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July Month



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AIR 587- UPSC CSE 2023

Founder and Mentor

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1. Saving Soil, Securing Farms: Beneath Every Harvest Lies Healthy Soil

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Agriculture, E-tech, Conservation)

Relevance

Soil is a strategic national resource supporting **59%** of India's reported land under agriculture; its sustainable management is vital for rural livelihoods, food security, and achieving SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and 13 (Climate Action).

Overview

1. India is transitioning to modern, scientific soil management to preserve its diverse agro-climatic soil profiles (Alluvial, Black, Red, Laterite, etc.) and boost climate resilience.
2. National efforts are integrating balanced nutrient applications, natural farming, and digital/geospatial technologies to ensure long-term agricultural sustainability.

Key Aspects

1. **Soil Health & Balanced Nutrition:** 25.89cr cards issued; crop-specific advisories, while the *Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)* ensures Aadhaar-linked PoS-tracked balanced fertiliser use.
2. **Climate-Resilient & Natural Farming:** The *National Mission on Natural Farming* (expanded to **18,786 clusters)** utilizes Bio-input Resource Centres (providing Jeevamrit), while the *Green India Mission* enhances soil organic carbon sinks.
3. **Digital Soil Ecosystem:** Under the *Digital Agriculture Mission*, *AgriStack* 7.63cr Farmer IDs; links land+soil data, and the Krishi Decision Support System (KDSS) provides AI-driven, location-specific advisories.
4. **Public Outreach & Mapping:** The *Khet Bachao Abhiyan* (led by ICAR/DA&FW) engaged over **1cr+ farmers engaged to cut chemical use** while the Soil and Land Use Survey of India (SLUSI) is generating high-resolution soil profile maps.





Significance

1. **Economic & Agricultural Resilience:** Significantly reduces input costs for farmers and improves plant health.**Example** - a Jharkhand farmer saved Rs.720/acre while increasing paddy yield
2. **Climate Change Mitigation:** Enhances the soil's capacity to act as a natural carbon sink, supporting carbon farming and enabling farmers to earn alternative income via the *Carbon Credit Trading Scheme*.

Keywords
Soil Health Card, Khet Bachao Abhiyan, AgriStack, Krishi Decision Support System (KDSS), Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS), Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, SLUSI.

PYQ

1. "How did land reforms in some parts of the country help to improve the socio-economic conditions of marginal and small farmers?" — 2021, GS-III
2. "What are the present challenges before crop diversification? How do emerging technologies provide an opportunity for crop diversification?" — 2021, GS-III

2. India–UK CETA : Strengthening Bilateral Trade and Investment

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Bilateral Agreements) & GS-III (Trade)

Relevance

- Deepens bilateral trade and investment by securing zero-duty access on nearly 99% of India's exports safeguarding sensitive domestic sectors through calibrated tariffs, and expanding professional mobility.

Overview

- The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is a landmark framework signed to enhance market access, tariff concessions, and service commitments.
- It builds upon strong bilateral foundations, where merchandise trade reached $25.12 billion and services trade touched $35.44 billion.



Key Aspects

1. **Export Competitiveness & Tariff Elimination:** Grants India 100% trade-value zero-duty; 4–16% savings for MSMEs/textiles/gems while protecting sensitive agricultural and industrial sectors via phased 5-to-10-year reductions.
2. **Expanded Services & Professional Mobility:** all 12 sectors covered; MRAs for nursing, accountancy, architecture (12 months).
3. **Social Security Relief (DCC):** dual social security waived up to 60 months; 75,000+ professionals; $600mn/yr saved
4. **Strategic Industry Safeguards & Quotas:** Manages trade sensitivities through structured quotas (e.g., 37,000 passenger vehicle CBUs with delayed EV entry) and expanded steel quotas under the Authorised Use Scheme (AUS).
5. **Digital Trade & Privacy-Secured Frameworks:** single-window + and Authorised Operator (AEO) frameworks while embedding provisions for inclusive, sustainable, and tech-agnostic growth.

Significance



1. **Empowers Key Stakeholders:** Boosts incomes for farmers, fisherfolk, and forest-dependent communities, while driving labor-intensive manufacturing and women-led MSME participation.

2. **Deepens Strategic & Technological Ties:** Shifts the UK-India economic engagement from a low-cost back-office model to a strategic partnership spanning R&D, Global Capability Centres (GCCs), and fintech.

Keywords

India-UK CETA, Double Contribution Convention (DCC), Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs), Unified Health Interface equivalents, Authorised Use Scheme (AUS).

PYQ

1. What are the challenges facing the Indian economy when the world is moving away from free trade and multilateralism to protectionism and bilateralism? How can these challenges be met? — 2025, GS-III

2. "The West is fostering India as an alternative to reduce dependence on China's supply chain and as a strategic ally to counter China's political and economic dominance. Explain this statement with examples."-2025, GS-II

3. India's first Hydrogen-powered train : Advancing Green Rail Mobility

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Infrastructure, Energy, Indigenisation)

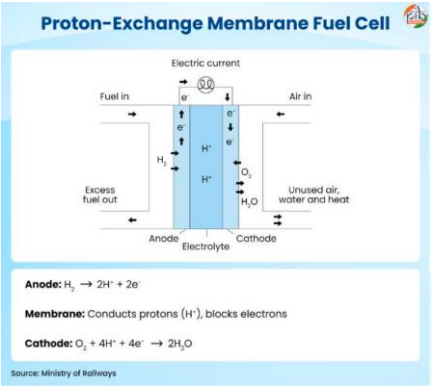
Relevance

Demonstrates the feasibility of clean and sustainable rail transportation, directly advancing India's National Green Hydrogen Mission and net-zero carbon emission goals.

Overview

India's first indigenous hydrogen-powered train was inaugurated on July 17, 2026, operating as a pilot initiative on the Jind-Sonipat section of the Northern Railway.

India = 5th country (after Germany, Japan, China, US)



Key Aspects

1. **Indigenous Train Design:** The 10-car trainset (2,600 passenger capacity, 110 kmph design speed) was developed entirely in India based on Research, Design & Standards Organisation (RDSO) specifications.

2. **PEMFC Propulsion Technology:** Utilizes Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cells - H_2+O_2----->electricity (only water/heat byproduct) utilizing hydrogen's high energy density (120 MJ/Kg vs diesel's 43 MJ/Kg).

3. **Dedicated Refueling Infrastructure:** The country's largest hydrogen facility at Jind stores~3,000 kg capacity, PESO-licensed, TÜV SÜD-certified

4. **Comprehensive Safety Framework**: automated cut-offs, leak/flame detectors, dedicated Shakurbasti (Delhi) maintenance hub

Significance

1. **Zero-Emission Transport:** Transitions railways from fossil fuel dependence to the cleanest available propulsion technology with a highly manageable carbon footprint.
2. **Institutional Capacity Building:** Validates complex technologies, maintenance practices, and safety protocols required to scale up hydrogen-powered mobility across the wider railway network.

Keywords

High energy fuel, carbon footprint, PEMFC, RDSO, PESO,net-zero carbon emission, modernization of railways, National Green Hydrogen Mission, Atmanirbhar Bharat.

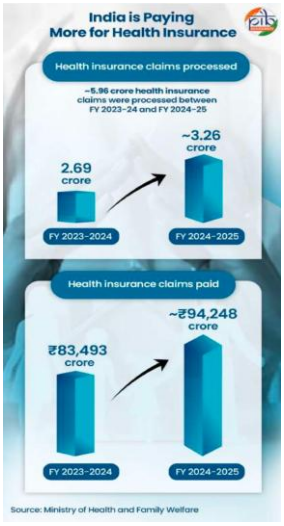
PYQ

1. Explain the key challenges for India's energy security. What measures do you suggest for ensuring energy security along with economic growth and sustainability? — 2026, GS-III
2. The adoption of electric vehicles is rapidly growing worldwide. How do electric vehicles contribute to reducing carbon emissions and what are the key benefits they offer compared to traditional combustion engine vehicles? — 2023, GS III

4. India leads the Wilderness in Tiger Conservation : Protecting tigers, preserving ecosystems

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Conservation) Relevance

Protecting tigers as an apex predator strengthens overall biodiversity conservation, enhances ecological security, and sustains ecosystem services vital for sustainable development.



Overview

India has emerged as a global conservation leader, now home to nearly **70%** of the world's wild tigers (population reached **3,682** in the 2022 estimation).

Driven by the 2010 St. Petersburg "Tx2" goal to double populations, India's success stems from science-based policies, robust governance, and tech-driven monitoring.

Key Aspects

1. **Robust Governance Architecture:** Centralized funding and statutory oversight are integrated with state-level execution
   Example - Project Tiger manages 58 reserves, 18 states; NTCA chaired by Union Environment Minister
2. **Tech-Driven Biodiversity Monitoring**: Continuous evaluation relies on massive, digitized data collection and AI
   Example - The All India Tiger Estimation utilizes M-STrIPES (GPS tracking) + CaTRAT (AI

camera-trap ID)

3. **Landscape-Based Management:** Conservation strategies balance strict core protection with sustainable buffers and wildlife corridors
   Example -23 reserves CA|TS-certified , driven by rigorous Management Effectiveness Evaluations.
4. **International Conservation Leadership:** India spearheads transboundary cooperation and global coalitions for large felines
   Example - launching 95-country IBCA (7 species); hosts Global Tiger Forum



Significance

- **Ecological Umbrella Species**: By protecting tiger habitats, India preserves forests that regulate water, conserve soil, support pollination, and reduce disaster risks.
- **Cultural & National Identity:** Deeply rooted in India's heritage and declared the National Animal in 1972, the Royal Bengal Tiger symbolizes the nation's shared ecological wealth.

Way Forward

Secure connected, climate-resilient tiger landscapes that can sustainably support both wildlife and local human populations.

Continue investing in data-driven monitoring, technology-enabled protection, and the capacity building of frontline forest staff.

Keywords

St.Petersburg Summit, Project Tiger, NTCA, Tx2 Goal, M-STrIPES, CaTRAT, International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), Global Tiger Forum (GTF), CA|TS.

5. Ayushman bharat digital mission - India's digital health backbone

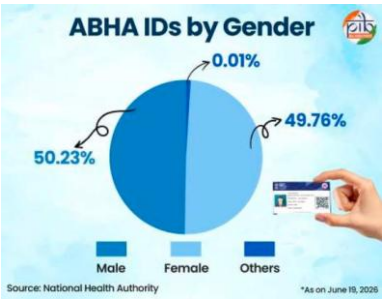
Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Health, E-Governance) & GS-III (Tech)

Relevance

Building a robust digital public infrastructure is critical for making healthcare delivery seamless and affordable, accelerating India's progress toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Overview

Launched Sept 2021; 104cr+ health records linked to 93cr+ ABHA accounts.



Key Aspects

1. **Citizen-Centric Health Identities:** 14-digit ID; consent-based PHR sharing
2. **Institutional Digitization & Incentives**: The Health Facility and Professionals Registries verify providers, while the Digital Health Incentive Scheme (DHIS) reimburses facilities for creating interoperable digital records.

3. **Streamlined Hospital Operations:** The QR-based 'Scan and Share' service cut OPD wait 1hr→ 2-5min (IIHMR study)

4. **Interoperable Networks & Financing:** The Unified Health Interface (UHI) functions as a "UPI for healthcare" (enabling cross-platform discovery for doctors, ambulances, Jan Aushadhi), while the National Health Claims Exchange (NHCX) digitizes and expedites insurance processing.

5. **Data-Driven AI Ecosystem (Privacy-by-Design):** Utilizing anonymized data via a "sandbox" approach, the government recently launched SAHI (ethical AI guidance) and BODH to power public health research safely.

Significance

1. **Empowers Patients:** Eliminates physical paperwork, cuts hospital discharge times, and simplifies access to benefits and transparent claim histories.

2. **Improves Clinical Decisions:** Provides doctors with comprehensive treatment histories, reducing duplicate tests and overall healthcare costs.

3. **Enhances Public Health Planning:** Generates a vast repository of anonymized health data to monitor disease prevalence and design targeted, AI-driven public health programs.

Keywords

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), ABHA, Aarogya Setu 2.0, Unified Health Interface (UHI), National Health Claims Exchange (NHCX), Digital Health Incentive Scheme (DHIS), SAHI & BODH, Universal Health Coverage.

PYQ

1. "In a crucial domain like the public healthcare system, the Indian State should play a vital role to contain the adverse impact of marketisation of the system. Suggest some measures through which the State can enhance the reach of public healthcare at the grassroots level." — 2025, GS-II

2. Besides being a moral imperative of the Welfare State, primary health structure is a necessary pre-condition for sustainable development. Analyze." — 2021, GS-II

6. White gold - India's cotton story : From seed to shirt

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Agriculture, MSP, Agro-industries)

Relevance

Cotton links agriculture, textiles, exports and rural livelihoods; recent initiatives focus on productivity, quality, traceability and farmer income enhancement.

Overview

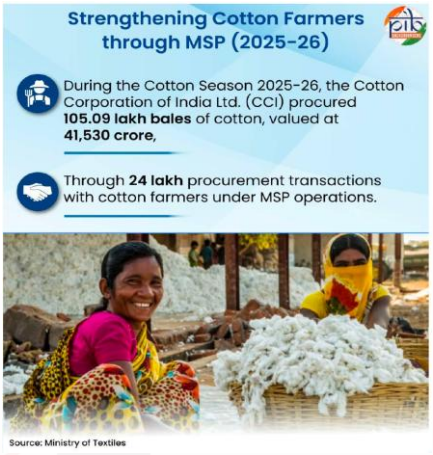
- India is #1 in area, #2 in production/consumption globally; only country growing all 4 cotton species

- Cotton ("White Gold") supports about **6 million farmers** and 40–50 million people in

processing, trade and textiles.

