity in Organ Donations

**Why in news:** Chief Justice of India (CJI) B.R. Gavai questioned whether the Supreme Court should remain powerless when Governor's delay or block Bills passed by State legislatures.

## Should Supreme Court sit powerless as Governors block bills: CJI

1.

Solicitor General tells top court to stick to its own turf, saying that **delays in State Bills should be handled politically**, not through court orders; **the court is a custodian of the Constitution**, says CJI

**Consider the following statements regarding the discretionary powers of the Governor:**

1. The Governor can reserve a bill passed by the State Legislature for the President's consideration.
2. The Governor can dismiss a Council of Ministers at their discretion.
3. The Governor can recommend President's Rule in the state.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer:** (b) 1 and 3 only

**Explanation:** The Governor's discretionary powers include reserving bills for President's consideration and recommending President's Rule. Dismissing ministers is not an independent power; it is based on Assembly confidence.

## 2 Kalai-II Hydroelectric Project

**Why in news:** The Arunachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board (APSPCB) recently conducted a public hearing for environmental clearance for the proposed 1,200 MW Kalai-II hydroelectric project in Anjaw district, being developed by THDC India Limited.

**Arunachal pollution control board holds public hearing for 1,200 MW Kalai-II hydroelectric project**

**Q1) Consider the following statements:**

1. Subansiri River is the largest tributary of the Brahmaputra.
2. Manas River originates from Bhutan.
3. Kameng River meets Brahmaputra in Assam.

**Which statements are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only



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## ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO &AAO/RFO

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

**Answer:** (c) 1, 2 and 3

**Explanation:**

- Subansiri is indeed the largest tributary.
- Manas originates from Bhutan, flows through Assam, and joins Brahmaputra.
- Kameng flows through Arunachal Pradesh and joins Brahmaputra in Assam.

### 3 China Backs India at WTO Against U.S. Tariffs

**Why in news:** China's Ambassador to India, Xu Feihong, announced that China will **stand with India at the WTO** against U.S. tariffs on Indian goods.

## China to stand firm with India, slams US tariffs as 'bullying'

Speaking at a conference on India-China relations, Xu said Beijing will firmly back New Delhi in safeguarding **multilateral trade under the WTO**

**Q1) Which of the following border passes connects India and China in Himachal Pradesh?**

- (a) Nathu La
- (b) Lipulekh Pass
- (c) Shipki La
- (d) Jelep La

**Answer:** (c) Shipki La

**Explanation:**

- Shipki La → Himachal Pradesh
- Lipulekh Pass → Uttarakhand
- Nathu La → Sikkim
- Jelep La → Sikkim

### 4. INS Aridhaman

**Why in news:** India is set to induct its third nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), **INS Aridhaman**, which will significantly boost India's strategic deterrence capabilities under its nuclear triad.





**Q1) India's nuclear submarines are primarily based at which of the following ports?**

1. Visakhapatnam
2. Karwar
3. Mumbai

**Select the correct answer:**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) All of the above

**Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only**

**Q1) Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** SSBNs are primarily intended for nuclear deterrence.

**Statement II:** SSNs are capable of carrying ballistic missiles.

- (a) Only I is correct
- (b) Only II is correct
- (c) Both I and II are correct
- (d) Neither I nor II is correct

**Answer: (a) Only I is correct**

#### 5. Directive to Address Gender Disparity in Organ Donations

**Why in news:** The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) has released a new advisory to address gender disparity in organ transplantation. Despite women forming the majority of organ donors, men disproportionately benefit as recipients.

**What has NOTTO said about organ donations to women? | Explained** 

What does data say about organ donations with respect to men and women? Is there a gender disparity?

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding organ donation in Karnataka:**

1. Karnataka was among the first states in India to implement a state-level organ transplant coordination program under NOTTO.
2. Bangalore has the first registered hospital in Karnataka to perform deceased organ transplants.
3. Karnataka has launched awareness programs like "Gift Life" to promote organ donation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

**Options:**

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

**Answer: (d) 1, 2, and 3**

**23 & 24 AUG 2025**

1. SC directs political parties to help excluded voters in Bihar's electoral roll revision
2. GST Council's 56th Meeting
3. India-China Border Trade via Lipulekh Pass
4. Great Nicobar Island Project
5. Exercise Samanvay Shakti 2025
6. Huntington's Disease yet to be included under National Policy for Rare Diseases
7. Vision of a Tobacco-Free India
8. Brain Injury.

**1. SC directs political parties to help excluded voters in Bihar's electoral roll revision**

**Why in news:** The Supreme Court has directed political parties in Bihar to assist the Election Commission (EC) in ensuring inclusion of voters left out of the electoral roll during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise

## Supreme Court ropes in political parties to help ECI return Bihar's excluded voters to electoral roll

With Aadhaar added to the accepted list of documents for identity and address proof, ECI may need to examine extending deadline beyond September 1 if there is an overwhelming response from excluded voters, SC says

### Q1. Assertion-Reason Type:

**Assertion (A):** The Election Commission of India can extend the term of a State Assembly under certain circumstances.

**Reason (R):** The Constitution permits the Election Commission to postpone elections in emergencies such as natural disasters or war.

- (A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A  
(B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A  
(C) A is true, R is false  
(D) A is false, R is true

**Answer:** A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A

### Q2. Which of the following constitutional amendments directly impacted the powers of the Election Commission?

1. 73rd Amendment
2. 61st Amendment
3. 52nd Amendment

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 and 3 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2, and 3

**Answer:** D) 1, 2, and 3

**Explanation:**

- 73rd: Panchayati Raj elections under EC supervision.
- 61st: Voting age lowered, increasing EC responsibilities.
- 52nd: Anti-defection law impacting EC role in disqualification of legislators.

