

1 रेल सुरक्षा एवं कवच 4.0

- FY 2026-27 में केवल 2 परिणामस्वरूप ट्रेन दुर्घटनाएं।
- कवच 4.0: स्वदेशी ऑटोमेटिक ट्रेन प्रोटेक्शन (ATP) प्रणाली।
- सिग्नल पासिंग एट डेंजर (SPAD), टक्कर और ओवरस्पीडिंग रोकता है।
- LTE आधारित संचार तकनीक।
- उच्च घनत्व वाले मार्गों पर तैनाती जारी।
- SIL-4 सुरक्षा प्रमाणन के साथ विश्वसनीय।



सेंसर → डेटा प्रोसेस → कवच नियंत्रण → सुरक्षित संचालन

मूल्य संवर्धन

सुरक्षा, समयपालन, क्षमता वृद्धि और जनविश्वास को सुदृढ़ करता है।

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

कवच 4.0, ATP, RDSO, SPAD, LTE, SIL-4

2 इंडिया मोबाइल कांग्रेस 2026

- थीम: "स्केल बिना बाउंड्रीज" (Scale Without Boundaries)
- फोकस क्षेत्र: 6G, AI, सेमीकंडक्टर, क्वांटम, साइबर सुरक्षा।
- दूरसंचार विभाग (DoT) और COAI द्वारा संयुक्त आयोजन।
- डिजिटल नवाचार और वैश्विक साझेदारी को बढ़ावा।
- नीति, प्रौद्योगिकी और उद्योग अभिसरण का मंच।



नीति संवाद → तकनीकी नवाचार → उद्योग भागीदारी → डिजिटल नेतृत्व

मूल्य संवर्धन

भारत की डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था, आत्मनिर्भरता और टेक लीडरशिप को गति

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

IMC 2026, 6G, DoT, COAI, AI, डिजिटल इकोसिस्टम

3 मछिलीपट्टनम - ASW शैलो वॉटर क्राफ्ट लॉन्च

- भारतीय नौसेना में शामिल 'मछिलीपट्टनम', माहे क्लास की 7वीं ASW शैलो वॉटर क्राफ्ट।
- निर्माण: कोचिन शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड।
- मुख्य भूमिका: पनडुब्बी रोधी युद्ध, तटीय रक्षा, माइन विहाना, निगरानी।
- उथले जल में उच्च गतिशीलता और श्रेष्ठ संचालन क्षमता।
- 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत' के तहत स्वदेशी निर्माण को बढ़ावा।



डिजाइन (स्वदेशी) → निर्माण → परीक्षण → नौसेना में तैनाती

मूल्य संवर्धन

समुद्री सुरक्षा, ब्लू वॉटर कैपेबिलिटी और तटीय निगरानी को सुदृढ़ करता है।

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

माहे क्लास, ASW, सोनार, कोचिन शिपयार्ड, नौसेना

4 RET औषधीय पौधों के संरक्षण हेतु जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय-CSIR MoU

- जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय (MoTA) और CSIR-NBRI के बीच MoU।
- दुर्लभ, संकटग्रस्त एवं लुप्तप्राय (RET) औषधीय पौधों का संरक्षण।
- पारंपरिक ज्ञान व जनजातीय आजीविका की सुरक्षा।
- वैज्ञानिक संरक्षण, दस्तावेजीकरण एवं अनुसंधान को बढ़ावा।
- जैव विविधता और सतत उपयोग सुनिश्चित।
- औषधीय पौधों पर एथनोबोटैनिकल शोध को प्रोत्साहन।



परंपरागत ज्ञान → वैज्ञानिक संरक्षण → आजीविका संवर्धन → सतत उपयोग

मूल्य संवर्धन

जैव विविधता संरक्षण, जनजातीय सशक्तिकरण और पारंपरिक ज्ञान का दस्तावेजीकरण।

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

RET पौधे, CSIR-NBRI, MoTA, एथनोबोटनी, FRA, जैव विविधता अधिनियम

5 टीबी उन्मूलन मिशन - लक्ष्य 2030

- भारत का लक्ष्य: वर्ष 2030 तक टीबी उन्मूलन (SDG 2035 से 5 वर्ष पहले)।
- केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ने प्रगति की समीक्षा की।
- प्रमुख उपकरण: Ni-kshay पोर्टल, Ni-kshay पोषण योजना, AI आधारित निदान।
- सामुदायिक भागीदारी एवं पोषण सहायता।
- भारत में टीबी घटनाओं में 21% की कमी (PIB वक्तव्य के अनुसार)।
- प्रारंभिक जाँच, उपचार और पोषण सहायता पर विशेष जोर।