- Recent interventions include MSP procurement, Mission for Cotton Productivity, technology demonstrations, digital procurement and Kasturi Cotton Bharat branding.







Key Aspects

1. **Global Cotton Powerhouse:** ~115L hectares; Bt cotton (since 2002) drives yield
2. **Production & Trade Ecosystem:** Cotton production stood at **~291 lakh bales** (2025-26 provisional) with strong domestic demand from the textile sector; major export markets include the USA and Bangladesh.
3. **Farmer Support through MSP**: Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) undertakes MSP procurement when market prices fall below support levels;
4. **Mission for Cotton Productivity**: 5F (Farm-Fibre-Factory-Fashion-Foreign) vision; target 498L bales by 2031
5. **Technology, Traceability & Branding:** NFSM's Special Project on Cotton (HDPS and Closer Spacing system, Kapas Kisan App (digital procurement); Kasturi Cotton Bharat (QR blockchain traceability)

Significance

1. Supports livelihoods, textile manufacturing, exports and rural employment.
2. Enhances farmer income through MSP, productivity improvements and value addition.
3. Strengthens India's position in the global cotton and textile value chain through quality assurance and branding.

Way Forward

1. Expand climate-resilient and high-yielding cotton varieties, especially Extra Long Staple (ELS) cotton.
2. Scale up technology-driven cultivation, digital procurement and traceability systems to improve quality, sustainability and export competitiveness.

Keywords

Bt Cotton, CCI, MSP, Mission for Cotton Productivity, NFSM, HDPS, ELS Cotton, Kapas Kisan App, Kasturi Cotton Bharat, 5F Vision.

PYQ

1. "Explain the changes in cropping patterns in India in the context of changes in consumption patterns and marketing conditions." — 2023, GS-III
2. Analyse the factors for the highly decentralized cotton textile industry in India. — 2013, GS-I

7. Empowering India's Skill Ecosystem - Government's Initiatives from Classroom to Enterprise

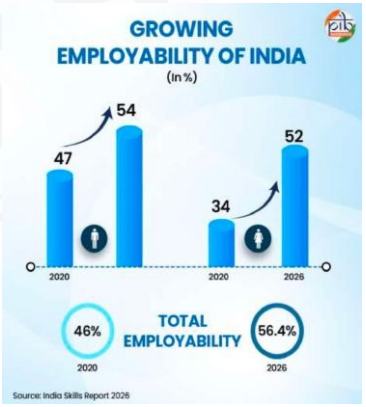
SyllabusMapping GS-II (Education, HRD) & GS-III (Skilling, Employment)

Relevance

India's life-cycle approach to skilling integrates education, employability, entrepreneurship and lifelong learning to harness the demographic dividend and achieve Viksit Bharat 2047.

Overview

1. India is adopting a whole-of-life talent development model covering school education, vocational training, apprenticeships, entrepreneurship and workforce upskilling.
2. The focus is on industry relevance, AI readiness, digital skills and future-oriented competencies to meet changing labour-market demands.



Key Aspects

1. **Life-Cycle Skilling Ecosystem:** Initiatives span Samagra Shiksha, PM SHRI Schools, Atal Tinkering Labs, NSQF and Skill India Mission, integrating vocational education with lifelong learning.
2. **Future-Ready & AI Skills**: SOAR, YUVA AI for ALL, FutureSkills Prime and the IndiaAI Mission's FutureSkills Pillar promote AI, digital and emerging technology skills through partnerships with Microsoft, HCL, NASSCOM and academia.
3. **Workforce Skilling & Apprenticeships:** PMKVY, JSS, NAPS, CTS and PM-SETU provide demand-driven training, apprenticeships, ITI modernisation and industry-linked skilling.
4. **Entrepreneurship & Traditional Livelihoods:** Startup India courses, PM Vishwakarma, NIESBUD, IIE and MSME Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programmes support self-employment, artisans and enterprise creation.
5. **Inclusive Skilling:** Programmes such as AI Careers for Women, Swavalambini and NAVYA focus on women, adolescent girls, tribal communities, artisans and other underserved groups.

Significance

1. Helps harness India's demographic dividend and address future workforce requirements.
2. Enhances employability, productivity and global competitiveness amid AI-driven economic transformation.
3. Promotes inclusive growth through targeted interventions for women, artisans, rural populations and vulnerable groups.



Keywords

Skill India Mission, NSQF, PMKVY, NAPS, PM-SETU, FutureSkills Prime, IndiaAI Mission, SOAR, YUVA AI for ALL, PM Vishwakarma, NAVYA, Swavalambini.

PYQ:

1. 'Earn while you learn' scheme needs to be strengthened to make vocational education and skill training meaningful. Comment." — 2021, GS-II
2. Skill development programs have succeeded in increasing human resources supply to various sectors. In the context of the statement, analyze the linkages between education, skill and employment." — 2023, GS-II

8. India's high-speed rail future : building a standardized path for expansion

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Infrastructure, Make in India)

Relevance

India's first bullet train project is creating the technological, industrial and institutional foundation for a future national high-speed rail network.

Overview

- Mumbai–Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (MAHSR) is India's first bullet train corridor, based on Japanese Shinkansen technology, with a design speed of 350 kmph.
- The project is serving as a standardised template for future high-speed rail corridors through common engineering designs, construction practices and operational systems.
- It supports Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat by promoting indigenous high-speed rail manufacturing and capability development.

Routes	Travel Time
Delhi–Varanasi	3 hours 50 minutes
Varanasi–Patna–Siliguri	2 hours 55 minutes
Chennai–Bengaluru	1 hour 13 minutes
Bengaluru–Hyderabad	2 hours
Chennai–Hyderabad	2 hours 55 minutes
Mumbai–Pune	48 minutes
Pune–Hyderabad	1 hour 55 minutes

Key Aspects

1. **MAHSR Corridor:** with 508 km, 12 stations will connect Mumbai and Ahmedabad in about 1 hour 58 minutes

2. **Standardised Expansion Model:** Common designs for viaducts, tracks, electrification, signalling and station structures will enable faster construction, lower costs and better quality across future corridors.

3. **National High-Speed Rail Network:** Seven proposed corridors (~4,000 km) with estimated investment of ₹16 lakh crore, including Delhi–Varanasi, Mumbai–Pune and Chennai–Bengaluru routes.

4. **Technology & Infrastructure:** Shinkansen-based systems include 2×25 kV traction, J-Slab ballastless tracks, dedicated track construction bases and rolling-stock depots at Sabarmati, Surat and Thane.

5. **Indigenisation Ecosystem:** ICF and BEML are developing indigenous 280 kmph trainsets; IIT-led research, specialised training and facilities such as Bengaluru's Aditya complex are strengthening domestic manufacturing.

Significance

1. Reduces travel time drastically and improves inter-city connectivity.
2. Creates indigenous capabilities in advanced rail technology, manufacturing and maintenance.
3. Generates a scalable model for future high-speed rail expansion and economic integration.

Keywords

MAHSR, Bullet Train, Shinkansen, High-Speed Rail, J-Slab Track, ICF, BEML, Make in India, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, 2×25 kV Traction.

PYQ

1."Investment in infrastructure is essential for more rapid and inclusive economic growth. Discuss in the light of India's experience." — 2021, GS-III

9. Guardians of India's Maritime Frontiers - Three Indigenous Naval classes for Combat Survey and Coastal Defence

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Defence, Indigenisation, Blue Economy)

Relevance

Illustrates India's indigenous naval modernisation, layered maritime security architecture, and Aatmanirbhar Bharat in defence manufacturing.

Overview

- 2026 inductions: INS Dunagiri, INS Mahendragiri (Nilgiri-class), INS Sanshodhak (Sandhayak-class), INS Agray (Arnala-class)
- The three classes perform complementary roles: surface warfare (Nilgiri), hydrographic surveying (Sandhayak) and coastal anti-submarine warfare (Arnala).
- Designed largely by the Navy's Warship Design Bureau and built in Indian shipyards, they reflect growing self-reliance in warship construction.

Key Aspects

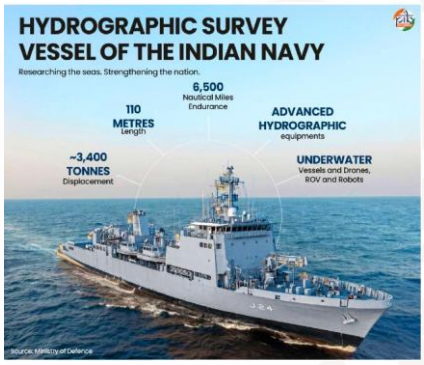
1. **Nilgiri-Class Stealth Frigates (Project 17A):** Multi-mission stealth warships for anti-air, anti-surface and anti-submarine operations; seven frigates planned, with INS Dunagiri and INS Mahendragiri recently commissioned.

2. **Sandhayak-Class Survey Vessels**: Enhance hydrographic capability through seabed mapping, nautical charting and ocean-data collection; INS Sanshodhak is the fourth and final vessel of the class.

3. **Arnala-Class ASW Shallow Water Crafts**: Dedicated coastal anti-submarine platforms designed for littoral waters; eight-vessel class replacing ageing Abhay-class corvettes, with INS Agray recently commissioned.

4. **Aatmanirbhar Defence Manufacturing:** Indigenous content reaches ~75% in Nilgiri-class and over 80% in Sandhayak-class; 64 of 66 naval platforms on order built in India

5. **Strategic & Economic Role:** Supports maritime security, Blue Economy, defence exports, employment generation and India's SAGAR (2015) and MAHASAGAR (2025) maritime visions.







Significance

1. Creates a layered naval architecture covering blue-water operations, maritime domain awareness and coastal defence.

2. Strengthens indigenous shipbuilding ecosystem, MSMEs and defence exports.

3. Enhances India's role as a security provider in the Indian Ocean Region while supporting the Blue Economy.

Keywords

Project 17A, Nilgiri-class, Sandhayak-class, Arnala-class, Warship Design Bureau, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Blue Economy, SAGAR, MAHASAGAR, Maritime Domain Awareness.

PYQ

1. Why is maritime security vital to protect India’s sea trade?Discuss maritime and coastal security challenges and the way forward. — 2025, GS-III

2. What are the maritime security challenges in India? Discuss the organisational, technical and procedural initiatives taken to improve maritime security. — 2022, GS-II

10. Academic bank of credits and APAAR - Building India's Lifelong Learning Ecosystem

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Education, DPI), NEP 2020

Relevance

Key reform for flexible higher education, transparent, lifelong learning, credit mobility, and digital academic records under NEP 2020.

Overview

- ABC is a UGC-regulated; credits valid 7 years; re-entry after discontinuation allowed.
- APAAR (One Nation, One Student ID) is 12-digit ID linked to Aadhaar + DigiLocker; 26.35cr IDs created, 2.94cr seeded with credits.

Key Aspects

1. **Credit Mobility & Lifelong Learning:** Students can accumulate, transfer and redeem credits across institutions; credits remain valid for up to 7 years, enabling re-entry after discontinuation.
2. **APAAR-Based Digital Identity:** A 12-digit APAAR ID linked with Aadhaar, DigiLocker and NAD-ABC creates a unified academic record.
3. **Multiple Entry–Multiple Exit (MEME):** Supports NEP 2020 flexibility—Certificate (1 year), Diploma (2 years), Degree (3–4 years); adopted by 700+ universities and 6,600 colleges.
4. **Integrated Digital Education Ecosystem:** Linked with NAD, DigiLocker, SWAYAM (up to 40% credits), NCrF, SAMARTH ERP and CSCs for seamless access, verification and inclusion.
5. **Digital Public Infrastructure & Security:** ABC forms part of India's education DPI; data is protected through encryption, authenticated access and integration with sovereign blockchain-based digital credentials.

Significance

1. Enhances academic flexibility, portability of learning and reduces dropout-related losses.
2. Promotes transparency, faster verification and a unified national academic record system.
3. Bridges formal, vocational and experiential learning, supporting lifelong skilling.



Keywords
ABC, APAAR, NEP 2020, MEME, NAD, DigiLocker, SWAYAM, SAMARTH ERP, Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), Blockchain Credentials.

PYQ

1. "National Education Policy 2020 is in conformity with the Sustainable Development Goal-4 (2030). It intends to restructure and reorient the education system in India. Critically examine the statement." — 2020, GS-II

11. Start-up village entrepreneurship programme - catalysing rural economies through grassroots entrepreneurship

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Rural entrepreneurship) & GS-II (Inclusion schemes)
Relevance
Covers rural non-farm entrepreneurship, SHG-based institutional delivery, and inclusion of marginalized communities in India's start-up ecosystem.

Overview:
Launched 2016 under DAY-NRLM; 4.32L enterprises supported (as of 15 June 2026); ~86% SC/ST/Minority/OBC-owned

Key Aspects:

1. **Implementation structure**: Block Resource Centres-Enterprise Promotion (BRC-EPs) coordinate implementation; CRP-EPs (trained, ≥90% from SHG households, ≥60% women) mentor up to 50 enterprises each; loans via Community Enterprise Fund

2. **Inclusion mandates**: ≥60% women beneficiaries

Case studies —

1. **Ms. Bhagyashri Londhe (Maharashtra):** scaled a masala/pickle business via a ₹45,000 CEF loan, earned ₹5 lakh in 10 days at Mahalaxmi Saras 2019-20.

2. **Ms. Poonam (Uttar Pradesh):** became a top-performing CRP-EP after SHG membership and training, now supports ~40 enterprises.

3. **QCI mid-term evaluation (2019 field assessment)** — 99% of supported enterprises profitable; SVEP enterprises contributed 57% of household income; average monthly revenue ~₹39,000 (manufacturing highest at ₹47,800); 96% reported increased savings; 75% women-owned/managed.