### 3. GST Council's 56th Meeting

**Why in news:** The GST Council is scheduled to hold its 56th meeting in Delhi on September 3–4, 2025. Ahead of it, the officers' meeting will take place on September 2.

### 1. Consider the following statements regarding the voting pattern in the GST Council:

1. Each State has one vote irrespective of its population.
2. The Union Finance Minister has one-third weight, and the States collectively have two-thirds weight.
3. A decision can be taken if it has the support of at least 75% of weighted votes.

**Which of the statements are correct?**

**Options:**

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (B) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Voting in the GST Council is **weighted**, not equal per State. The Union Finance Minister has **one-third weight**, and the States collectively have **two-thirds weight**. A decision requires **at least 75% of weighted votes** (ensuring larger States influence decisions).

**2. If a State decides not to implement a recommendation of the GST Council regarding tax rates, which of the following statements is correct?**

- (A) The State will be violating the Constitution and may face legal action.
- (B) The State has complete discretion, as GST Council recommendations are advisory.
- (C) The Union can override the State decision by issuing a notification.
- (D) The State's decision requires ratification by Parliament.

**Answer: (B) The State has complete discretion, as GST Council recommendations are advisory.**

**Explanation:** GST Council recommendations are **not binding**, so a State technically can diverge. However, politically and fiscally, non-implementation is discouraged.

**3. India–China Border Trade via Lipulekh Pass**

**Why in news:** India and China recently decided to restart border trade through the **Lipulekh Pass** in Uttarakhand. Nepal has raised objections, stating that the pass lies in the **Kalapani–Lipulekh–Limpiyadhura region**, which Nepal claims as its territory.

## India-China border trade through Lipu Lekh 'unexpected and unacceptable' to Nepal, says former Nepali Foreign Minister

Nepal to send diplomatic note, claims the **Kalapani-Lipu Lekh-Limpiyadhura region** as its **sovereign territory**; such claims not justified, says MEA; plans for Nepali PM to visit India still on track



**1. Which of the following passes are located along the India-China border in Arunachal Pradesh?**

1. Bum La Pass
2. Nathu La Pass
3. Walong Pass
4. Lipulekh Pass

**Options:**

- (A) 1, and 3 only
- (B) 2 and 4 only
- (C) 1 and 2 only
- (D) All of the above

**Answer: (A) 1 and 3 only**

**2. Which of the following statements regarding Nathu La Pass is correct?**

1. It is located in Sikkim.
2. It is on the ancient Silk Route connecting India and Tibet.
3. It is currently closed for trade.

**Options:**

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) All of the above

**Answer: (A) 1 and 2 only**

**Note:** Nathu La was reopened for trade in 2006 after being closed since the 1962 war.

#### 4. Great Nicobar Island Project

**Why in news :** The Great Nicobar Tribal Council has alleged that the Andaman & Nicobar Islands administration falsely certified in 2022 that rights under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 were "identified and settled," leading to forest clearances for the ₹72,000-crore



## A project of a strategic and national importance

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The decision to develop Great Nicobar Island has been taken after due consideration of its ecological, social and strategic aspects

**1.The Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve includes which of the following ecosystems?**

1. Tropical evergreen forests
2. Mangroves
3. Coral reefs

Options:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

**Answer: D) All of the above**

**2. Consider the following statements regarding the voting pattern in the GST Council:**

- 1)The Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve contains tropical evergreen forests, mangroves, and coral reefs.
- 2)Nicobar Megapode and Leatherback Turtles are species protected under the reserve.
- 3)The biosphere reserve is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site network.

Question: Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) All of the above

**Answer: D) All of the above**

### 5. Exercise Samanvay Shakti 2025

**Why in news :** The Indian Army, in collaboration with Assam and Manipur state administrations, has launched **Exercise Samanvay Shakti 2025** at Laipuli, Tinsukia district, Assam.

The Exercise Samanvay Shakti 2025 was inaugurated at Laipuli, in Tinsukia district of Assam.

- Exercise Samanvay Shakti is initiated by Indian Army collaboration with state officials of Assam & Manipur to foster efficient cooperation, cohesion and mutual understanding.

## 6. Huntington's Disease yet to be included under National Policy for Rare Diseases

**Why in news :** Despite repeated demands from patients and caregivers, both Union and State governments have not yet included Huntington's Disease (HD) in the rare disease category under the National Policy for Rare Diseases, 2021.

## Huntington's Disease Society of India calls for urgent government action for inclusion under National Rare Diseases Policy

The first meeting of the task force, which has been formed to discuss the action plan for HD, dementia and other neurodegenerative disorders, will be held on August 25

## 7. Vision of a Tobacco-Free India

- According to 2017 estimates, the annual economic costs of all tobacco products for the population aged 35 years and above in India were estimated at ₹1,773.4 billion (1.04% of GDP).
- This is in addition to ₹566.7 billion (0.33% of GDP) in annual healthcare costs attributable to second-hand smoking.
- These costs include direct medical and non-medical expenditures, morbidity and mortality losses.
- As tobacco use in India causes enormous health and economic burden, there is an urgent need to review and strengthen India's tobacco control framework to realise the vision of a tobacco-free India.

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## 8. Brain Injury.

- ICMR has launched CEREBO, an indigenous portable device for rapid, radiation-free diagnosis of traumatic brain injuries, aiming to improve emergency and rural healthcare access.

25<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025

- 1.130th Constitutional Amendment Bill – Removal of Ministers on Arrest & Detention
2. Export Promotion Mission
3. Ukraine Attacks Russian Nuclear Plant
4. Nagaland Tribes Boycott Governor's Swearing-in
5. DRDO successfully tests multi-layered air defence system
6. ISRO to launch three NavIC satellites by 2026
7. ISRO Successfully Tests Parachute Systems

### 1.130th Constitutional Amendment Bill – Removal of Ministers on Arrest & Detention

**Why in news :** The Government introduced the 130th Constitutional Amendment Bill proposing automatic removal of Union/State Ministers, including the PM and CMs, if they are arrested and detained for 30 consecutive days in offences punishable with 5 years or more imprisonment.