जल्दी पहचान → सही उपचार → पोषण सहयोग → टीबी मुक्त भारत (2030)

मूल्य संवर्धन

जन स्वास्थ्य सुदृढ़, उत्पादकता वृद्धि और स्वास्थ्य व्यय में कमी।

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

टीबी, NTEP, Ni-kshay, MDR-TB, SDG 2030, जन स्वास्थ्य

6 इंडिया मेडिकल डिवाइस 2026 कॉन्फ्रेंस

- चिकित्सा उपकरण क्षेत्र की वृद्धि पर सम्मेलन की पोषणा।
- नवाचार, गुणवत्ता, वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धा पर फोकस।
- PLI योजना एवं मेडिकल डिवाइस पार्क का समर्थन।
- 'मेक इन इंडिया' को स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में बढ़ावा।
- स्वास्थ्य अवसंरचना को सुदृढ़ करने पर जोर।
- अनुसंधान, स्टार्टअप और उद्योग सहभागिता को प्रोत्साहन।



अनुसंधान → विनिर्माण → गुणवत्ता मानक → वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धा

मूल्य संवर्धन

आयात निर्भरता कम, रोजगार सृजन और स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की गुणवत्ता में सुधार।

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

मेडिकल डिवाइस, PLI, CDSCO, डिवाइस पार्क, मेक इन इंडिया

7 नशा मुक्त भारत अभियान (NMBA)

- डिजिटल मॉनिटरिंग तंत्र को सुदृढ़ किया गया।
- पंचायत स्तर पर जागरूकता और भागीदारी।
- NAPDDR के अंतर्गत नशा मुक्ति केंद्रों की विस्तार।
- फोकस: जागरूकता, मांग में कमी, पुनर्वास और पुनर्स्थापन।
- वर्ष 2020 में अभियान की शुरुआत।
- समुदाय आधारित दृष्टिकोण से स्थायी प्रभाव।



जागरूकता → निवारण → उपचार → पुनर्वास → नशा मुक्त समाज

मूल्य संवर्धन

स्वस्थ समाज, उत्पादक कार्यबल और अपराध व नशीली दवाओं के दुष्प्रभाव में कमी।

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

NMBA, NAPDDR, नशा मुक्ति केंद्र, मांग में कमी, पुनर्वास, 2020

8 कॉर्पोरेट मित्र योजना

- IICA द्वारा मिजोरम में जागरूकता कार्यक्रम।
- कॉर्पोरेट अनुपालन और सुशासन में सुधार।
- MSMEs को नियामक समझ में सहायता।
- 'ईज ऑफ डूइंग बिजनेस' को बढ़ावा।
- कॉर्पोरेट जिम्मेदारी और पारदर्शिता को प्रोत्साहन।
- कॉर्पोरेट मामलों के मंत्रालय की पहल।



कॉर्पोरेट अनुपालन → पारदर्शिता → MSME सहायता → सुशासन

मूल्य संवर्धन

व्यवसाय माहौल में सुधार, अनुपालन लागत में कमी और निवेश आकर्षण।

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

कॉर्पोरेट मित्र, IICA, MCA, अनुपालन, MSME, सुशासन

9 GST अपीलीय अधिकरण (GSTAT) पर वेबिनार

- DGTS द्वारा GSTAT प्रक्रियाओं पर वेबिनार।
- हाल की स्पष्टीकरणों और दिशानिर्देशों पर चर्चा।
- GSTAT: CGST अधिनियम, 2017 के अंतर्गत वैधानिक अपीलीय निकाय।
- कर विवाद निपटान में पारदर्शिता और तीव्रता।
- उच्च न्यायालयों पर भार कम करने में सहायक।
- करदाताओं के विश्वास और कर प्रशासन को बल।



अपील दायर → GSTAT सुनवाई → निर्णय → पारदर्शी निपटान

मूल्य संवर्धन

कर प्रशासन सुदृढ़, विश्वास बढ़ता है। और ईज ऑफ डूइंग बिजनेस में सुधार।

महत्वपूर्ण कीवर्ड

GSTAT, CGST, IGST, अपीलीय अधिकरण, कर सुधार

अन्य महत्वपूर्ण एक-पंक्ति बिंदु



डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने कैंसर, मधुमेह और मोटापे के खिलाफ जन आंदोलन की अपील की; प्रारंभिक पहचान और वैज्ञानिक जागरूकता पर जोर।