Significance:

1. Emerged as an effective grassroots model for poverty reduction and local employment generation.

2. Improved household outcomes beyond income — education, nutrition, health, sanitation, and social standing.

3. Advances women's economic empowerment and first-generation entrepreneurship among marginalized communities.

Keywords
SVEP, DAY-NRLM, CRP-EPs, BRC-EPs, Community Enterprise Fund, QCI evaluation, Bhagyashri Londhe, Poonam

PYQ
1. How are startups in India promoting entrepreneurship, innovation and employment? Discuss the global and domestic challenges in their working and suggest suitable measures to overcome these challenges. — 2026, GS-III

2. "Can the vicious cycle of gender inequality, poverty and malnutrition be broken through microfinancing of women SHGs? Explain with examples." — 2021, GS-II

12. Index of services production: measuring the pulse of India's services economy

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Statistics, National Income) & GS-II (Policy)

Relevance
Covers a new macroeconomic indicator for services sector monitoring, its methodology, and the growing role of administrative data in Indian statistics.

Overview:
- ISP is India's first high-frequency indicator dedicated to measuring services sector output, tracking short-term volume changes relative to a base year (2024-25, aligned with the new CPI series).
- Addresses the gap left by IIP, which measures only industrial activity, not services.
- First trial release covers 19 sub-sectors for April 2026 (~60% of the services sector); released monthly with a ~60-day lag, on the 29th of each month.

Key Aspects:
1. **Methodology** — Uses price deflators to convert nominal (value-based) service data into real (volume-based) data: WPI for wholesale trade; CPI/closest matching CPI for most sectors; CPI-General for repair & maintenance, banking, insurance; CPI-Services where no specific CPI exists.

2. **Data ecosystem** — Administrative/secondary data (air/rail transport, banking, insurance); GST data — used for the first time in statistical applications — (wholesale/retail trade, accommodation & food, transport, telecom, real estate, professional services, etc.); ASISSE data (launched April 2026) for health/education (excl. Government).

3. **Institutional framework** — MoSPI constituted a Technical Advisory Committee (2025) with academia, industry and government experts, referencing the OECD Compilation Manual (2007) and Eurostat guidelines

4. **Exclusions** — Public administration & defence, non-bank financial services, social work without accommodation, membership organisations, personal services, private household employment, extraterritorial bodies, Government health/education, and gambling— mostly core-government or non-market/informal activities.

Significance:

1. Services contribute over 50% of India's GVA and ~30% of employment, generating ~40 million jobs over six years.
2. Services exports remained strong: USD 103.41 billion (Apr-Jun 2026-27) supporting India's goal of a 10% share in global services by 2047.
3. Strengthens economic monitoring, national accounts estimation, and evidence-based policymaking.

Keywords

ISP, MoSPI, Technical Advisory Committee, GST data, ASISSE, OECD Compilation Manual, price deflator, GVA, services exports

13. Modified UDAN : Strengthening India's Regional Aviation Network

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Aviation Infra) & GS-II (Inclusive schemes)

Relevance

Covers regional air connectivity expansion, PPP-style funding innovation (RCS levy), and Atmanirbhar Bharat in aviation manufacturing.

Overview:

- RCS-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) - launched Oct 2016; airports grew 74(2014)→165(2026); India = 3rd-largest domestic aviation market
- Modified UDAN - launched July 2026, FY26-27 to FY35-36, ₹28,840cr outlay

Key Aspects:

1. **Aerodrome development**: 100 airports to be developed from unserved airstrips; ₹12,159 crore outlay over 8 years.
2. **O&M support:** 3-year support
3. **Modern helipads**: 200 helipads in priority/difficult-terrain regions, aiding healthcare & emergency access.
4. **Viability Gap Funding**: ₹10,043 crore over 10 years; airlines funded up to 5 years.
5. **Atmanirbhar Bharat push:** 2 HAL Dhruv helicopters for Pawan Hans, 2 HAL Dornier aircraft for Alliance Air, boosting domestic manufacturing for remote-terrain operations.
6. **Innovative funding**: RCS levy mechanism (a small fee



on select domestic flights) funds the scheme from within the aviation sector itself — a first-of-its-kind model compared to public-funded models in the US,Canada,Brazil,Australia.

Significance:

- Improved access in remote,hilly,island regions (e.g., Tezpur, Passighat, Diu) and cut travel time drastically
  Example - Vijayawada-Kadapa: 8-10 hrs by road to ~1 hr by air.
- Boosted tourism, healthcare access, and passenger experience (UDAN Yatri Cafés, Flybrary, free Wi-Fi).

Keywords

UDAN, Modified UDAN, RCS levy, VGF, O&M support, HAL Dhruv/Dornier, Atmanirbhar Bharat, Jodhpur Airport terminal

PYQ

1."What is the need for expanding regional air connectivity in India? In this context, discuss the government's UDAN Scheme and its achievements." — 2024, GS-III

14. GAGAN: Navigating India's Skies with Precision

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Space Tech, Navigation)

Relevance

In June 2026, DGCA conducted India's first satellite-based landing system approach on a commercial jet using GAGAN.

Overview:

- GAGAN is India's indigenous Satellite-Based Augmentation System, jointly developed by ISRO and Airports Authority of India (AAI), improving GPS accuracy and providing integrity information for safer navigation.
- Fully operational since 2015, placing India among select countries (with US, Europe, Japan) with an operational SBAS.



Key Aspects:

1. **Architecture:** Network of 15 Indian Reference Stations (monitor GPS signals), 2 Master Control Centres, 3 Land Uplink Stations, 4 Communication Networks, and 3 geostationary satellites (GSAT-8, GSAT-10, GSAT-15) broadcasting corrected signals.
2. **GAGAN vs NavIC:** GAGAN enhances GPS for civil aviation across the Indian Flight Information Region (coverage up to 1,500 km beyond Indian borders); NavIC is India's independent regional navigation satellite system providing positioning, navigation and

timing services. In 2025, India signed an agreement with South Africa to set up a NavIC reference station, extending its reach.

3. **Global interoperability:** Built to international civil aviation standards; interoperable with the US's WAAS, Europe's EGNOS, and Japan's MSAS. GAGAN is the first certified for the equatorial region.

4. **Beyond aviation:** Applications include maritime navigation, road transport/intelligent transport systems, railways, disaster management, defence, telecommunications, and surveying/mapping.

Significance:

1. Strengthens indigenous navigation capability, advancing Aatmanirbhar Bharat and reducing dependence on foreign systems.
2. Enhances aviation safety and enables satellite-based landing, improving air traffic management.
3. Supports efficient public service delivery across multiple sectors via improved GPS reliability.

Keywords

GAGAN, SBAS, ISRO-AAI, NavIC, WAAS/EGNOS/MSAS, GSAT-8/10/15, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, equatorial region certification

PYQ

1. What is the main task of India's third moon mission which could not be achieved in its earlier mission? List the countries that have achieved this task. Introduce the system in the spacecraft launched and explain the role of the 'Virtual Launch Control Centre' at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre which contributed to the successful launch from Sriharikota. — 2023, GS-III

2. India has achieved remarkable successes in unmanned space missions including the Chandrayaan and Mars Orbiter Mission, but has not ventured into manned space missions, both in terms of technology and logistics? Explain critically. — 2017, GS-III

15. National Academic Depository (NAD) Advancing Digital Governance in Education

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Education, E-Governance)

Relevance

Covers digitization of academic records, DigiLocker integration, and NEP 2020's push for flexible, verifiable credentialing.

Overview:

1. India has ~14.71 lakh schools, 1,420 universities, 53,583 colleges, 280 R&D institutes (2024-25) generating millions of academic records annually.

2. NAD is a nationwide framework for digital storage, verification, authentication and issuance of academic awards, operated through DigiLocker (July 2015) since 2020.

3. Addresses risks of paper records — loss, damage, forgery, slow manual verification — and supports NEP 2020's flexible learning pathways (MEME, NCrF, Academic Bank of Credits).

Key Aspects:

1. **Governance:** MoE parent; UGC nodal; covers all boards + universities + Institutions of National Importance

2. **Ecosystem components:**works with APAAR + ABC; e-Sanad handles apostille/attestation for going abroad

3. **Process flow:** Institutions create academic awards → upload to NAD via DigiLocker → auto-linked to student's DigiLocker account → students share records via explicit consent→ authorised organisations verify instantly.

4. **Legal framework:** Backed by the IT Act, 2000 (legal recognition to e-records/digital signatures), Digital Locker Rules, 2016 (consent-based sharing), and the National e-Authentication Framework (NeAF). Digital credentials hold the same legal validity as physical documents.



Significance:

1. Enables lifelong, anywhere access to credentials and instant verification for employers/institutions.

2. Reduces fraud, cuts verification time/administrative burden, and eliminates dependence on physical certificates.

3. Aligns India with global best practices in digital academic credential management.

Keywords

NAD, DigiLocker, UGC, APAAR, Academic Bank of Credits, e-Sanad, NEP 2020, IT Act 2000, Digital Locker Rules 2016, NeAF

16. Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization Enhancing Productivity through Farm Mechanization

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Agriculture mechanisation)

Relevance

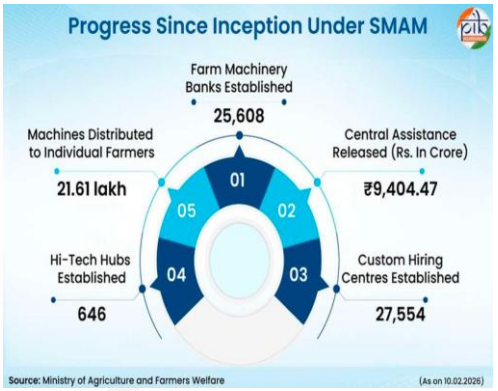
Farm mechanization, inclusive subsidy design for small/marginal farmers, women, SC/ST, NER.

Overview:

Launched 2014-15 under RKVY; aims to "reach the unreached" — small & marginal farmers, women, SC & ST, FPOs, SHGs.

Key Aspects:

1. **Subsidy structure** — DBT-based: 40% for general beneficiaries, 50% for SC/ST/small-marginal farmers/NER; ₹2,000/hectare for mechanized services via CHCs/SHGs/FPOs.
2. **Institutional infrastructure** — NER gets enhanced support (up to 100% for small machinery).
3. **Drone push** — ICAR-led demonstrations with SAUs/KVKs; 100% funding for institutes, 75% for FPOs, ₹6,000/ha for service agencies.
4. **Funding pattern** — 60:40 (Centre:State) generally, 90:10 for NE/Himalayan states, 100% for UTs.
5. **Inclusivity** — 30% of funds earmarked for women farmers



Significance:

1. Cuts drudgery, lowers costs, improves timeliness of farm operations.
2. Bridges mechanization access gaps for underserved groups/regions.

Keywords

SMAM, RKVY, CHCs, Farm Machinery Banks, Kisan Drones, ICAR, DBT, NER support

PYQ

1. How Indian agriculture has been transformed from food scarcity to food surplus level ? Explain the various government policies implemented for diversification of Indian agriculture. — 2026, GS-III
2. "What is an Integrated Farming System? How is it helpful to small and marginal farmers in India?" — 2022, GS-III

17. Strengthening Rural Credit for Inclusive Growth in India

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Agriculture, Rural Economy)

Relevance

India's rural credit system is a cornerstone of agricultural resilience and inclusive growth. It ensures timely access to affordable finance, reducing dependence on informal borrowing while strengthening rural livelihoods.

Overview

- India's rural credit landscape has evolved from informal lending to a robust, diversified institutional framework, driving rising rural consumption and asset creation.
- The ecosystem—led by NABARD, Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), and Cooperative Banks.

Key Aspects

1. **Institutional Reach & Expansion:** 22,000 RRB branches; 61,842 PACS ERP-digitised

2. **Targeted Policy Lending:** Priority Sector Lending (PSL) mandates that banks allocate 18% of adjusted net bank credit to agriculture, with dedicated sub-targets (14% for non-corporate farmers).

3. **Kisan Credit Card (KCC) & Interest Subvention:**7% short-term loan subsidy; collateral-free limit ₹2L

4. **Women's Empowerment via SHGs**: 10.05cr women, 90.9L SHGs, 50,000+ Bank Sakhis

5. **Digital Financial Inclusion**: The JAM trinity underpins the system; PMJDY handles over 58.63 crore accounts (55.7% women). Platforms like e-KCC, Jan Samarth, and the Jan Dhan Darshak App ensure last-mile digital delivery.



Significance

- **Boosts Rural Consumption:** NABARD's May 2026 survey notes that 77.2% of rural households reported higher consumption levels, reflecting increased purchasing power due to formal credit access.

- **Reduces Informal Debt Traps:** By providing institutional alternatives and integrating unbanked segments (via PMJDY and SHGs), the system directly curtails exploitative informal lending.

Keywords

NABARD, Priority Sector Lending (PSL), Ground Level Credit (GLC), e-KCC, Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS), SHG-Bank Linkage Programme, DAY-NRLM, PMJDY, PACS.

PYQ

1. "Is inclusive growth possible under market economy? State the significance of financial inclusion in achieving economic growth in India." — 2022, GS-III

2. Micro-Finance as an anti-poverty vaccine, is aimed at asset creation and income security of the rural poor in India. Evaluate the role of Self-Help Groups in achieving the twin objectives along with empowering women in rural India. — 2020, GS-II

18. Ethanol Blending in India Policy Evolution, Key Milestones and Frequently Raised Concerns

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Energy Security, Agriculture, Import Substitution)

Relevance

The EBP Programme is a core pillar of India's energy transition, transforming farmers from Annadatas to Urjadaatas, shielding the economy from global crude volatility, and driving climate action.