## What is the new Bill to remove PM, CM and Ministers? | Explained

What does the 130th Constitutional Amendment Bill state? Is there scope for misuse?

### Q1) Consider the following statements:

1. A Constitutional Amendment Bill can be introduced only with the prior approval of the President.
2. It must be passed in each House of Parliament by a special majority.
3. There is no provision for a joint sitting in case of disagreement between the two Houses.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 and 3 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer:** (B) 2 and 3 only

**Explanation:**

- Prior approval of the President is **not required** to introduce a Constitutional Amendment Bill.
- It must be passed by a **special majority** in each House.
- There is **no joint sitting** if the Houses disagree.

## 2. Export Promotion Mission

**Why in news:** The Government of India is planning to provide a ₹25,000 crore package for exporters through the **Export Promotion Mission (2025–2031)**, aimed at enhancing India's global trade competitiveness and integrating with Global Value Chains (GVCs).

**Indian exporters get support under new EPM scheme:  
Government plans Rs25,000 crore package; launch two  
new programs to curb tariff impact**

**Q1) The two sub-schemes under the Export Promotion Mission being considered are:**

- (A) "Niryat Protsahan" and "Niryat Disha"
- (B) "Make in India Plus" and "Global Export Outreach"
- (C) "MSME Export Ready" and "Digital Export Platform"
- (D) "Trade Facilitation Hub" and "Export Credit Booster"

**Answer:** (A) "Niryat Protsahan" and "Niryat Disha"

**Niryat Protsahan:** This sub-scheme focuses on providing trade finance support, including interest equalisation, alternative financing options, and a credit card facility for e-commerce exporters to bridge liquidity gaps.

**Niryat Disha:** This sub-scheme aims at holistic market access and development, focusing on export quality compliance, overseas market development, branding, warehousing, logistics support, and capacity building to integrate Indian firms into global value chains.

## 3. Ukraine Attacks Russian Nuclear Plant

**Why in news:** Ukraine launched drone strikes on Russia, hitting the **Kursk Nuclear Power Plant** and sparking a fire at the **Ust-Luga fuel export terminal**. The incident comes amid renewed talk of peace negotiations but also reflects the continuing intensity of the Russia–Ukraine war

**Ukraine drone attack causes fire, capacity  
reduction at Russia's Kursk nuclear power plant**

There were no injuries, but as a result of the denotation, unit three of the plant was reduced to 50% capacity

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding materials used in nuclear technology:**

1. Zircaloy is used as cladding material for fuel rods because of its low neutron absorption.
2. Beryllium is used as both moderator and reflector in certain reactors.








3. Lead is commonly used as control material due to its ability to absorb neutrons.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 and 3 only  
(C) 1 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (A) 1 and 2 only**

**MATERIALS USED IN NUCLEAR REACTORS – AT A GLANCE**

Component	Purpose	Common Materials Used	Examples / Notes
 Fuel	Source of fission energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uranium-235, Uranium-238</li> <li>Plutonium-239</li> <li>Thorium-232</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UO<sub>2</sub>, air tolgns reactors</li> <li>BWR, PWR</li> </ul>
 Moderator	Slows down fast neutrons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy Water (D<sub>2</sub>O)</li> <li>Light Water (H<sub>2</sub>O)</li> <li>Graphite</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>H<sub>2</sub>O, 300 (India)</li> <li>BWR, PWR</li> <li>Fast reactor eacers</li> </ul>
 Coolant	Transfers heat from core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Light Water (H<sub>2</sub>O)</li> <li>Heavy Water (D<sub>2</sub>O)</li> <li>Liquid Sodium (Na)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PWR, BWR</li> <li>D<sub>2</sub>O, PHW</li> <li>CO<sub>2</sub>, Gas, Breeder or</li> </ul>
 Control Rods	Absorb excess neutrons to control reaction rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cadmium (Cd)</li> <li>Boron (B<sub>4</sub>C)</li> <li>Silver-Indium –Ca-dmium alloy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cd, B PHWR</li> <li>Ag-in-Cd PWR</li> </ul>
 Structural / Cladding Material	Holds fuel & core structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stainless Steel</li> <li>Zirconium Alloy (Zircaloy)</li> <li>Aluminium</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zircaloy, Fuel cladding</li> <li>Reactor vessel</li> </ul>
 Shielding	Protects from radiation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead (Pb), Concrete</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graphite, Thermal reac</li> <li>Beryllium, Fast react</li> </ul>
 Reflector	Reflects neutrons back to core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graphite, Beryllium</li> <li>Heavv Water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D<sub>2</sub>O, PHWR</li> </ul>

#### 4. Nagaland Tribes Boycott Governor's Swearing-in

**Why in news:** The apex bodies of five major Naga tribes in Nagaland — Angami, Ao, Lotha, Rengma, and Sumi — boycotted the gubernatorial swearing-in ceremony in Kohima.

## Five Nagaland tribes decline invitation to Governor's swearing-in

These tribes, considered advanced, are demanding a **review of the State's reservation policy for 10 other tribes**

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding Jhum cultivation:**

1. It is a form of shifting cultivation.
2. Practiced by tribes like Naga, Mizo, Khasi, and Garo.
3. It is widely found in the plains of Assam.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 and 3 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) All of the above



**Answer: (A) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:** Jhum is practiced in hilly regions by tribes. Bodos and other plains tribes in Assam practice settled agriculture, not Jhum.