प्रधानमंत्री ने महान क्रांतिकारी मंगल पांडे जी की पुण्यतिथि पर श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की।



वैकिंग क्षेत्र में साइबर जोखिम के लिए राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर त्वरित प्रतिक्रिया और मजबूत समन्वय की आवश्यकता (PIB)।



भारत-ऑस्ट्रेलिया यूरैनियम आपूर्ति समझौता: स्वच्छ ऊर्जा सहयोग को प्रगाढ़ करेगा और ऊर्जा सुरक्षा को सुदृढ़ करेगा।



AI आधारित उपकरणों और नवाचारों पर जोर, जो विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में विकास और 'विकसित भारत 2047' लक्ष्यों को गति देंगे।

1 Rail Safety & Kavach 4.0

- Only 2 consequential train accidents in FY 2026-27.
- Kavach 4.0: Indigenous ATP system by RDSO.
- Prevents SPAD, collisions & overspeeding.
- Uses LTE-based communication.
- Deployed on high-density routes.
- SIL-4 safety certification.



Value Addition

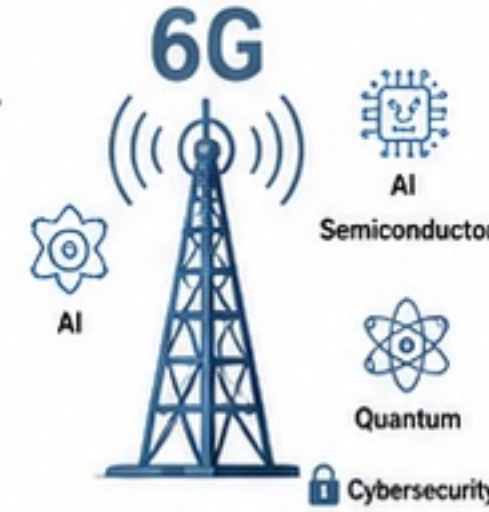
Enhances safety, punctuality, capacity & public trust.

Keywords

Kavach 4.0, ATP, RDSO, SPAD, LTE, SIL-4

2 India Mobile Congress 2026

- Theme: 'Scale Without Boundaries'.
- Focus: 6G, AI, Semiconductors, Quantum, Cybersecurity.
- Jointly organised by DoT & COAI.
- Showcases digital innovation & global partnerships.
- Strengthens India's digital ecosystem.
- Platform for policy, tech & industry convergence.



Value Addition

Drives digital leadership & tech self-reliance.

Keywords

IMC 2026, 6G, AI, DoT, COAI, Digital Ecosystem

3 Machilipatnam – ASW Craft Launched

- 7th Mahe-class ASW Shallow Water Craft.
- Built by Cochin Shipyard Limited.
- Role: Detect submarines, coastal defence, mine laying.
- Strengthens coastal surveillance.
- Boosts indigenous defence manufacturing.
- Supports Atmanirbhar Bharat & Maritime Security.



Value Addition

Enhances coastal security & blue-water capability.

Keywords

Mahe-class, ASW, Sonar, Cochin Shipyard, Navy

4 RET Medicinal Plants Conservation MoU

- MoTA signed MoU with CSIR-NBRI.
- Focus on Rare, Endangered & Threatened (RET) plants.
- Protects traditional knowledge & tribal livelihoods.
- Promotes scientific conservation & documentation.
- Supports biodiversity & sustainable use.
- Strengthens ethnobotanical research.



Value Addition

Conserves biodiversity & empowers tribal communities.

Keywords

RET Plants, CSIR-NBRI, MoTA, Ethnobotany, FRA

5 TB Elimination Mission – Target 2030

- India targets TB elimination by 2030 (5 years ahead of SDG 2035).
- Reviewed by Union Health Minister.
- Key tools: Ni-kshay Portal, Ni-kshay Poshan.
- AI-based diagnosis & community participation.
- 21% decline in TB incidence (PIB statement).
- Focus on early detection & nutrition support.



Value Addition

Improves public health & reduces economic burden.