Overview

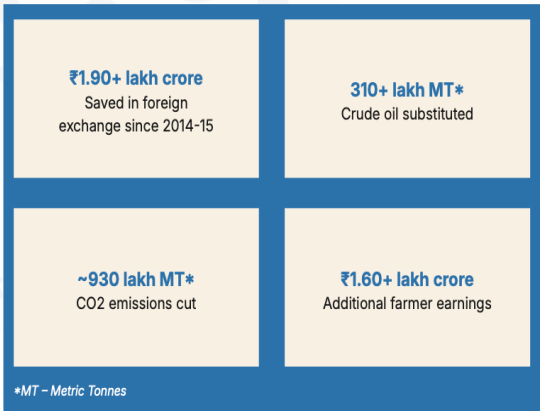
- The Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme has successfully scaled 1.5% (2013-14) → 20% E20 target hit 5 years early (2025-26)
- Feedstock: widened by 2018 National Policy on Biofuels — sugarcane + maize + surplus grains

Key Aspects

1. **Vehicle Compatibility & Performance:** E20 is a high-octane fuel that raises petrol's effective rating to ~95 for cleaner, smoother combustion;
2. **Sustainable & Regulated Production:** Zero Liquid Discharge (3-5L water/L ethanol); only permitted surplus grains used
3. **Global Alignment & Institutional Backing: I**ndia's scientifically evaluated transition aligns with proven global models (e.g., USA's E10/E15 and Brazil's E27) and was executed transparently with bodies like NITI Aayog, ARAI, and SIAM.

Significance

1. **Strategic Autonomy:** By replacing 1/5th of every fuel tank with domestically produced fuel, India significantly reduces its exposure to global crude oil price shocks and geopolitical shipping disruptions.
2. **Rural Economic Transformation:** Creates a massive, guaranteed alternative market for agricultural output while securing large-scale infrastructural investments in rural distilleries and logistics.



Keywords

EBP Programme, E20, National Policy on Biofuels, Urjadaatas, Zero Liquid Discharge, Research Octane Number, Flex-Fuel, ARAI, SIAM.

PYQ

1. "Discuss several ways in which microorganisms can help in meeting the current fuel shortage." — 2023, GS-III
2. Do you think India will meet 50 percent of its energy needs from renewable energy by 2030 ? Justify your answer. How will the shift of subsidies from fossil fuels to renewables help achieve the above objective? Explain. — 2022, GS-III

19. India-Australia Civil Nuclear Cooperation

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Bilateral) & GS-III (Energy, Nuclear)

Relevance

Directly addresses India's transition to a low-carbon economy by ensuring long-term fuel security for its nuclear power expansion, aligning with the 100 GW nuclear capacity target for 2047 and net-zero commitments by 2070.

Overview

- During the Third India-Australia Annual Summit (July 2026), the countries finalized the Administrative Arrangement under their Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement.
- Allows the long-term export of Australian uranium (subject to IAEA safeguards) to fuel India's expanding nuclear power program, strengthening their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

Key Aspects

1. **Fueling the Nuclear Expansion**: India currently operates 24 reactors (8.78 GW), assured Australian uranium will power these Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs), ensuring a steady supply of primary fuel.
2. **Regulatory & Policy Synergy:** The uranium arrangement complements the 2025 SHANTI Act, which permits private sector participation in building and operating nuclear plants, providing investors with the confidence of secure fuel supply.
3. **Advancing the Three-Stage Program:** PHWR plutonium → PFBR Kalpakkam (500MWe, criticality April 2026) → future Thorium use
4. **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):** The government allocated ₹20,000 crore (Budget 2025-26) to develop indigenous SMRs (generating up to 300 MWe), targeting the operationalization of at least five units by 2033 for phased, factory-based deployment.
5. **Global Trust & Non-Proliferation:** Australia's export—supported by its backing of India's NSG membership—demonstrates global confidence in India's responsible nuclear record and commitment to IAEA safeguards.

Significance

1. **Grid Stability & Clean Energy:** Provides dependable baseload power to complement variable renewable sources (solar/wind), crucial for powering growing industrial and digital infrastructure demands.
2. **Strategic Diversification:** Reduces dependence on a narrow pool of uranium suppliers by leveraging Australia, which holds over one-third of the world's global uranium resources.

Keywords

SHANTI Act, Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR), Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), IAEA safeguards, Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), Thorium, Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs).

PYQ

1. Distinguish between a Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR) and a thermal nuclear reactor. In the context of first indigenously developed prototype FBR at Kalpakkam, explain the term 'criticality'.What are its implications for clean energy future of our country? — 2026, GS-III

2. "The newly tri-nation partnership AUKUS is aimed at countering China's ambitions in the Indo-Pacific region. Is it going to supersede the existing partnerships in the region? Discuss the strength and impact of AUKUS in the present scenario." — 2021, GS-II

20. India's Fight to Combat Hepatitis

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Health Policy)

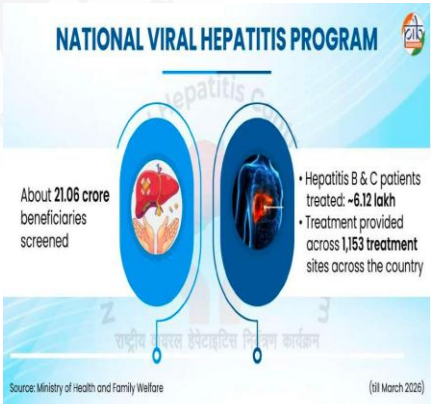
Relevance

Aligns directly with India's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 3) of combating viral diseases by 2030 through an integrated, decentralized public health systems approach.

Overview

1. National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP) launched 2018; free screening/diagnostics/antivirals for Hep A-E

2. By leveraging local funding and cheaper generic drugs, the program is decentralizing care from district hospitals down to local health centers to ensure universal access under the spirit of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas.



Key Aspects

1. **Comprehensive Viral Management:** Targets both acute, water & food-borne variants (Hepatitis A and E) and chronic, blood-borne variants (Hepatitis B and C), offering free Direct Acting Antivirals (DAAs) that can cure Hepatitis C in 12–24 weeks.

2. **Strategic Cross-Program Integration:** Synergizes with existing health infrastructure, such as utilizing the National Tuberculosis Elimination Program's (NTEP) molecular testing machines and the National AIDS Control Program (NACP) for screening high-risk groups.

3. **Maternal & Neonatal Protection:** Operates in tandem with RMNCAH+N and the Universal Immunisation Program (UIP) to ensure universal screening of pregnant women and a mandatory Hepatitis B vaccine birth dose (within 24 hours) for all newborns.

4. **Digital & Toll-Free Monitoring:** Utilizes a paperless patient management network via the NVHCP-MIS portal and provides nationwide awareness/linkage through a shared toll-free helpline.

Significance

1. **Reduces Out-of-Pocket Expenditure**: Providing free diagnostics and expensive antiviral

therapies eliminates massive financial barriers for patients facing chronic liver disease or cirrhosis.

2. **Cost-Effective Population Screening:** Merging operations with blood banks and existing infectious disease networks (NTEP, NACP) maximizes the reach of screening efforts to tackle the country's latent seroprevalence (~0.85% for Hep B and 0.29% for Hep C).

Keywords

National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP), Direct Acting Antivirals (DAAs), Universal Immunisation Program (UIP), NVHCP-MIS, Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas.

PYQ

1. Introduce the concept of Artificial Intelligence (AI). How does AI help clinical diagnosis? Do you perceive any threat to privacy of the individual in the use of AI in healthcare — 2023, GS III

2. The increase in life expectancy in the country has led to newer health challenges in the community. What are those challenges and what steps need to be taken to meet them? — 2022, GS-III

21. LokOS: A Digital Backbone for Rural Livelihoods Strengthening Transparency and Financial Inclusion

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Rural policy, E-Governance) & GS-III (Digital, Financial inclusion)

Relevance

Digitization of SHG ecosystem under DAY-NRLM; relevant for e-governance, women's economic empowerment, and financial inclusion questions.

Overview:

1. LokOS (Lok=People, OS=Operating System): web + mobile platform for end-to-end digitization of SHGs and federations under DAY-NRLM

2. Captures ₹2 lakh crore/year in SHG financial transactions; reduces manual record-keeping, enables real-time tracking.

3. SHE-LEAPS (under LokOS): digital platform for women SHs — enterprise creation, performance tracking, business management.



Key Aspects:

1. **Platform structure** — Web app: for administrators, E-bookkeepers, transaction approvers (creates/approves SHGs, VOs, CLFs). Mobile app: field-level CBO activity management.

2. **Key mobile features** — End-to-end digital management of SHGs, Aadhaar- & bank-linked Unique Digital IDs; digital financial records; livelihood profiling; role-based

administration; real-time analytics dashboards

3. **Lakhpati Didi support** — 6,611 Master Trainers, 4.09 lakh Community Resource Persons, 3.87 crore Potential Lakhpati Didis

Significance:

1. Enhances transparency, accountability, operational efficiency in SHG governance.
2. Enables data-driven, integrated programme monitoring from village to national level.
3. Drives women's economic empowerment and financial inclusion via Lakhpati Didi.
4. Supports creation of self-reliant rural communities.

Keywords

LokOS, DAY-NRLM, SHE-LEAPS, Lakhpati Didi, SHGs, VOs, CLFs, Digital Aajeevika Registers, Revolving Fund/CIF/CEF, Community Resource Persons

PYQ

1. "e-governance projects have a built-in bias towards technology and back-end integration than user-centric designs. Examine." — 2025, GS-II
2. e-governance is not just about the routine application of digital technology in service delivery process. It is as much about multifarious interactions for ensuring transparency and accountability. In this context evaluate the role of the 'Interactive Service Model' of e-governance.— 2024, GS-II

22. Weaving Sustainability into India's Textile Future

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Industrial Policy, Environment, Employment)

Relevance

The textile sector (employing over 45 million people) is integrating circular economy principles to maintain global export competitiveness, reduce its environmental footprint, and advance sustainable industrial development.

Overview

Policy interventions span the entire value chain—from organic input certification to sustainable manufacturing and post-consumer waste management—positioning India as a sustainable global hub



Key Aspects

1. **Sustainable Inputs & Certifications:** Initiatives like the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP), Jute-ICARE, and the New Age Fibre Mission (MM-III) promote certified organic and eco-friendly allied natural fibres.

2. **Circular Waste Recovery Models:** Domestic networks recover ~95% of pre-consumer waste, exemplified by the Navi Mumbai Municipal Textile Recovery Facility, Panipat's downstream recycling hub (handling 3,500+ TPD), and Mongolpuri's (Delhi) informal cutting-waste sorting network.

3. **Green Manufacturing & MSME Support:** PM MITRA Parks embed sustainability via shared Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs), while the RAMP Programme (MSE-GIFT & MSE-SPICE) provides capital subsidies for MSMEs adopting clean tech and circular solutions.

4. **Emissions Trading & Compliance:** The Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) mandates greenhouse gas targets for textiles (Scope 1 & 2 emissions), alongside the Solid Waste Management Rules 2026 which push industrial units to utilize 15% Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF).

5. **Market Access & Traceability:** Programs like the Eco-Mark Scheme, Kasturi Cotton, Silk Mark for upcycled public procurement institutionalize green standards and global market confidence.

Significance

1. **Economic & Export Competitiveness**: Aligning with global eco-standards (supported by industry platforms like the Tex Eco Initiative and SU.RE) ensures India's $3.5 billion recycling sector remains a competitive global supplier.

2. **Livelihood Generation:** The circular textile ecosystem sustains 40-45 lakh livelihoods, actively empowering marginalized women in grassroots collection, sorting, and upcycling.

Keywords

Circular Economy, PM MITRA, RAMP (MSE-GIFT, MSE-SPICE), Jute-ICARE, Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS), Kasturi Cotton, Eco-Mark.

23. NCW Women Helpline – 14490

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Vulnerable sections, statutory bodies)

Relevance

Women's safety mechanisms, statutory bodies (NCW), and Digital India applications in grievance redressal.

Overview:

1. National Commission for Women (NCW) is the apex statutory body safeguarding women's rights, covering issues like dowry, equal employment, and labour exploitation.

2. NCW operates the 24×7 Women Helpline, a toll-free short code linked to its existing helpline offering a Digital Complaint Registration System.

3. Open to any woman/girl above 18 years; staffed by trained psychological counsellors from leading mental health institutions.

Key Aspects:

1. **Complaint analysis for reform:** Complaints reveal trends in crimes against women, help identify institutional gaps, and support corrective recommendations; also used as case studies in sensitization programmes for police, judiciary, prosecutors, forensic scientists, and defence lawyers.

2. **Digital access**: Round-the-clock digital registration system providing complaint filing, psychological counselling, referral support, and information on government schemes via a single nationwide number.

3. **Redressal mechanism:** Complaints are scrutinized for jurisdiction; those within mandate get a unique case number, others are closed after informing the complainant. Actions include monitoring police investigation, ensuring statutory compliance, mediation/counselling, and forming an Inquiry Committee for serious crimes.

Significance:

1. Strengthens the link between women and formal institutional support systems.

2. Builds public awareness and confidence in institutional grievance redressal.

3. Embodies Digital India's goal of citizen-centric, accessible public services.

Keywords

NCW, Women Helpline 14490, Digital Complaint Registration System, Digital India, Inquiry Committee, sensitization programmes

PYQ

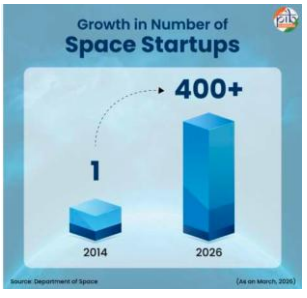
1. "Women's social capital complements in advancing empowerment and gender equity. Explain." — 2025, GS-II

24. Vikram-1 charting India's Cosmic Future: Reforms, Progress and Liftoff

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Space Tech, Indigenisation, Investment)

Relevance

Skyroot Aerospace's upcoming Mission Aagaman launching Vikram-1, India's first privately developed orbital rocket highlights India's steps towards privatization of the space sector.



Overview

India's space sector is undergoing a historic transformation driven by the Indian Space Policy 2023, which fully opened

the space value chain to private Non-Government Entities (NGEs).