**Q2) Which of the following tribes belong to Arunachal Pradesh?**

1. Adi
2. Nyishi
3. Apatani
4. Angami

**Select the correct answer:**

- (A) 1, 2 and 3 only  
(B) 2, 3 and 4 only  
(C) 1 and 4 only  
(D) All of the above

**Answer: (A) 1, 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:** Adi, Nyishi, and Apatani are major tribes of Arunachal Pradesh. Angami is a Naga tribe of Nagaland.

#### 5. DRDO successfully tests multi-layered air defence system

**Why in news:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) tested the Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS) off the Odisha coast.

### DRDO successfully tests multi-layered air defence system

During the flight tests, **three different targets**, including two high-speed fixed-wing Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and a multi-copter drone were simultaneously engaged and destroyed

**Q1) Which of the following are part of India's multi-layered air defense network?**

1. Akash missile system
2. Barak-8 missile system
3. S-400 Triumf missile system
4. BrahMos missile system

**Options:**

- (A) 1, 2, and 3 only  
(B) 1 and 4 only  
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only  
(D) All of the above

**correct answer is (A) 1, 2, and 3 only**

#### 6.ISRO to launch three NavIC satellites by 2026

**Why in news:** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) plans to strengthen India's indigenous satellite navigation system, NavIC, by launching three new satellites equipped with indigenously developed rubidium atomic clocks. This step is critical for India's strategic autonomy in navigation and timing services.

## Indigenous clocks delay ISRO's plans to replace defunct Navic satellites

**Q1) Consider the following navigation systems:**

An official says while the rubidium clocks are based on an indigenous design, there are key components that needs to be imported and this is contributing to procurement challenges and delays in commissioning

1. GPS – United States
2. GLONASS – Russia
3. Galileo – European Union
4. IRNSS/NavIC – India

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

**Options:**

- (A) 1, 2 and 3 only  
(B) 2, 3 and 4 only  
(C) 1, 2, 3 and 4  
(D) 1 and 4 only

**Answer: C (1, 2, 3 and 4)**

**Explanation:**

- GPS – USA, GLONASS – Russia, Galileo – EU, NavIC – India.
- All are **satellite-based regional or global navigation systems**

## 7. ISRO Successfully Tests Parachute Systems

**Why in news:** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully conducted parachute deployment tests for its **Gaganyaan mission**. These parachutes are crucial for ensuring a safe return of astronauts to Earth by slowing down the crew module during re-entry and landing.



**ISRO successfully tests parachute recovery system for Gaganyaan mission**

**Q1) Consider the following statements about Gaganyaan Mission:**

1. It is India's first human spaceflight program.
2. The mission will send astronauts to low Earth orbit (LEO) for 5–7 days.
3. The mission is led by ISRO with full operational support from NASA.

**Which of the statements are correct?**

**Answer: 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- Statement 3 is incorrect because NASA provides only **technical guidance**, ISRO leads the mission.

**26<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

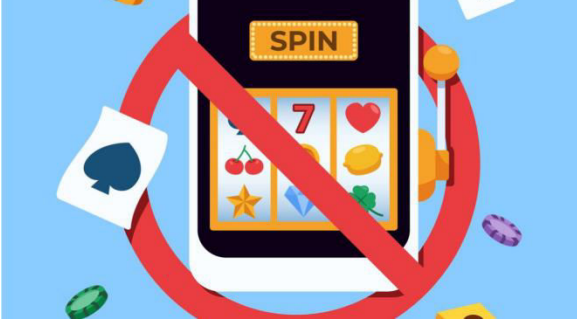
1. Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025
2. Government's new minimum export price on natural honey
3. India to Enhance Fiji's Maritime Security and Defence Cooperation
4. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve
5. Exercise Maitree 2025: India-Thailand Joint Military Exercise
6. INS Kadmat
7. INS Udaygiri and Himgiri

#### **1. Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025**

**Why in news:** The Indian Parliament passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, aimed at regulating online games by promoting e-sports and social gaming while banning real-money games (RMGs) and related advertisements, following rising concerns over financial losses, addiction, and unlawful activities in the RMG sector.

## **What does the new online gaming Act outline? | Explained**

**What has the World Health Organization said about Real Money Games? How are e-sports and social gaming segments different from online money games? What are the penalties laid out in the Act with respect to engaging with online money games? Has the Supreme Court intervened?**



## 2. Government's new minimum export price on natural honey

**Why in news:** The Union Government has revised the **Minimum Export Price (MEP)** for natural honey from **\$2,000 to \$1,400 per tonne** until the end of 2025. The move seeks to make Indian honey more competitive globally while safeguarding fair value for producers and exporters.

Govt cuts minimum export price on natural honey  
to **\$1,400 per tonne till Dec 31 this year**

### Q1. Consider the following statements regarding various types of culture:

1. Apiculture refers to the rearing of silkworms for silk production.
2. Sericulture refers to the rearing of honeybees for honey production.
3. Pisciculture refers to the breeding and rearing of fish.
4. Lac culture involves the cultivation of lac insects on host trees.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

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

Answer:

**(b) 3 and 4**

Explanation:

- **Apiculture:** Rearing of honeybees for honey and wax.
- **Sericulture:** Rearing of silkworms for silk.
- **Pisciculture:** Breeding and rearing of fish.
- **Lac culture:** Cultivation of lac insects (like *Kerria lacca*) on host trees to produce lac.

## 3. India to Enhance Fiji's Maritime Security and Defence Cooperation

**Why in news:** During the visit of Fijian Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka to India, PM Narendra Modi announced India's support to upgrade Fiji's maritime security and military capabilities, in line with the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative and regional cooperation goals.