Keywords

TB, NTEP, Ni-kshay, MDR-TB, SDG 2030, Public Health

6 India Medical Device 2026 Conference

- Conference on growth of Medical Device sector.
- Focus on innovation, quality & global competitiveness.
- Supported by PLI Scheme & Device Parks.
- Promotes 'Make in India' in healthcare.
- Strengthens health infrastructure.
- Encourages R&D and start-ups.



Value Addition

Boosts manufacturing & reduces import dependence.

Keywords

Medical Devices, PLI, CDSCO, Make in India, Device Parks

7 Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA)

- Strengthened digital monitoring mechanisms.
- Panchayat-level participation in anti-drug efforts.
- De-addiction centres under NAPDDR enhanced.
- Focus: Awareness, demand reduction & rehabilitation.
- Launched in 2020.
- Community-driven approach for sustained impact.



Value Addition

Builds drug-free society & strengthens communities.

Keywords

NMBA, NAPDDR, De-addiction, Demand Reduction, 2020

8 Corporate Mitra Scheme

- Awareness programme by IICA in Mizoram.
- Improves corporate compliance & governance.
- Supports MSMEs in regulatory understanding.
- Enhances Ease of Doing Business.
- Promotes corporate responsibility & transparency.
- Initiative of Ministry of Corporate Affairs.



Value Addition

Supports MSMEs & strengthens corporate ecosystem.

Keywords

Corporate Mitra, IICA, MCA, Compliance, MSME

9 GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) Webinar

- DGTS organised webinar on GSTAT procedures.
- Coverage: recent clarifications & dispute resolution.
- GSTAT: Statutory appellate body under CGST Act, 2017.
- Eases burden on High Courts.
- Improves tax dispute resolution.
- Enhances taxpayer confidence.



Value Addition

Strengthens tax governance & ease of doing business.

Keywords

GSTAT, CGST, IGST, Appeal, Tax Reforms

Other Important Ohe-Liners



Dr Jitendra Singh urged mass movement against cancer, diabetes & obesity; emphasis on early detection & awareness.



PM paid homage to revolutionary Mangal Pandey Ji.



Cyber security in banking needs national response and stronger coordination (PIB statement).



India–Australia uranium supplies agreement to strengthen clean energy cooperation.



AI-driven tools & innovation highlighted across multiple sectors for Viksit Bharat 2047 goals.



कैपिटल कॉम्प्लेक्स - यूनेस्को स्थल

सृजन इंडिया वन राज्य एवं केंद्र शासित प्रदेश

29 जुलाई 2026

चंडीगढ़ (केंद्र शासित प्रदेश)

भारत का प्रथम नियोजित शहर - "सिटी ब्यूटीफुल"



सुखना झील

1. महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य

शासन व्यवस्था	: केंद्र शासित प्रदेश
राजधानी	: चंडीगढ़
निर्माण/गठन	: 1 नवम्बर 1966
आधिकारिक भाषाएँ	: अंग्रेज़ी, हिन्दी, पंजाबी
प्रशासक	: राष्ट्रपति द्वारा नियुक्त
क्षेत्रफल	: 114 वर्ग किमी
जनसंख्या (2011)	: 10.55 लाख
जनसंख्या घनत्व	: 9,250 /वर्ग किमी
साक्षरता दर (2011)	: 86.05%

विशेष तथ्य

- ★ भारत का प्रथम नियोजित शहर।
- ★ वास्तुकार - ले कॉर्बुजियर।
- ★ पंजाब और हरियाणा की साझा राजधानी।
- ★ कैपिटल कॉम्प्लेक्स - यूनेस्को विश्व धरोहर स्थल।
- ★ उच्च जीवन स्तर और स्वच्छ शहर के रूप में प्रसिद्ध।

2. स्थिति एवं मानचित्र

स्थिति

- शिवालिक पर्वतमाला की तलहटी में स्थित।
- उत्तर भारत में स्थित।
- मैदानों में हल्की ढलान एवं मौसमी नालियाँ (चोएँ)।

प्रमुख नदियाँ/नालियाँ

- सुखना चोए (मौसमी)
- पातियाला राव (मौसमी)