Key Aspects

1. **Enabling Regulatory Framework (IN-SPACe):** Acts as the autonomous single-window regulator for NGEs; it has facilitated $150 million in startup investments (CY 2025) and authorized landmark missions like Agnikul Cosmos's 3D-printed rocket launch from India's first private launchpad.
2. **Commercial Scaling via NSIL**: NewSpace India Limited acts as ISRO's commercial arm, facilitating massive tech transfers and launching 138 international customer satellites.
3. **Targeted Funding Mechanisms:** The sector is backed by specialized financial instruments, including a ₹1,000 crore Venture Capital Fund (FY 26-30), the IN-SPACe Seed Fund Scheme, and a ₹500 crore Technology Adoption Fund (TAF).
4. **Liberalized FDI Policy**: Permits up to 100% automatic FDI for satellite component manufacturing, 74% for satellite operations, and 49% for launch vehicles/spaceports to accelerate tech transfer and ease of doing business.

Significance

1. **Economic Multiplier:** Projected to grow the domestic space economy five-fold (from $8.4 billion to $40-45 billion by 2030, targeting $100 billion by 2040), creating high-tech employment and downstream commercial applications (e.g., Pixxel's Earth Observation constellation)
2. **Technological Sovereignty:** Promotes indigenous, cutting-edge engineering capabilities (e.g., 3D-printed liquid engines, green propulsion systems, and robotics) that validate India's commercial launch reliability on the global stage.

Keywords

Indian Space Policy 2023, IN-SPACe, NSIL, Mission Aagaman, Vikram-1, Non-Government Entities (NGEs), Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

PYQ

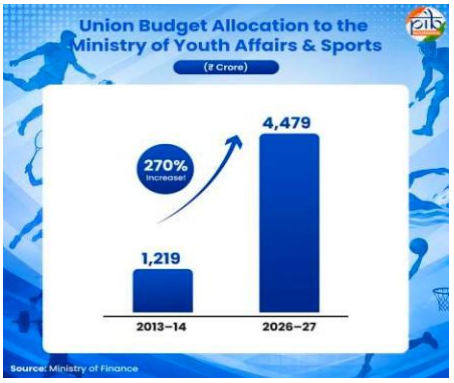
1. Mention salient features of 'Mission Drishti'. Discuss the imaging techniques used in the satellite launched on 3rd May 2026. Why it is being considered the world's first satellite of its kind? — 2026, GS-III
2. Discuss India's achievements in the field of Space Science and Technology. How has the application of this technology helped India in its socio-economic development? — 2016, GS-III

25. Khelo India & India's Sporting Ecosystem

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Policy) & GS-IV (Youth/Character)

Relevance

Demonstrates how structured grassroots investments and target-oriented schemes are successfully converting India's demographic dividend (65% youth under 35) into global sporting excellence and national soft power.



Overview

1. India's strong performance at the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow underscores its steady emergence as a formidable global sporting nation.
2. This transformation is fueled by a record sports budget allocation and initiatives that span from rural talent identification to elite Olympic podium finishes.

Key Aspects

1. **Unified Grassroots Development:** Khelo India (2017) scheme merged legacy programs to establish a vast pipeline via 1,067 Khelo India Centres and inclusive multi-tier competitions (Youth, University, Para, and Tribal Games).
2. **Targeted Elite Assistance:** The Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) provides holistic support—including foreign training, sports science, and monthly stipends—directly enabling champions like Mirabai Chanu to secure historic feats (e.g., her third consecutive CWG gold at Glasgow 2026).
3. **Tech-Driven Talent Scouting:** The KIRTI (Khelo India Rising Talent Identification) initiative utilizes AI, data analytics, and standardized protocols across 174 centers to identify promising athletes aged 9–18 on a strictly meritocratic basis.
4. **Boost to Sports Manufacturing:** The 2026–27 Union Budget allocated a dedicated ₹500 crore to expand domestic sports goods manufacturing, promoting R&D and integrating India into global sports supply chains.
5. **Record-Breaking Global Trajectory:** Sustained policy focus has directly translated into unprecedented international success, highlighted by 107 medals at the Hangzhou 2023 Asian Games and a best-ever 29 medals at the Paris 2024 Paralympics.

Significance

1. **Strengthens Social Cohesion:** Victory on the international field builds a healthier, more confident society, uniting citizens across caste and regional divides.
2. **Elevates Global Soft Power:** Anchors India's strategic ambition to transition from a participating nation to a sporting superpower, targeting top-10 status by 2036.

Keywords

Khelo India Scheme, Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), KIRTI, Commonwealth Games 2026, Demographic Dividend, Sports Goods Manufacturing.

PYQ

1.Terrorist activities and mutual distrust have clouded India-Pakistan relations. To what extent the use of soft power like sports and cultural exchanges could help generate goodwill between the two countries? Discuss with suitable examples. — 2015, GS-II

26. RSETIs: Rural Self-Employment & Enterprise

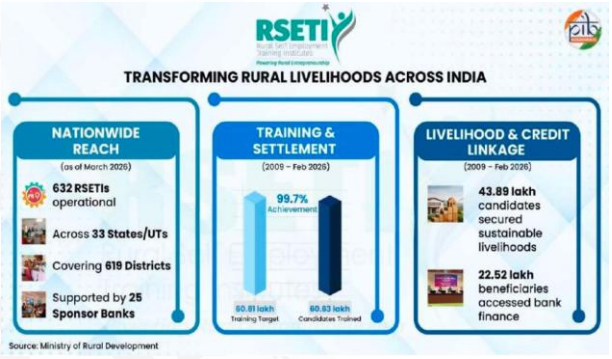
Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Welfare) & GS-III (Employment, Skilling)

Relevance

RSETIs act as a critical bridge between rural aspirations and enterprise, turning unemployed youth into self-reliant micro-entrepreneurs and driving grassroots financial inclusion.

Overview

1. Operating under DAY-NRLM (Ministry of Rural Development), Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) offer free, short-term, residential training for unemployed rural individuals aged 18 to 50.
2. Since 2009, 632 RSETIs across 619 districts have trained over 60.63 lakh candidates.



Key Aspects

1. **Tripartite Institutional Framework:** MoRD + State/UT govts + 25 sponsor banks
2. **Comprehensive Skill Curriculum:** Offers 73 diverse courses spanning agriculture, manufacturing, services, and entrepreneurship, strictly aligned with national skill standards.
3. **Credit & Enterprise Linkage:** 22.52L trainees got bank credit + mentoring

Case Studies

1. **Vishnu Bai (Bhopal):** Overcame social and mobility restrictions via village-level RSETI training to build a successful tailoring enterprise that now fulfills government school uniform orders.
2. **Umesh Shivaji Ingle (Akola):** Transitioned from a daily wage factory worker to an employer by leveraging an Entrepreneurship Development Programme and an ₹8 lakh bank loan to scale a noodle manufacturing unit in MIDC.

Significance

1. **Empowers Vulnerable Demographics:** Breaks socio-economic barriers for rural women and daily wagers, transforming them from job seekers into local employment generators.
2. **Translates Skills into Economies**: Fosters a resilient ecosystem where practical skill development directly results in tangible, credit-backed economic activity and rural self-reliance.

Keywords
RSETI, DAY-NRLM, Micro-enterprises, Sponsor Banks, Skill Development, Grassroots Entrepreneurship.

PYQ:
1.Besides the welfare schemes, India needs deft management of inflation and unemployment to serve the poor and the underprivileged sections of society. Discuss. — 2022, GS-II

27. eSARAS: Expanding Markets, Empowering Rural Women

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Welfare, E-Gov) & GS-III (Inclusive growth, SHGs)

Relevance
Demonstrates how digital public infrastructure empowers rural women and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) by providing direct market access, eliminating intermediaries, and driving inclusive rural economic growth.



Overview

- Developed by the Ministry of Rural Development under DAY-NRLM, eSARAS (SARAS Aajeevika) is a dedicated online marketplace for handcrafted goods produced by women SHGs.
- It transforms grassroots commerce by providing rural artisans—from Madhya Pradesh's Chanderi weavers to Kashmir's Pashmina producers—with end-to-end institutional support in marketing, branding, and logistics.

Key Aspects

1. **Massive Grassroots Digital Storefront:** Provides direct national market access to a vast network of over 8.62 crore women SHG members spread across 7,627 blocks nationwide.
2. **Full-Stack E-commerce Ecosystem:** Evolved from a simple web portal into a comprehensive system featuring the eSARAS Mobile App and a dedicated Fulfilment Centre to handle processing, packaging, and shipping.
3. **Premium & Institutional Showcasing:** Expands beyond online sales through the physical SARAS Aajeevika Gallery and the premium SARAS Shakti Collection launched at the Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Sammelan 2026 for corporate gifting.

Significance

1. **Drives Women-Led Development:** Transforms traditional craft skills into sustainable, self-reliant rural enterprises, directly boosting women's entrepreneurship and financial independence.
2. **Cultural Preservation**: Protects India's rich artisanal heritage by ensuring traditional crafts remain economically viable in a modern, digitized economy.

Keywords
eSARAS, DAY-NRLM, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), ONDC, UMANG, SARAS Shakti Collection, Digital India, Women-led Development.

PYQ
1.Do you think digital technology promotes social empowerment? Explain with examples — 2026, GS-I

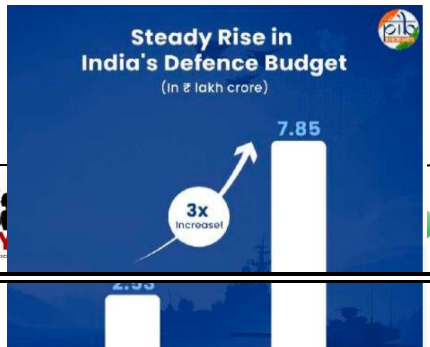
28. Kargil Vijay Diwas 2026

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Security, Defence Indigenisation, Border Mgmt)

Relevance
The Kargil conflict catalyzed structural military reforms, driving India's ongoing transition toward tri-service jointness, proactive counter-terrorism, and an Atmanirbhar (self-reliant) defense ecosystem.

Overview
1. Kargil Vijay Diwas commemorates India's victory in the 1999 Kargil War (Operation Vijay), honoring the Armed Forces who reclaimed strategic high-altitude outposts from Pakistani intruders.
2. The legacy of the conflict has fundamentally reshaped India's defense doctrine, shifting the nation from heavy import-dependency to indigenous manufacturing, and from strategic restraint to proactive deterrence.

Key Aspects
1. **The 1999 Operations:** India executed a coordinated tri-services campaign (incorporating the Army's Operation Vijay and IAF's Operation Safed Sagar) to reclaim strategic peaks like Tiger Hill and Tololing without crossing the Line of Control.
2. **Higher Defense & Manpower Reforms:** Post-Kargil restructuring led to the creation of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and the Department of Military Affairs to ensure jointness, complemented by the Agnipath scheme for a youthful, tech-savvy force.
3. **Atmanirbhar Defense Manufacturing:** India transitioned to 65% domestic defense procurement (producing ₹1.78 lakh crore in 2025-26) driven by Positive Indigenisation Lists, the Srijan Portal, and Defence Industrial Corridors in UP and Tamil Nadu.
4. **Next-Generation Tech & Platforms:** Combat readiness has been modernized by inducting indigenous assets (e.g., INS Vikrant, Kusha SAM) and successfully testing advanced systems (e.g., anti-satellite Mission Shakti, Mission Divyastra).
5. **Proactive Strategic Posture:** India's military doctrine evolved to execute pre-emptive, intelligence-led strikes against terror infrastructure, demonstrated by Balakot (2019) and the drone-integrated Operation SINDOOR (2025).





Significance

1. **Strategic Autonomy:** Dramatically reduces foreign hardware reliance while emerging as a global supplier, with defense exports rising 56 times since 2013-14 to reach over 80 countries.

2. **Robust Deterrence:** Reaffirms India's zero-tolerance policy against proxy wars, backed by a modernized, net-centric military capable of thwarting multi-domain threats.

Keywords

Operation Vijay, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), Positive Indigenisation Lists, Defence Industrial Corridors, Operation SINDOOR, Mission Shakti, Agnipath Scheme.

PYQ:

1."The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) by our adversaries across the borders to ferry arms/ammunition, drugs, etc., is a serious threat to internal security." — 2023, GS-III

29. Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Constitution, Bills) & GS-I (Modern History)

Relevance

Fills a historical legislative gap by granting the National Song strict legal parity with the National Anthem, honoring its deep-rooted significance in India's freedom struggle and constitutional history.

Overview

1. The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026 modifies Section 3 of the original 1971 Act.

2. It explicitly criminalizes the intentional disruption or prevention of the singing of the National Song (Vande Mataram), extending it the exact same legal protections currently afforded to the National Anthem (Jana Gana Mana).

Key Aspects

1. **Expanded Scope of Section 3:** It is now a punishable offence to intentionally prevent the singing of Vande Mataram or cause a disturbance to any assembly engaged in its singing.

2. **Unchanged Penalties:** First-time offenders face imprisonment for up to three years, a fine, or both (identical to the existing punishment for insulting the Anthem, Flag, or Constitution).

3. **Strict Repeat Offender Rule (Section 3A):** Anyone

convicted a second or subsequent time for disrupting the National Song will face a mandatory enhanced penalty of a minimum one-year prison sentence.

4. **Historical & Constitutional Justification:** The bill actualizes the vision laid out on January 24, 1950, by Constituent Assembly President Dr. Rajendra Prasad, who declared that Vande Mataram should be accorded equal status and honor with Jana Gana Mana.