## India, Fiji call for 'free, open' Indo-Pacific region, to deepen defence ties

Prime Minister Modi also said that India and Fiji support a free, inclusive, open, secure and prosperous India-Pacific

**Q1) Which of the following statements about the Ring of Fire is correct?**

1. It encircles the Pacific Ocean basin.
2. It has over 450 volcanoes, accounting for about 75% of the world's active volcanoes.
3. It is formed due to divergence of tectonic plates.

**Options:**

- A) 1 and 2 only  
B) 2 and 3 only  
C) 1 and 3 only  
D) All of the above

**Answer:**

A) 1 and 2 only

**Explanation:**

- The Ring of Fire is formed mainly due to **subduction (convergent) zones**, not divergence.
- It surrounds the **Pacific Ocean** and hosts most of the world's active volcanoes.



### 4. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

**Why in news:** A 12-year-old tigress, which had been unwell and roaming near the forest boundary in the Singara forest range, recently died in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR), Tamil Nadu.

## Sick tigress found dead in Singara forest range at Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

According to sources, the tigress was old and had lost its teeth, making it unable to hunt on its own.

**Q1) Which of the following tiger reserves is located in the Western Ghats?**



1. Bandipur
2. Periyar
3. Nagarhole
4. Satpura

**Options:**

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

**Answer: c) 1, 2, and 3 only**

**Q2) Which of the following tiger reserves is part of nilagiri biosphere reserve?**

1. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve
2. Bandipur Tiger Reserve
3. Nagarhole (Rajiv Gandhi) Tiger Reserve
4. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve
5. Periyar Tiger Reserve \

**Options:**

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1,2, 3,4 and 5

**Answer: c) 1, 2, 3,4 and 5**

**5. Exercise Maitree 2025: India-Thailand Joint Military Exercise**

**Why in news:** The 14th edition of **Exercise Maitree**, a joint military exercise between India and Thailand, is scheduled to be held in **Umroi, Meghalaya**, from **September 1 to 14, 2025**.

## India, Thailand Armies begin joint exercise in Meghalaya

**Aimed at enhancing interoperability and mutual understanding**, the exercise is part of the ongoing **military-to-military exchange programme** between the two nations

**Q1) consider the following statements regarding Yudh Abhyas 2025:**

1. It is a joint army exercise between India and the United States.
2. The exercise focuses on enhancing interoperability at brigade and battalion levels.
3. Yudh Abhyas is held annually in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

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

**Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

## 6. INS Kadmatt

**Why in news:** Indian Naval Ship **INS Kadmatt** recently completed a **three-day port call** at **Surabaya, Indonesia**, highlighting India's naval diplomacy and strengthening maritime ties with Southeast Asian nations.

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding Project 28 corvettes:**

- 1. They are indigenously designed and built in India.
- 2. Their primary role is anti-submarine warfare.
- 3. INS Kavaratti is the first ship commissioned under Project 28.

Which of the statements are correct?

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

**Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only** (Ships under project 28 -INS Kamorta

INS Kadmatt, INS Kiltan, INS Kavaratti )

## 7.INS Udaygiri and Himgiri

**Why in news:** Indian Navy inducted two indigenously built stealth frigates, Udaygiri and Himgiri, enhancing its maritime security, surveillance, and power projection capabilities in the Indo-Pacific.

## Two warships from 2 shipbuilders: Features and legacy of INS Udaygiri and INS Himgiri, now commissioned into the Indian Navy

With their range of versatile weapons and capabilities, **these ships can play a crucial role in anti-surface warfare, anti-air warfare, and anti-submarine warfare.**

**Q1: Consider the following statements regarding INS Udayagiri:**

- 1. It is a **Nilgiri-class stealth frigate** of the Indian Navy.
- 2. It was **commissioned in 2022.**
- 3. Its primary role is **surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, and anti-air warfare.**

Which of the statements is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (d) 1, 2, and 3

**Explanation:** INS Udayagiri is the first of the new-generation Nilgiri-class stealth frigates, commissioned in 2022, with a multi-role capability.

**27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

1. Judicial Review of Governors' Inaction on Bills
2. The import duty on cotton been suspended
3. River Tawi
4. National Designated Authority (NDA) for Carbon Market
5. Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-1) for Gaganyaan Mission
6. Energy Storage Systems (ESS) by 2032:

### 1. Judicial Review of Governors' Inaction on Bills

**Why in news:** The Supreme Court questioned the Centre and BJP-ruled States on whether the judiciary can review the Governor's prolonged inaction on Bills passed by State Legislatures. The issue arises amid disputes over Governors delaying or withholding assent to Bills under **Article 200** of the Constitution

## Supreme Court asks why judiciary can't review inaction of Governors on bills

"If the discretion exercised by a Governor under **Article 356** of the Constitution can be judicially reviewed, **why not the discretion under Article 200?**" Chief Justice Gavai responds to a submission made by the State of Maharashtra about the "wide" discretionary powers of Governors

**Q1. Consider the following statements:**

1. The Governor of a State is appointed by the President under Article 155.
2. The Governor holds office for a term of 5 years under Article 156.
3. The Governor can be removed only through impeachment by the Parliament.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only

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

**Answer:** (b) 1 and 2 only

**Explanation:**

- Article 155 → Appointment by President.
- Article 156(3) → 5-year term, but holds office during President's pleasure.
- **No impeachment** for Governor — can be removed anytime by President.

## 2. The import duty on cotton been suspended

**Why in news:** The Central Government has **suspended the 11% import duty on cotton** until **September 30, 2025**, to address the crisis caused by declining domestic cotton production and to support the textile industry.

# Why has the import duty on cotton been suspended? | Explained

When was the levy first introduced? Has cotton production been declining in the country?

**Q1 ) With reference to Tobacco cultivation, consider the following statements:**

1. Tobacco is a Kharif commercial crop.
2. It can be grown on all types of soils but requires moderate rainfall.
3. Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are major producers.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

**Answer:** (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Explanation:** Tobacco is a Kharif crop mainly in southern and western India. Requires 20–30°C and moderate rainfall.