भौगोलिक विशेषताएँ

- इंडो-गंगीय मैदान का भाग
- उपोष्णकटिबंधीय आर्द्र जलवायु

3. इतिहास एवं विरासत



प्राचीन पृष्ठभूमि

- क्षेत्र में प्राचीन मानव वस्तियों के पुरातात्विक साक्ष्य।



आधुनिक इतिहास

- 1947 के विभाजन के बाद पंजाब की नई राजधानी के रूप में योजना।
- ले कॉर्बुजियर द्वारा नियोजित शहर।
- 1 नवम्बर 1966 को पंजाब के पुनर्गठन के बाद केंद्र शासित प्रदेश बना।



विश्व धरोहर स्थल

- कैपिटल कॉम्प्लेक्स (The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier) - यूनेस्को विश्व धरोहर स्थल।



पंजाब एवं हरियाणा उच्च न्यायालय



रॉक गार्डन



जाकिर हुसैन रोज गार्डन

4. अर्थव्यवस्था

- प्रमुख क्षेत्र: प्रशासन, सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी, शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, बैंकिंग, पर्यटन, रियल एस्टेट।
- अवसंरचना: सड़क, सार्वजनिक उपयोगिताएँ, हरित पट्टियाँ, उत्कृष्ट शहरी योजनाबद्धता।
- उद्योग: आईटी पार्क, विनिर्माण, फार्मा, हल्के इंजीनियरिंग, सेवा क्षेत्र।
- परिवहन: चंडीगढ़ अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा।
- रेल, सड़क संपर्क उत्कृष्ट।



आईटी पार्क



चंडीगढ़ अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा

मुख्य तथ्य : उच्च प्रति व्यक्ति आय, उच्च शहरीकरण, उत्कृष्ट जीवन गुणवत्ता वाला शहर।

5. कृषि

- प्रमुख फसलें: गेहूँ, धान, मक्का, सब्जियाँ, दलहन।
- बागवानी: सब्जियाँ, फूल, फल (आसपास के क्षेत्रों में)।
- पशुपालन: डेयरी, पोल्ट्री, पशुपालन।



गेहूँ



धान



मक्का



सब्जियाँ



डेयरी



बागवानी

विशेष उत्पाद : डेयरी उत्पाद, ताजी सब्जियाँ, फूल उत्पाद, औषधीय पौधे।

6. संस्कृति एवं परंपरा

- लोक नृत्य: भांगड़ा, पिट्ठा, धमाल।
- लोक संगीत: टुम्बी, आल्गोजा, भांगड़ा बीट्स।
- कला रूप: समकालीन कला, मूर्तिकला, आधुनिक स्थापत्य।
- हस्तशिल्प: फुलकारी, हस्तकरघा, मिट्टी के बर्तन, बुड़ क्राफ्ट।
- भाषाएँ: पंजाबी, हिन्दी, अंग्रेज़ी।
- सांस्कृतिक विशेषताएँ: आधुनिकता और परंपरा का सुंदर संगम। स्वच्छता और अनुशासन के लिए प्रसिद्ध।



भांगड़ा



फुलकारी कढ़ाई



समकालीन कला

7. पर्व एवं त्योहार

- बैसाखी: फसल कटाई का पर्व।
- लोहड़ी: सुर्व के उतरायण का पर्व।
- दीवाली: प्रसाश पर्व।
- होली: रंगों का पर्व।
- गुरुपर्व: सिख गुरुओं के प्रकाशोत्सव।
- ईद: ईद-उल-फ़ित्र और ईद-उल-अज़हा।
- विस्मस: प्रेम और सद्भाव का पर्व।



बैसाखी उत्सव

8. पर्यावरण एवं जैव विविधता

- हरित क्षेत्र: व्यापक हरित पट्टियाँ और पार्क।
- प्रमुख उद्यान: सुखना झील क्षेत्र, रॉक गार्डन, टेरेस गार्डन, जाकिर हुसैन रोज गार्डन।
- आर्द्रभूमि: सुखना झील - महत्वपूर्ण शहरी आर्द्रभूमि।



सुखना झील



टेरेस गार्डन



प्रवासी पक्षी



शहरी हरित पट्टी

पर्यावरणीय चुनौतियाँ: वायु प्रदूषण, हीट आइलैंड प्रभाव, जल संरक्षण, जैव विविधता संरक्षण रक्षण।