The Amendment at a Glance

Feature/Provision	The Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971 (Original Act)	The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026
Scope of Protection under Section 3	Specific legal protection solely to the Indian National Anthem (Jana Gana Mana).	Expands the scope of Section 3 to include both the National Anthem and the National Song (Vande Mataram).
Prohibited conduct	Penalises whoever intentionally prevents the singing of the Indian National Anthem, or causes disturbance to any assembly engaged in such singing.	Penalises whoever intentionally prevents the singing of the National Anthem or the National Song, or causes disturbance to any assembly engaged in such singing.
Punishment	Imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.	The punishment remains unchanged.
Repeat convictions	Under Section 3A (added in 2003), anyone convicted a second or subsequent time for an offense under Section 2 or 3 is punishable with imprisonment for a minimum term of one year.	The enhanced penalty of a minimum one-year imprisonment remains in effect. Repeat offenders who intentionally disrupt the singing of Vande Mataram will now also face this mandatory minimum one-year prison sentence.

Significance

1. **Achieves Legal Parity:** Corrects a decades-old legislative anomaly where the National Song lacked specific, codified statutory protection despite its equal constitutional standing.

2. **Honours Heritage:** Formally safeguards a powerful cultural symbol composed by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, which served as a defining rallying cry of resistance since the 1905 Swadeshi movement.

Keywords

Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act 1971, Vande Mataram, Section 3 Amendment, Constituent Assembly, Section 3A (Repeat Offences).

30. SHE-LEAPS: Digital Empowerment for Lakhpati Didis

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Women Empowerment) & GS-III (Rural Dev, Financial Inclusion, DPI)

Relevance

A new digital governance tool supporting livelihood creation, enterprise growth and financial inclusion; covers both farm and non-farm rural enterprise

Overview

- SHE-LEAPS = Self-Help Entrepreneur-Livelihoods and Enterprise Application for Prosperity and Sustainability.
- A unified digital platform for enterprise creation and performance tracking of women associated with Self-Help Groups (SHGs) across rural India.
- Mobile app developed by the “Digital India Corporation”; implemented under the LokOS platform.

Key Aspects

1. **LokOS backbone:** a digital system capturing activities of Community-Based Organisations (CBOs): SHGs, Village Organisations, and Cluster Level Federations; digitises member records, financial transactions, livelihood records, and tracks convergence initiatives.

2. **End-to-end enterprise tracking:** captures real-time operational data across sectors, covering the full livelihood journey from profile creation to enterprise performance tracking, strengthening governance, planning and policy decisions.

3. **Advancing Lakhpati Didi Mission:** provides end-to-end tracking of income growth and enterprise performance for the mission, whose target has been raised from 3 crore to 6 crore women.

4. **Defined objectives:** empowering rural SHG women entrepreneurs; creating/strengthening women-led enterprises; integrating rural producers with formal value chains; enhancing financial inclusion of SHG households; enabling data-driven rural entrepreneurship.

5. **Nationwide rollout:** to be implemented across 34 States and UTs, assisting State Rural Livelihood Missions (SRLMs) in selected states/UTs.

Significance

1. Improves visibility into rural economic activity and strengthens monitoring at multiple levels, supporting both local and national decision-making.
2. Combines digital infrastructure, entrepreneurship and women's empowerment to scale the Lakhpati Didi mission nationwide.
3. Positioned as a key driver of inclusive and sustainable rural transformation.

Keywords

SHE-LEAPS, LokOS, Digital India Corporation, Lakhpati Didi, SHG, Cluster Level Federation, State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM), Viksit Gram–Viksit Bharat, Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Sammelan, financial inclusion, DPI.

PYQ

1.Do you think digital technology promotes social empowerment? Explain with examples — 2026, GS-I

31. Bharat Tex 2026 – Where Every Thread Opens a New Opportunity

Syllabus Mapping GS-I (Heritage) & GS-III (Industrial Policy, Exports, MSMEs)

Relevance

highlights India's efforts to integrate traditional artisanal heritage with modern manufacturing and global commerce, directly advancing the 5F vision (Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign) and boosting rural/MSME livelihoods.

Overview

- Bharat Tex 2026 is a massive global textile exhibition — attracting over 6,000 buyers from 130+ countries and 1.3 lakh trade visitors.
- The event serves as a unified platform where large manufacturers, handloom cooperatives, traditional artists, and sustainable tech ventures explore domestic and international market opportunities.

Key Aspects

1. **Promotion of Regional Heritage:** Live demonstrations and dedicated showcases like Indie Haat 2026 give global visibility to ancient crafts
   Example - 800-year-old Tikuli enamel art from Bihar, and Dabu/Bagru block printing by enterprises like 'Weaves'.

2. **Contemporary Tribal Fashion:** Traditional community patterns are being adapted into modern apparel to expand global demand
   Example - Johargram transforming Uraon and Munda tribal weaves from Jharkhand into contemporary jackets and trench coats).

3. **Market Access for Cooperatives:** Institutional support, such as subsidized stalls from the Handloom Export Promotion Council, enables local groups to secure export leads from the Middle East and Europe.
   Example - Kanpur's Niryaatak Handloom Cooperative

4. **Textile Circularity & Sustainability:** Tech-enabled ventures are introducing post-consumer waste solutions and upcycling marketplaces (e.g., ReFiber), drawing partnership interest from the US, Spain, and Portugal.

Significance

1. **Economic Empowerment:** Creates flexible, home-based livelihood opportunities—particularly for women and rural artisans—by directly connecting grassroots producers to international B2B buyers.

2. **Cultural Preservation through Commerce:** Elevates niche and lesser-known regional art forms onto a highly visible contemporary stage, ensuring their survival through economic viability.

Keywords

Bharat Tex 2026, 5F Vision, Tikuli Art, Indie Haat, Textile Circularity, Handloom Export Promotion Council, MSMEs.

32. Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Student welfare, statutory legislation)

Relevance

Strengthens India's first dedicated anti-exam-fraud law (2024 Act) in response to continuing paper-leak and malpractice incidents — directly tied to examination integrity and youth welfare.

Overview:

- Builds on the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024 — India's first dedicated law against exam cheating, paper leaks, organised exam fraud.

- 2026 Bill introduced in Lok Sabha to raise punishments, speed up investigation/trial, and create a clear appeal process.

Key Aspects:

1. **Sharper Punishments:** Jail terms increased up to 10 years and fines raised up to ₹10 crore

across categories.

2. **Faster Investigation:** Mandated within 2 months via Special Task Forces, DySPs, or central agencies.
3. **Special Fast Track Courts:** Designated courts to complete trials within 3 months of the chargesheet.
4. **Time-Bound Appeals:** High Court two-judge benches must dispose of appeals within 3 months.

Provision	Earlier Position (2024 Act)	What Changes Now (2026 Bill)
Individual offenders (Section 10)	Jail term of 3 to 5 years, with a fine of up to ₹10 lakh.	Jail term of 5 to 10 years, with a fine of up to ₹50 lakh.
Service providers (Section 10)	Fine of up to ₹1 crore, and a 4-year ban from conducting any public examination.	Fine of up to ₹5 crore, and an 8-year ban from conducting any public examination.
Directors and senior management held responsible (Section 10)	Jail term of 3 to 10 years, with a fine of ₹1 crore.	Jail term of 5 to 10 years, with a fine of ₹5 crore.
Organised crime and exam-fraud syndicate (Section 11)	Jail term of 5 to 10 years, with a fine of at least ₹1 crore.	Jail term of 7 to 10 years, with a fine of at least ₹10 crore.

Process Flow

Case registered → investigation (police/CIA/Special Task Force) completed within 2 months → trial in Special Fast Track Court completed within 3 months of chargesheet → appeal (if any) to High Court, disposed within 3 months.

Significance:

1. Converts punishment into a real deterrent through sharply raised jail terms and fines across all offender categories.
2. Creates a deadline-bound pipeline from investigation to appeal, preventing cases from languishing for years.
3. Strengthens student trust in the fairness and credibility of public examinations.

Keywords:

Public Examinations Act 2024, Amendment Bill 2026, Paper Leaks, Unfair Means, Exam Fraud, Special Task Force, 2-Month Investigation, Special Fast Track Court, 3-Month Trial, Special Public Prosecutor, High Court Appeal, 30/90-Day Limit, Exam Integrity, Equal Opportunity.

PYQ

1.What are the aims and objectives of recently passed and enforced, The Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024?" — 2024, GS-II

33. Sahkar Se Samriddhi: 5 Years of Cooperative Reforms

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Cooperative federalism) & GS-II (Rural welfare)

Relevance

Marks 5 years of the Ministry of Cooperation (est. 6 July 2021) — showcases structural, digital, and financial reforms transforming grassroots economic institutions ahead of Viksit Bharat.

Overview:

152+ major initiatives launched since the Ministry's establishment; ecosystem spans credit, dairy, fisheries, housing, marketing.

Key Aspects:

1. **PACS Transformation:** Converting 50,000 multi-service

e-PACS across 32 states/UTs with ERP digitisation by March 2027.

2. **Rural Infrastructure:** Building the world's largest decentralised grain storage plan and forming 1,863 FPOs.

3. **Tax Relief:** Lowered surcharge (7%), reduced MAT (15%), and raised TDS limits to boost cooperative liquidity.



4. **White Revolution 2.0:** Expanding dairy procurement by 50% by 2028-29, emphasizing women-led cooperatives.

5. **New National Institutions:** Established NCEL (exports), NCOL (organics), and BBSSL (seeds) to widen cooperative reach.

6. **Financing & Digital Push:** NCDC sanctioned ₹1.55 lakh crore alongside new CBS and AI banking tools for Urban Co-ops.

7. **Capacity Building:** Set up Tribhuvan Sahkari University (TSU) alongside NCCT and NABARD training initiatives.

Case Study : Bharat Taxi

India's first driver-centric, cooperative-based mobility platform by Sahakar Taxi Cooperative Limited, empowering drivers and offering affordable, safe transport. Features 6.37 lakh drivers and 35.77 lakh customers across Delhi-NCR, Gujarat, Lucknow, Chandigarh, Mumbai, Jaipur, and Kanpur, with expansions soon to Ranchi, Patna, Guwahati, Bhopal, Kolkata, Indore, and Nagpur.

Significance:

1. Deepens last-mile rural service delivery by diversifying PACS beyond credit.
2. Extends cooperative principles into new-economy sectors (mobility) alongside traditional agri/dairy domains.
3. Strengthens cooperative institutional sustainability through tax relief and digital banking infrastructure.

Way Forward:

White Revolution 2.0 targets (2028-29), PACS full computerisation (March 2027), Bharat Taxi's planned 7-city expansion

Keywords

Ministry of Cooperation, Sahkar Se Samriddhi, PACS, e-PACS, ERP, CSC, PM Kisan Samriddhi Kendra, Jan Aushadhi, FPOs, White Revolution 2.0, NCDC, NCEL, NCOL, BBSSL, Bharat Beej, Sahakar CBS, AI, Bharat Taxi, Tribhuvan Sahkari University.

PYQ

1. "In the Indian governance system, the role of non-state actors has been only marginal."

Critically examine this statement. — 2016, GS-II

2. "In the villages itself no form of credit organisation will be suitable except the cooperative society." – All India Rural Credit Survey. Discuss this statement in the background of agricultural finance in India. What constraints and challenges do financial institutions supplying agricultural finance face? How can technology be used to better reach and serve rural clients? — 2014, GS-III

34. Indiahandmade: A Digital Platform for India's Craft Heritage

Syllabus Mapping GS-I (Craft Heritage) & GS-III (Digital economy, MSME)

Relevance

Digital marketplace connecting artisans/weavers directly with buyers — reduces intermediaries, expands market access, preserves craft heritage.

Overview:

1. Launched 2023; developed by Digital India Corporation under Ministry of Textiles.
2. Workforce scale: 64.66 lakh handloom/handicraft artisans (India); women form 71% of handloom weavers and 64% of total artisans (as of August 2025).

Key Aspects:

1. **Core Features:** specialised online marketplace, direct buyer-seller connection, greater product visibility, digital empowerment tools for sellers.
2. **Product Range:** apparel, home décor, furnishings, paintings, furniture, religious items, musical instruments, jewellery, bags, footwear.
3. **GI-Tagged Products:** showcases items like Aipan art, pure Pashmina shawls, Dokra décor, Mundu products — linking crafts to regional identity and reputation.
4. **ODOP Integration:** features items such as Tangail sarees, Banarasi silk, Ikat, Tussar silk sarees, Chanderi silk, terracotta products.
5. **Buyer Trust Mechanisms:** free shipping, purchase protection, secure payments, buyer support for a reliable shopping experience.
6. **Inclusive Seller Onboarding:** sellers without GST registration can join via an Enrolment ID (restricted to selling within their own state), easing entry for small/first-time artisans.
7. **Success Stories**: Dastkar Craft (500+ artisans, cane/bamboo products, export-worthy); Santarms (wooden décor, terracotta diyas, handloom sarees); Village Craft (cotton towels, gamchas, bedsheets).

Significance:

1. Strengthens financial and social empowerment of artisans, especially women, who dominate the handloom workforce.
2. Preserves traditional craft skills by keeping them commercially visible and economically

viable.

Keywords
Indiahandmade, Digital India Corporation, Ministry of Textiles, Handloom, Handicrafts,, GI Tag, ODOP, Enrolment ID, Direct Buyer Access, Digital Empowerment, Rural Livelihoods, Cultural Preservation, Atmanirbhar Bharat.

PYQ:
1.How far was the Industrial Revolution in England responsible for the decline of handicrafts and cottage Industries? — 2024, GS-I 2.Safeguarding the Indian art heritage is the need of the moment, Discuss. — 2019, GS-I

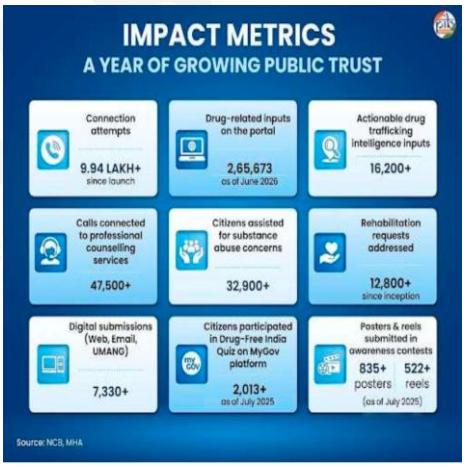
35. MANAS: A Digital Shield Against Drugs

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Citizen services) & GS-III (Internal security)

Relevance
Demonstrates Digital Public Infrastructure applied to a social/security concern — citizen reporting combined with counselling and enforcement coordination.