**Q2) Consider the following statements regarding Cotton cultivation in India:**

1. Cotton is a Kharif crop grown mainly in black soil regions.
2. It requires high temperature and light rainfall during the growing period.
3. India is the largest producer and exporter of cotton in the world.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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



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(c) 2 and 3 only

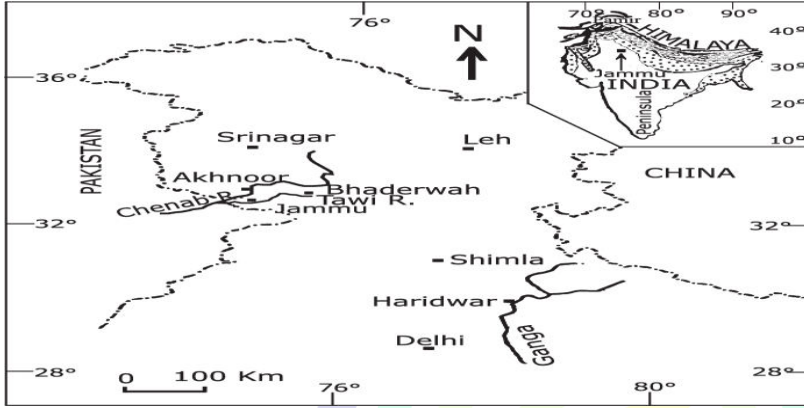
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer:** (a) 1 and 2 only

**Explanation:** Cotton is a Kharif crop needing 21–30°C and moderate rainfall. It grows best in black cotton (Regur) soil. India is among the top producers but not the largest exporter (China/US lead).

### 3 .River Tawi

**Why in news:** India recently issued a forewarning to Pakistan, as a “humanitarian gesture,” about a potential flood in the **Tawi River**, which flows into Pakistan after passing through Jammu & Kashmir.



**Q1)Consider the following rivers:**

1. Chenab
2. Sutlej
3. Ravi
4. Jhelum

**Which of the above rivers are Western rivers under the Indus Water Treaty?**

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

**Answer:** (a) 1 and 4 only → **Chenab and Jhelum**

### 4.National Designated Authority (NDA) for Carbon Market

**Why in news:** The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has set up a **National Designated Authority (NDA)** as required under **Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement (2015)** to enable India's participation in international carbon markets.



## Environment Ministry finalises National Designated Authority to kickstart carbon markets

Within the Paris Agreement, a section called Article 6 defines the contours under which such an emissions trading regime, or a market, can take shape; Article 6 was passed at COP29 in Baku last year

### Q1) Consider the following statements regarding India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement:

1. India has set a target to achieve **40% of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030.**
2. India aims to **reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33–35% by 2030 from 2005 levels.**
3. India has committed to **creating an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through afforestation by 2030.**
4. India's NDCs include a plan to **phase out all coal-based power plants by 2030.**

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer: (a) 1, 2, and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- India's NDCs focus on **renewable energy expansion, emission intensity reduction, and increasing forest carbon sinks.**
- India **has not committed to phasing out all coal-based power plants**; coal remains a part of its energy mix for a transition period.

### Q2) Consider the following statements regarding India's updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) announced at the Glasgow COP26 Summit (2021):

1. India aims to achieve **50% of its total energy capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030.**
2. India plans to reduce **carbon intensity of its GDP by 45% by 2030 from 2005 levels.**
3. India targets **net zero carbon emissions by 2070.**
4. India intends to create an additional **carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through forests and tree cover by 2030.**

Which of the statements given above are correct?



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

**Answer: (c) 1, 2, 3, and 4**

**Explanation:**

- At **Glasgow COP26 (2021)**, India updated its NDCs:
  - **50% non-fossil energy capacity** by 2030.
  - **Reduce carbon intensity of GDP by 45%** by 2030 (from 2005 levels).
  - **Achieve net-zero emissions by 2070.**
  - **Enhance carbon sinks** by 2.5–3 billion tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through afforestation.
- These commitments build on India's earlier Paris Agreement targets and emphasize renewable energy, energy efficiency, and forest conservation.

### 5. Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-1) for Gaganyaan Mission

**Why in news:** ISRO successfully conducted the **Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-1)** on August 24, 2025, to validate the parachute-based deceleration system for safe recovery of the Gaganyaan crew module

## What is IADT-1, the Gaganyaan test ISRO conducted on August 24? | Explained

By the time the first human flight of Gaganyaan has happened, ISRO will have conducted several thousand tests



### 6. Energy Storage Systems (ESS) by 2032:

**Why in news:** A report by the **India Energy & Climate Centre** highlights that India requires **\$50 billion investment in Energy Storage Systems (ESS) by 2032** to support its clean energy goals, including achieving **500 GW non-fossil power capacity by 2030.**

**Q1) Consider the following statements regarding the leading producer states of renewable energy in India:**

1. Rajasthan is the leading state in solar energy production.
2. Himachal Pradesh is the leading state in hydroelectric power generation.

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**CONTACT: 8050709380 [www.nammaforesight.com](http://www.nammaforesight.com)**

3. Tamil Nadu is the leading state in wind energy production.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (d) 1, 2, and 3

**Explanation:**

- **Solar Energy:** Rajasthan has the highest installed capacity of solar energy due to high solar insolation and large desert areas.
- **Hydroelectric Energy:** Himachal Pradesh leads in hydroelectric power generation because of its hilly terrain and river systems suitable for hydropower projects.
- **Wind Energy:** Tamil Nadu is the leading state in wind energy, having the highest installed wind power capacity, especially in regions like Muppandal and Kanyakumari.

**29<sup>th</sup> AUG 2025**

1. Tamil Nadu Challenges Governor's Role in SC
2. Sectors Bearing the Brunt of U.S. Tariffs
3. Punatsangchhu-II Hydroelectric Project
4. Gorumara National Park
5. Pre-test for Census 2027
6. Nearly 60% of MGNREGS Budget Already Spent in First 5 Months of FY 2025-26

**1. Tamil Nadu Challenges Governor's Role in SC**

**Why in news:** Tamil Nadu argued before the Supreme Court that the Governor cannot function as a "super Chief Minister" and must respect the primacy of the elected State government and its Cabinet in governance.

## TN Government challenges Presidential Reference in SC, calls it 'headless and devoid of merits'

Earlier on 22 July, the Supreme Court had agreed to examine President Droupadi Murmu's reference containing 14 questions concerning the timelines prescribed by the Court.

**Q1) "Which of the following are discretionary powers of the Governor of a State in India? Explain with reference to constitutional provisions."**

1. Sending a report to the President for imposing President's Rule in the state
2. Appointing Ministers in the state cabinet
3. Reserving certain bills passed by the State Legislature for consideration of the President of India
4. Making rules for conducting the business of the State Government

**Select the correct answer:**

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

**The correct answer is b) 1 and 3 only.**

- The Governor has discretionary power to **send a report to the President recommending the imposition of President's Rule** in case of failure of constitutional machinery in the state (Article 356).
- The Governor can **reserve certain bills passed by the State Legislature for the President's consideration** (Article 200).
- Appointing ministers is done by the Governor, but on the advice of the Chief Minister and is **not a discretionary power**.
- Making rules for conducting the business of the State Government is an executive function, not a discretionary power of the Governor.

## 2. Sectors Bearing the Brunt of U.S. Tariffs

**Why in news:** On August 27, 2025, the U.S. imposed 50% tariffs on Indian imports, severely affecting labour-intensive export sectors where the U.S. is a major market

## Which sectors are worst hit by U.S. tariffs?

**Premium**

How high are the new U.S. tariffs on Indian exports? Which sectors are likely to feel the most pain? What has been the immediate **impact on shrimp, textiles, and jewellery**? Which sectors are likely to face only a modest impact? **What short-term support is the government planning?**

**Q1) With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), consider the following statements:**

1. The scheme was launched in the year 2020.
2. It is implemented over a period of five years from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25.
3. The scheme aims to double fish production in India within this period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**a) 1 and 2 only**

Explanation:

- The PMMSY was launched in the year 2020 (Statement 1 is correct).
- It is envisaged to be implemented over five years from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 (Statement 2 is correct).
- While the scheme aims at significantly increasing fish production, the specific target is to increase production from around 137 lakh metric tons to about 220 lakh metric tons; the phrase "doubling" is more commonly attributed to other schemes like the Doubling Farmers' Income scheme, not explicitly stated for fish production goals in PMMSY (Statement 3 is not fully accurate).

### 3. Punatsangchhu-II Hydroelectric Project

**Why in news:** The 1020 MW Punatsangchhu-II Hydroelectric Project in Bhutan has been completed with the synchronization of its last unit (Unit 6 – 170 MW) to the power grid. The project significantly boosts Bhutan's energy generation capacity and deepens India–Bhutan hydro-power cooperation.

**Q) Which of the following Indian states share a border with Bhutan?**

- a) Sikkim, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Sikkim, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya
- c) Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland
- d) Sikkim, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura

Answer:

a) Sikkim, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh; Assam has the longest border with Bhutan (approximately 267 km).

### 4. Gorumara National Park

**Why in news:** The population of one-horned rhinos at Gorumara National Park, West Bengal, has risen with the recent birth of two calves, indicating successful conservation efforts.

**Q1) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros is listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red List.
2. It is the only rhino species found in India.



**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: c) Both 1 and 2.**

### 5. Pre-test for Census 2027

**Why in news:** The Registrar-General and Census Commissioner of India (RGI) will conduct a pre-test for the upcoming Census 2027 in October–November, which will be India's first **digital** and **caste-inclusive** census since Independence

**Q1) Consider the following statements with reference to the Census of India:**

1. The first all-India synchronous population census was conducted in 1881.
2. The Census of India is conducted under the Census Act of 1948.
3. The Census of India is constitutionally mandated to be conducted every ten years.



**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

- The first synchronous all-India census was indeed conducted in 1881 under the British colonial administration.
- The Census of India is conducted under the legal framework of the Census Act of 1948.



- However, while the Census is conducted every ten years as a regular practice, there is no constitutional mandate for a decennial frequency; the timing or periodicity is not specified in the Constitution.

## 6. Nearly 60% of MGNREGS Budget Already Spent in First 5 Months of FY 2025-26

**Why in news:** Nearly 60% of the annual allocation for MGNREGS (₹86,000 crore) has been spent within the first five months of FY 2025-26, raising concerns of funding shortages for the rest of the year.

### Nearly 60% of MGNREGS budget already spent in first 5 months of financial year

The Finance Ministry has capped spending under the programme at 60% of its annual allocation for the first half of the financial year 2025-26; the government will be left with ₹79 crore under the programme for September

#### Q1) Consider the following statements about the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA):

1. It provides a legal guarantee of at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every adult member of a rural household willing to do unskilled manual work.
2. The Act applies to all rural districts of India except Union Territories.
3. Wages under MGNREGA are linked to the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a) 1 only

- MGNREGA guarantees 100 days of employment to rural households.
- It covers all rural districts including Union Territories.
- Wages are linked to the Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL), not CPI-IW.