Overview:

- Launched in 2024 under Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Ministry of Home Affairs, with Digital India Corporation (DIC).
- MANAS = Madak Padarth Nishedh Asoochna Kendra; accessible via helpline 1933, web portal, email, UMANG app.
- India's first Magnitude of Substance Abuse report (2019) — ~16 crore alcohol users (5.7 crore severely affected), 3.1 crore cannabis users, 2.26 crore opioid users, ~2.8 crore opioid-dependent (28 lakh needing urgent treatment).



Key Aspects:

1. **Confidential Reporting** — citizens can report trafficking, peddling, illegal cultivation without revealing identity.
2. **Reporting Flow:** Citizen contact (1933/portal/UMANG) → digital ticket generated → counselling need routed to MoSJE helpline 14446 / enforcement report routed to 30 NCB Zonal Units + 36 State/UT ANTFs → tracked digitally → data logged for pattern analysis.
3. **Accessibility Features** — multilingual support, Smart IVRS, chatbot integration, regional language assistance (under development).
4. **Youth Engagement** — MyGov portal awareness drives (quizzes, poster/reel contests) targeting teenagers/youth.

Significance:

1. Converts citizen alertness into actionable, trackable intelligence — shifts public from passive service recipients to active governance partners.

2. Strengthens Digital India's citizen-protection application beyond typical service-delivery use cases.

3. Supports Nasha Mukt Bharat vision through integrated reporting, counselling, and enforcement coordination.

Keywords

MANAS, Madak Padarth Nishedh Asoochna Kendra, NCB, MHA, DIC, 1933, UMANG, 14446, Anti-Narcotics Task Forces, Digital Public Infrastructure, Citizen Participation, Drug Trafficking, Counselling, Rehabilitation, Data Analytics, Nasha Mukt Bharat

PYQ:

1. "Explain how narco-terrorism has emerged as a serious threat across the country. Suggest suitable measures to counter narco-terrorism." — 2024, GS-III

2. India's proximity to two of the world's biggest illicit opium-growing states has enhanced her internal security concerns. Explain the linkages between drug trafficking and other illicit activities such as gunrunning, money laundering and human trafficking. What counter-measures should be taken to prevent the same? — 2018,GS-III

36. PM-Vidyalaxmi Scheme: Promoting Educational Inclusion

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Education, Social Justice) & GS-III (Inclusive Growth)

Relevance

Advances India's progress toward SDG 4 and NEP 2020 goals by ensuring that financial constraints do not deprive meritorious students of equitable access to top-tier higher education.

Overview

- Approved in November 2024, the Pradhan Mantri Vidyalaxmi Scheme provides collateral-free and guarantor-free education loans to students admitted to designated Quality Higher Educational Institutions (QHEIs).

- The mission-mode scheme operates via a unified, fully digital platform, aiming to sustain and boost India's higher education Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), which reached 30.0% in 2023-24.

Key Aspects

1. **Unsecured Loans & Credit Guarantees:** Eliminates the need for collateral or third-party guarantees, backing banks with a 75% government credit guarantee for loans up to ₹7.5 lakh, and capping interest rates at the bank's EBLR + 0.5%.

2. **Targeted Interest Subvention:** Supplements the existing PM-USP CSIS by providing a 3% interest subvention on loans up to ₹10 lakh for families earning up to ₹8 lakh annually.

3. **Institutional Coverage (QHEIs):** Currently covers 1,425 elite institutions, specifically targeting the top 100 NIRF-ranked HEIs, top 200 State/UT HEIs, and all Government of India-governed HEIs.

4. **Digital Subsidy Delivery:** Utilizes the PM Vidyalaxmi Digital Rupee App (CBDC Wallet) for transparent, direct transfers, successfully managing ₹57.66 crore in subsidies across 35,777

active wallets by July 2026.

5. **Merit & Inclusivity Criteria:** Requires students to secure admission on their own merit (excluding management/NRI quotas) and maintain satisfactory academic performance to continue receiving benefits.

Significance

1. **Drives Educational Equity:** Bridges the affordability gap for EWS, OBC, SC, ST, and PwD students, allowing them to access premium institutions like IITs and IIMs.

2. **Promotes Gender Inclusion:** Actively facilitates higher education for women and transgender students, enhancing female workforce participation (over 1.58 lakh loans were sanctioned for women in FY 2025-26).

Keywords

PM-Vidyalaxmi, Quality Higher Educational Institutions (QHEIs), PM-USP CSIS, EBLR, NIRF, CBDC Wallet, NEP 2020, SDG 4.

PYQ

1.Should education be treated primarily as a welfare obligation of the state or as a strategic investment for building a globally competitive, knowledge-driven nation? Critically evaluate — 2026, GS-II

37. Catch the Rain: Renewed National Call for Water Conservation

Syllabus Mapping GS-I (Water Resources) & GS-III (Conservation)

Relevance

Water conservation has transitioned from a sectoral government program into a national mass movement (Jan Andolan), which is essential for ensuring rural resilience, climate adaptation, and the realization of a Viksit Bharat.

Overview

- Following the Prime Minister's call in Mann Ki Baat to save every drop of rain, a nationwide campaign (July–August 2026) was launched to intensify rainwater harvesting and water body restoration.

- The initiative integrates the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) and Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR) into a unified movement driven by the "3Cs"—Community, CSR, and Cost.

Key Aspects

1. **Massive Target Overshoots:** JSJB 1.0 (2024-25) built over 27 lakh groundwater recharge structures (surpassing its 10 lakh target), while JSJB 2.0 focused on over-exploited districts, yielding 1.5 crore+ structures against a 1 crore target.

2. **JSJB:** Catch the Rain (2026 Integration): The latest phase synergizes community action with major government schemes, pooling resources from PMKSY (Per Drop More Crop, RRR of Water Bodies), CAMPA, and Finance Commission Grants.

3. **Institutional Knowledge Hubs:** District-level Jal Shakti Kendras (JSKs) have been established nationwide to provide technical guidance, facilitate scientific planning, and support local communities.

4. **Evolving Themes & Women's Leadership:** Annual JSA:CTR themes have expanded from geo-tagging (2021) to women-led conservation (2024's "Nari Shakti se Jal Shakti"), with outstanding efforts recognized at the Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman and National Water Awards.

Significance

1. **Whole-of-Society Approach:** Effectively mobilizes Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), NGOs, and corporate CSR to build low-cost, hyper-local water solutions.

2. **Strengthens Rural Resilience:** Creating resilient water assets mitigates the impacts of increasing climate variability and secures agricultural livelihoods.

Keywords

Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB), Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA: CTR), 3Cs (Community, CSR, Cost), Jal Shakti Kendras (JSKs), Jan Andolan, PMKSY, Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman.

PYQ

1. Why is the world today confronted with a crisis of availability of and access to freshwater resources? — 2023, GS-I

2. Examine the factors responsible for depleting groundwater in India.What are the steps taken by the government to mitigate such depletion of groundwater? — 2025, GS-III

38. India's Toy Ecosystem: From Local Craft to Global Markets

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Manufacturing, MSMEs, GI tags) & GS-I (Heritage)

Relevance

Case study of India moving from import-dependence to net exporter through targeted policy — tariffs, quality standards, GI tagging, and export promotion working in convergence.

Overview:

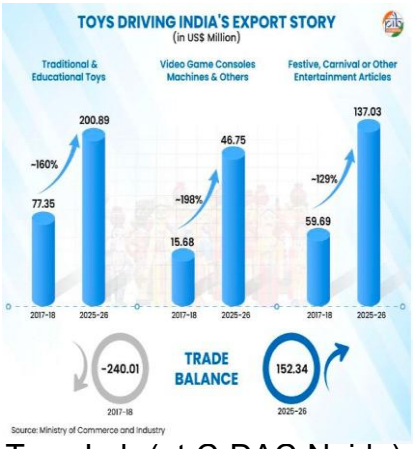
- India's toy tradition traces to the Indus Valley Civilization (~5,000 years) — Harappa/Mohenjo-Daro excavations show toy-making heritage.

- Growth drivers: young population (India >1.4 billion, large share below 25), rising incomes, e-commerce expansion, demand for STEM/smart toys (AI, AR, VR).

Key Aspects:

1. **Quality Regulation & Policy:** The National Action Plan for Toys (NAPT) and the 2020 Quality Control Order (QCO) mandate BIS certification (IS 9873) to curb substandard imports, while exempting GI-tag holders and registered artisans.

2. **Trade & Employment Turnaround**: Backed by protective tariffs (raised up to 70%) and a GST cut (to 5%), India moved to a trade surplus of $152 million in 2025-26, with sector employment doubling to over 17,600 jobs.



3. **Heritage & Export Hubs:** Traditional crafts (e.g., GI-tagged Channapatna Toys, Thanjavur Dolls) are promoted globally via One District One Product (ODOP) and the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) initiative across 36 States/UTs.

4. **Innovation & Skilling:** Platforms like Toycathon and MeitY's e-Toys Lab (at C-DAC Noida) drive indigenous design capabilities, especially in electronic, AI, and STEM toy segments.

5. **Global Integration**: Zero-duty access under major FTAs (India-UAE, India-UK CETA, etc.) and global B2B platforms like the Toy Biz Exhibition are expanding global market reach.

Significance:

1. Demonstrates the successful convergence of tariff policy, strict quality regulation, and export promotion in building domestic manufacturing capacity.
2. Strengthens rural artisan livelihoods and women's economic participation by formalizing and scaling traditional GI-tagged crafts

Challenges:

1. Sustaining competitiveness against established global manufacturing hubs despite tariff protection.
2. Ensuring GI-tagged and artisanal toy producers scale without losing craftsmanship.
3. Updating safety standards without placing excessive compliance burdens on small MSME manufacturers.

Way Forward:

1. Expand e-Toys Lab-style skilling programmes for electronic/smart toy segments.
2. Leverage FTA market access more fully across all six agreements.
3. Strengthen DEH/ODOP convergence to scale district-level toy clusters into export hubs.

Keywords

Toy Industry, NAPT 2020, QCO, BIS, IS 9873, Toycathon, e-Toycathon, e-Toys Lab, ODOP, GI Toys, Districts as Export Hubs, STEM Toys, AI/AR/VR, Trade Surplus, Atmanirbhar Bharat, Manufacturing, Export Competitiveness.

39. Poshan Tracker: Digital Nutrition Governance

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Welfare, E-Governance)

Relevance

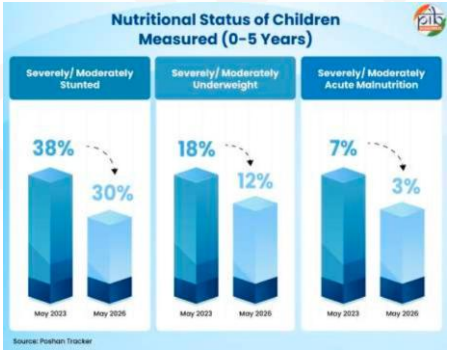
A leading example of Digital India applied to nutrition governance — combines DPI, real-time monitoring and Jan Andolan approach to a persistent development challenge (malnutrition).

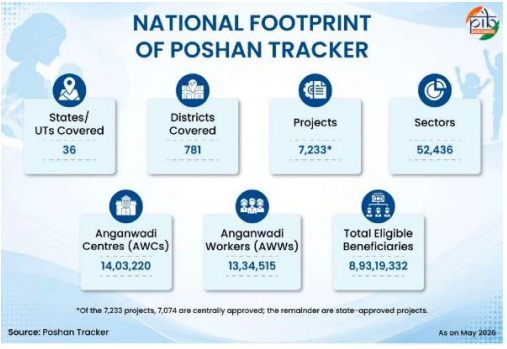
Overview:

- POSHAN Abhiyaan launched in 2018 (MoWCD) — India's flagship National Nutrition Mission; multi-ministerial, time-bound, Jan Andolan approach.
- Poshan Tracker launched March 2021 (MoWCD + NeGD) as the digital backbone — mobile-based app enabling near real-time monitoring of Anganwadi service delivery.

Key Aspects:

1. **Problem it Solves** — replaced 11 manual registers previously maintained by Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), which caused delayed decisions, inconsistent home-visit assessments, and no beneficiary authentication.
2. **Core Technology Features:** Aadhaar-based verification (prevents leakages/ghost entries); Facial Recognition System (last-mile authenticity); IT-enabled Home Visit Scheduler (23 structured visits across pregnancy to age 3); Poshan Calculator (WHO Child Growth Standards-based classification of stunting/wasting/SAM-MAM/obesity).
3. **ECCE Integration** — delivers content (videos, voice notes, activity PDFs) aligned with Aadharshila (National ECCE Curriculum for ages 3-6, launched March 2024, promotes play-based learning).
4. **Grievance & Accessibility** — Poshan Helpline; all AWWs equipped with smartphones (₹2,000/year connectivity support).





5. **SNP Monitoring** — tracks Supplementary Nutrition Programme delivery; e.g., 5.5 crore+ beneficiaries received SNP for 15+ days (May 2026).

Significance:

1. Converts nutrition governance from paper-based to real-time, evidence-driven decision-making.
2. Strengthens last-mile delivery and accountability through Aadhaar-authenticated data.