30 & 31<sup>st</sup> AUG 2025

1. Kerala opposes proposed GST hike on lottery tickets to 40%
2. Godavari River Crosses First Flood Warning Level
3. PM Modi's Remarks on India–China Relations
4. Bird flu hits Delhi zoo
5. E-20 Fuel
6. Mela Patt Festival
7. Purple Notice
8. Adi Vaani.

#### 1. Kerala opposes proposed GST hike on lottery tickets to 40%

**Why in news:** Kerala has strongly opposed the GST Council's proposal to increase GST on lottery tickets from 28% to 40%, citing serious implications for state-run lotteries, agents, and welfare schemes funded through lottery proceeds.

## Drop move to hike GST on lottery, says Kerala

Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal says move to hike GST on lottery tickets from 28% to 40% will have serious consequences for over two lakh lottery agents, vendors and their families

**Q1) With reference to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council as provided in the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:**

1. The GST Council is a constitutional body established under Article 279A of the Constitution of India.
2. The Union Finance Minister is the Chairperson of the GST Council.
3. Every decision of the GST Council requires the approval of the President of India before implementation.
4. The GST Council makes recommendations to the Union and the States on issues related to GST rates, exemptions, and model laws.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only**

## 2. Godavari River Crosses First Flood Warning Level

**Why in news:** The Irrigation Department officials in Andhra Pradesh issued the first flood warning for the Godavari river as water level at Bhadrachalam in Telangana crossed 44 feet. Due to heavy rainfall in catchment areas, water levels are rising, prompting evacuation measures and deployment of disaster response teams.



**Q1. Which of the following rivers are tributaries of the Godavari River?**

1. Pranhita
2. Indravati
3. Manjira
4. Bhima

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer:** (a) 1, 2 and 3 only

**Explanation:** Bhima is a tributary of the Krishna River, not the Godavari. Pranhita, Indravati, and Manjira are major tributaries of the Godavari.

## 3. PM Modi's Remarks on India-China Relations

**Why in news:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his Japan visit, emphasized the need for India and China to work together to bring stability to the world economic order. He also highlighted India's readiness to advance bilateral ties with China from a strategic and long-term perspective.

## Modi says India, China must work together for global stability, vows long-term approach to ties

*In an interview with Japanese daily Yomiuri Shimbun, Modi said India is ready to advance its bilateral ties with China from a long-term strategic perspective rooted in mutual respect, interest, and sensitivity.*

**Q1) Consider the following statements about Pangong Tso Lake:**

1. It is a saltwater lake located partly in India and partly in China.
2. The Line of Actual Control passes through this lake.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

**Explanation:**

- Pangong Tso is a high-altitude saltwater lake extending from India (Ladakh) to China (Tibet).
- The LAC passes through the lake.

**Q2) Consider the following statements about the India–China border:**

1. India shares its longest international border with China.
2. The total length of the India–China border is about 3,323 km.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (d) ) Neither 1 nor 2**

**Explanation:**

- India's longest border is with Bangladesh(4096km), not China.
- The India–China border length is approximately 3,488 km with Pakistan 3323km, Bhutan 699km, Nepal 1751km, Myanmar 1643km,

#### 4. Bird flu hits Delhi zoo

**Why in news:** The Delhi zoo was closed after an avian influenza outbreak was confirmed, following the deaths of painted storks and black-necked ibises. Authorities imposed strict bio-security and containment protocols.

## Delhi Zoo shut for visitors after painted storks test positive for bird flu

Samples from the two dead birds were sent to the National Institute for High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD) in Bhopal on August 27. They tested positive for H5N1 on August 28, they said

**Q1) Which of the following statements correctly differentiates between H1N1 and H5N1?**

- (a) H1N1 is primarily a human virus, H5N1 primarily a bird virus
- (b) H1N1 spreads easily among humans, H5N1 does not

- (c) H5N1 has a higher fatality rate than H1N1  
(d) All of the above

**Answer:** (d) All of the above

**Explanation:** All are true — H1N1 spreads easily among humans, while H5N1 causes severe disease but limited human transmission.

**Q2) Consider the following diseases:**

1. Dengue
2. Chikungunya
3. Japanese Encephalitis
4. Zika

**Which of the above are transmitted by *Aedes* mosquitoes?**

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

**Answer:** (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

**Explanation:** Dengue, Chikungunya, and Zika are transmitted by *Aedes aegypti*; Japanese Encephalitis is spread by *Culex* mosquitoes.

## 5. E-20 Fuel

India's auto industry lobby has said that carmakers will continue to honour warranties even if older vehicles, not originally designed for higher ethanol fuels, use E20 fuel, Reuters reported recently.

## India's Journey of Ethanol Blending

- With several countries widely adopting ethanol blending, India's journey towards achieving ethanol-blended petrol began in 2003, when the Government of India officially launched its Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme.
- Since then, the ethanol blending in India has come a long way, achieving a 10% ethanol blend target in 2021-22, which was further increased to 12.06% in 2022-23, 14.06% in 2023-24, and 20% in July 2025, which was initially set to be achieved by 2030.

## 6. Mela Patt Festival

Recently, in Jammu and Kashmir the annual three-day Mela Patt festival started in Doda district.

- It is dedicated to Lord Vasuki Nag, the presiding deity of Bhaderwah Valley.
- **History:** The festival, rooted in the Nag culture, marks the historic meeting between Mughal Emperor Akbar and King Nag Pal of Bhaderwah.
- The festival has been celebrated since the 16th century.







3. It has been developed by a consortium involving IIT Delhi.

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

**Answer:** (c) 1 and 3 only.

- Aadivaani is indeed an AI-based translator for tribal languages.
- It does **more than just English–Hindi**; it translates tribal languages (e.g., Gondi, Santali, Mundari, Bhili, etc.). It was developed by a consortium led by **IIT Delhi**, along with BITS Pilani, IIIT Naya Raipur, etc.



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