3. Demonstrates DPI's application beyond financial/health sectors into grassroots welfare delivery.

Challenges:

1. Ensuring last-mile digital literacy and consistent smartphone/connectivity access for all AWWs.
2. Sustaining data quality and authentication accuracy at scale (8.93 crore+ beneficiaries).
3. Converting monitoring data into timely corrective action at the ground level.

Way Forward:

1. Deepen integration with other social schemes for beneficiary cross-verification.
2. Expand ECCE content and Aadharshila-aligned tools for early childhood outcomes.
3. Strengthen the Saksham Anganwadi infrastructure upgrade (LED screens, water purifiers, Poshan Vatikas) alongside digital tools.

Keywords

POSHAN Abhiyaan, Mission Poshan 2.0, Poshan Tracker, MoWCD, NeGD, Anganwadi, Jan Andolan, Aadhaar authentication, FRS, WHO Growth Standards, Aadharshila, ECCE, SNP, stunting, wasting, SAM/MAM, Digital Public Infrastructure, real-time dashboards, nutrition governance.

PYQ:

1. Malnutrition in India is not merely a public health concern; it is also a challenge of social equity, human development and effective welfare governance. Discuss. — 2026, GS-II
2. Poverty and malnutrition create a vicious cycle, adversely affecting human capital formation. What steps can be taken to break the cycle?"— 2024, GS-II

40. Jan Aushadhi Nutraceuticals: Affordable Nutrition

Syllabus Mapping GS-II (Welfare, Health, Nutrition)

Relevance

Extends PMBJP's affordable-medicine model to nutraceuticals, addressing nutritional affordability as a public health equity issue.

Overview:

- PMBJP (Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana) has expanded its basket beyond affordable medicines to include nutraceuticals — vitamins, minerals, herbs, botanicals, probiotics.
- Aim: address affordability gap in nutritional supplements for families across income levels, via the existing Jan Aushadhi Kendra network.

Key Aspects:

1. **General Nutrition Products:** protein supplements, immunity products, nutritional foods; e.g., Jan Aushadhi Protein Bar and Immunity Bar (35g packs) for portable, affordable

nourishment.

2. **Fitness/Protein Supplements:** 100% Whey Protein Powder and Jan Aushadhi Protein Powder support daily protein intake and muscle recovery, available in multiple flavours.
3. **Women-Specific Nutrition:** Jan Aushadhi Women Protein Boost (250g pack, ₹204.66) formulated for women's protein, energy, bone/muscle health needs across life stages.
4. **Condition-Specific Nutrition**: Diabetes Care Protein Powder and Renal Care Protein Powder (Low/High Protein variants) cater to individuals managing diabetes or kidney conditions.
5. **Family/Everyday Nutrition:** Jan Aushadhi Poshan range — malt-based nutritional food; multiple pack sizes and price points (e.g., 500g Malt Based Food at ₹160.17; 30g Cocoa Sachet at ₹8.90) for flexible household use.

Significance:

1. Extends the affordable-healthcare model (PMBJP's core medicine mission) to preventive nutrition, not just treatment.
2. Targets a broad demographic: children, working professionals, women, senior citizens, and those with specific health conditions through one accessible network.
3. Reduces dependence on expensive branded nutrition supplements, making quality nutrition income-independent.

Challenges:

1. Ensuring specialised products (diabetes/renal-specific) are used under proper medical guidance rather than self-administered.
2. Building awareness of the nutraceutical basket alongside PMBJP's better-known medicine offerings.
3. Balancing affordability with maintaining quality/nutritional standards at scale.

Way Forward:

1. Expand awareness campaigns to position nutrition as integral to PMBJP's larger health mission.
2. Widen product range to cover more condition-specific and life-stage-specific needs.
3. Strengthen last-mile Jan Aushadhi Kendra reach to maximise accessibility.

Keywords

PMBJP, Jan Aushadhi Kendra, nutraceuticals, protein supplements, immunity, Women Protein Boost, Diabetes Care, Renal Care, Jan Aushadhi Poshan, vitamins & minerals, affordable healthcare, preventive nutrition.

PYQ:

1. “In a crucial domain like the public healthcare system, the Indian State should play a vital role to contain the adverse impact of marketisation of the system.” — 2025, GS-II

2. "Besides being a moral imperative of the Welfare State, primary health structure is a necessary pre-condition for sustainable development. Analyze." — 2021, GS-II

41. Toy Biz 2026: From Playrooms to Global Markets

Syllabus Mapping GS-III (Manufacturing, MSMEs, Make in India)

Relevance

Reflects the shift of India's toy sector from import-dependence to indigenous manufacturing and export competitiveness — ties into Atmanirbhar Bharat and MSME policy.

Overview:

- 17th Toy Biz International B2B Expo held at Bharat Mandapam; brought together manufacturers, startups, educators, retailers, exporters from across India and abroad.
- Reflects broader theme: toys reframed from "play products" to tools for learning, creativity, innovation.
- Scale growth cited by an exhibitor: expo grew from ~60-65 stalls (early editions) to 400+ stalls today — indicator of sector expansion.

Key Aspects:

1. **Indigenous, Fully-Integrated Manufacturing:** companies increasingly control the entire chain in-house (mould-making to injection moulding); named example: vu toys (Jaipur), founder Pankaj Sharma, "Made in India" end-to-end production.
2. **MSME Government Support:** schemes like CGTMSE (Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises) help fund production expansion; government support for exhibition participation (travel/stall costs) helps MSMEs scale visibility.
3. **Educational/STEM Toy Segment:** growing focus on experiential, play-based learning; named example: EDu edge (Mumbai), founder Bela Desai, Montessori-inspired, exports to Europe.
4. **Innovation & IP Focus:** companies investing in patents, design registrations, copyrights; named example: Dr. MADY'S INNOVATION Pvt. Ltd. (Kolkata), 14-year-old firm, in-house electronic/mould R&D, exports to US, Europe, Dubai, Middle East.
5. **Startup Ecosystem:** young MSME-registered startups leveraging government schemes for market entry; named example: Kitoy Creations (Pune), ~2.5 years old, aiming for international expansion.
6. **Import Substitution Trend:** shift noted by exhibitors: toys once dominated by imports now increasingly Indian-manufactured at competitive quality/price.

Significance:

1. Demonstrates MSME policy support translating into real manufacturing capacity and export growth.
2. Reflects the toy sector as a case study in import substitution and Make in India success.
3. Builds India's IP culture in a traditionally low-innovation sector.

Challenges:

1. Competing with established global toy manufacturing hubs on price and scale.
2. Sustaining innovation/IP investment among smaller MSMEs and startups with limited capital.
3. Converting domestic manufacturing gains into deeper global market penetration.

Way Forward:

1. Continued government support for MSME participation in international exhibitions.
2. Strengthen IP protection and R&D incentives for toy manufacturers.
3. Leverage platforms like Toy Biz to connect Indian toy startups directly with export markets.

Keywords:

Make in India, CGTMSE, MSME, Atmanirbhar Bharat, indigenous manufacturing, IP (patents/design registrations), import substitution

42. India as a Tourism Hub

Syllabus Mapping GS-I (Heritage) & GS-III (Economy, Infra, Employment)

Relevance

Tourism is emerging as a high-value growth engine expanding visitor economy, hospitality, transport, handicrafts, food, wellness & local enterprises.

Overview:

- India emerged as a major global tourism hub - backed by civilisational heritage, natural diversity, spiritual appeal
- Shift from visitor-number growth to a high-value, destination-centric ecosystem — infrastructure, connectivity, digital platforms, sustainability.

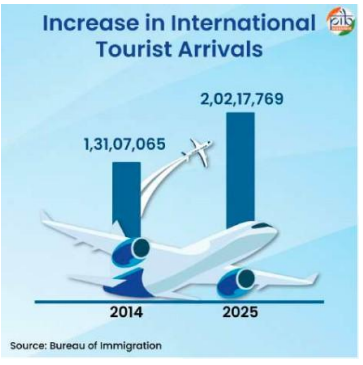
Data points

1. Domestic tourist visits: **610 million** (2020) to **2.9 billion** (2024).
2. International Tourist Arrivals: **~2.02 crore** (2025).
3. Tourism contribution to GDP: **5.22%** (FY23–24).

Key Aspects:

1. **Assets & its Segments:** Diverse experiences across spiritual (Char Dham, Bodh Gaya, Amritsar), heritage (forts, temples, living traditions), wellness (Yoga, Ayurveda), eco/wildlife (tiger reserves, Himalayas), rural/homestay, and coastal/adventure (7,500+ km coastline); backed by 44 UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

   Example - Virupaksha temple (Hampi,Karnataka); Double Decker Living Root Bridge, (Cherrapunjee, Meghalaya);



2. **MICE Tourism:** Meetings, Incentives, Conferences & Exhibitions Example - Bharat mandapam, New Delhi ;
3. **Infrastructure-Led Development:** Flagship schemes — Swadesh Darshan (76 projects), Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (destination-centric), PRASHAD (pilgrimage infra) — collectively shifting focus from isolated attractions to integrated circuits.
4. **Connectivity:** Highways, Vande Bharat, UDAN driving accessibility, Viksit UDAN targets 100+ new aerodromes and 200 helipads for Tier-2/3 reach.
5. **Digital & Ease of Travel:** e-Tourist Visa extended to **175 countries**.
6. **Innovation & Startups**: **1,497 DPIIT-recognised tourism startups,** majority in Tier-II/III cities; Example - VilloTale (homestay tourism), udChalo (travel services).
7. **Sustainability:** Travel for LiFE promotes responsible tourism and diversification (trekking, birdwatching) to ease pressure on saturated sites; linked to SDG 8.9(sustainable tourism, jobs & local culture/products), 12.B(monitoring sustainable tourism impacts.).

Case study : G20 Tourism Impact

200+ meetings across 60+ cities; showcased heritage, crafts, cuisine across States/UTs; multi-city model strengthened destination branding & promoted lesser-known locations; boosted MICE potential, global visibility, and soft power.

Significance

1. Generates large-scale employment (**69.44 million** (2019-20) to **84.6 million jobs** (2023–24)) and rural livelihoods via community-based tourism.
2. Enhances India's global soft power and cultural diplomacy (e.g., G20 showcase).
3. Advances Digital Public Infrastructure application in a new sector (NIDHI+ platform for service-provider registration).

Challenges:

1. Balancing rising visitor volumes with heritage/environmental conservation at popular sites.
2. Ensuring infrastructure gains reach Tier-2/3 and remote destinations, not just metros.
3. Converting startup ecosystem growth into sustained employment.

Way Forward:

1. Deepen destination-centric planning (Swadesh Darshan 2.0 model) over standalone monument development.
2. Expand digital ease-of-travel measures to more source markets.
3. Strengthen community-based and eco-tourism models for inclusive, sustainable growth.

Keywords
global competitive, inclusive, Sustainable Visitor economy, Swadesh Darshan 2.0, PRASHAD, SASCI, CBDD, Viksit UDAN, MICE, NIDHI+, e-Tourist Visa, Travel for LiFE, community-based tourism, sustainable tourism, SDG 8.9/12.B/14.7, soft power, destination-centric development.

PYQ:
1.How can the mountain ecosystem be restored from the negative impact of development initiatives and tourism? — 2019, GS-I

43. MY Bharat - Where Digital India Meets Young India

Syllabus Mapping GS-I (Youth/Society) & GS-II (Youth policy, E-Governance)

Relevance
India's demographic dividend (**~65% population below 35**) is being channelled via a unified digital platform for youth engagement — reflects convergence of Digital India and youth policy.

Overview:
- *MY Bharat (Mera Yuva Bharat)* launched in October 2023 under the "Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports".
- Digital platform connecting Government, educational institutions, NGOs, industry with **2.22+ crore youth** registered.
- Goal: Place youth at the centre of nation-building — volunteering, skilling, leadership, civic participation - aligned with Viksit Bharat@2047.

Key Aspects:

1. **Digital Volunteerism & Social Action:** Provides end-to-end management (geo-tagging, certificates) for 1.52 lakh+ opportunities, driving initiatives like *Nasha Mukt Bharat*, NSS integration, and nationwide cleanliness drives (*Jan Bhagidari*).



2. **Experiential Learning Ecosystem:** Offers 24,900+ Experiential Learning Programs (internships, industry exposure) accessible via a single-registration, multilingual mobile app (22 languages).
3. **Leadership & Civic Participation:** Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament (50.42L+), Nari Shakti Youth Parliament (7,000+ women), multilingual governance quizzes
4. **Verified Recognition & Mentorship:** Equips youth with AI-powered resume builders, mentoring, and digital credentials (verified badges/certificates) to formally recognize civic participation and enhance employability.
5. **Global & Border Engagement:** Viksit Vibrant Village Programme (border villages); UN ECOSOC Youth Forum 2026 .

Significance:

1. Converts youth bulge into organised, trackable civic/skill resources.
2. Strengthens grassroots democratic participation
   Example -, 'MY Bharat MY Vote' for first-time voter awareness.
3. Demonstrates DPI-enabled governance at population scale.
4. Single registration enabling seamless access across opportunities/certificates/initiatives
5. Digital badges, certificates, verified participation records as a recognition feature.

Challenges:

1. Sustaining engagement beyond flagship one-time events.
2. Ensuring rural/Tier-3 youth inclusion despite digital-first design.
3. Converting volunteering/learning into measurable skill or employment outcomes.

Way Forward

Launch MY Bharat 2.0 with advanced AI integration, open APIs, and expanded digital credentials to achieve the vision of empowering 100+ million youth through technology-driven governance.

Keywords

Mera Yuva Bharat, Amrit Peedhi, demographic dividend, Digital Public Infrastructure, volunteerism, Experiential learning, VBYLD, Youth Parliament, Nasha mukht Bharat, civic participation, digital credentials, open APIs, Digital India, Viksit Bharat@2047.

PYQ:

1.Evaluate the impact of globalization on Indian youths with reference to social, political, economic and cultural spheres — 2026, GS-I