9. पर्यटन एवं धरोहर

- प्रमुख स्थल: रॉक गार्डन, सुखना झील, कैपिटल कॉम्प्लेक्स, रोज गार्डन, सेक्टर 17 प्लाज़ा।
- धार्मिक स्थल: इस्कॉन टेंपल, गुरुद्वारा साहिब।
- यूनेस्को स्थल: कैपिटल कॉम्प्लेक्स।
- सांस्कृतिक धरोहर: ओपन हैंड मोन्यूमेंट, गवर्नमेंट स्म्यूजियम और आर्ट गैलरी।



रॉक गार्डन



ओपन हैंड मोन्यूमेंट



कैपिटल कॉम्प्लेक्स



इस्कॉन मंदिर

10. UPSC के लिए महत्वपूर्ण बिंदु

- भूगोल: शिवालिक की तलहटी, समतल मैदान, मौसमी नालियाँ।
- इतिहास: विभाजन के बाद नियोजित राजधानी, 1966 में केंद्र शासित प्रदेश।
- शासन: बिना विधान सभा, राष्ट्रपति द्वारा प्रशासित।
- अर्थव्यवस्था: सेवा क्षेत्र आधारित, उच्च मानव विकास सूचकांक।
- पर्यावरण: शहरी हरित क्षेत्र, जल संरक्षण, वायु प्रदूषण नियंत्रण।
- वास्तुकला: ले कॉर्बुजियर की आधुनिक वास्तुकला के लिए प्रसिद्ध।
- समकालीन: स्मार्ट सिटी, टिकाऊ शहरी विकास, स्वच्छता मॉडल।

11. त्वरित पुनरावर्तन - 15 मुख्य तथ्य

- केंद्र शासित प्रदेश
- राजधानी - चंडीगढ़
- गठन - 1 नवम्बर 1966
- वास्तुकार - ले कॉर्बुजियर
- उपनाम - सिटी ब्यूटीफुल
- क्षेत्रफल - 114 वर्ग किमी
- जनसंख्या (2011) - 10.55 लाख
- आधिकारिक भाषाएँ - अंग्रेज़ी, हिन्दी, पंजाबी
- साझा राजधानी - पंजाब और हरियाणा
- विधान सभा - नहीं
- उच्च न्यायालय - पंजाब एवं हरियाणा HC
- यूनेस्को स्थल - कैपिटल कॉम्प्लेक्स
- प्रसिद्ध झील - सुखना झील
- प्रसिद्ध गार्डन - रॉक गार्डन
- महत्वपूर्ण स्मारक - ओपन हैंड मोन्यूमेंट

12. चंडीगढ़ क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है ?

- भारत का प्रथम नियोजित शहर
- श्रेष्ठ शहरी योजनाबद्धता का मॉडल
- साझा राजधानी - दो राज्यों की
- उच्च जीवन स्तर और स्वच्छ शहर
- आधुनिक वास्तुकला का वैश्विक उदाहरण
- केंद्र शासन एवं प्रशासनिक महत्व

13. मुख्य कीवर्ड (परीक्षा के लिए)

ले कॉर्बुजियर • नियोजित शहर • चंडीगढ़ • केंद्र शासित प्रदेश • कैपिटल कॉम्प्लेक्स • सुखना झील • रॉक गार्डन • शहरी योजनाबद्धता • स्मार्ट सिटी • स्थायी विकास

SRIJAN INDIA ONE STATES & UTS OF INDIA

29TH JULY 2026

CHANDIGARH

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL – INDIA'S FIRST PLANNED CITY

Capitol Complex – UNESCO Site

Sukhna Lake

1. QUICK FACTS

Status	: Union Territory
Capital	: Chandigarh
Formation	: 1 November 1966
Official Languages	: English, Hindi, Punjabi
Administrator	: Appointed by President
Area	: 114 sq km
Population (2011)	: 10.55 lakh
Density	: 9,250 /sq km
Literacy Rate (2011)	: 86.05%

IMPORTANT FACTS

- ★ First planned city of independent India.
- ★ Designed by Architect Le Corbusier.
- ★ Shared Capital of Punjab and Haryana.
- ★ Home to Punjab & Haryana High Court.
- ★ Capitol Complex is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

2. LOCATION & MAP

LOCATION

- Situated at the foothills of Shivalik Hills.
- Northern India.
- Plains with gentle slope and seasonal rivulets (choes).

PUNJAB



HARYANA

CHANDIGARH

IMPORTANT RIVERS

- Sukhna Choe (Seasonal)
- Patiali Rao (Seasonal)

NEIGHBOURS

- Punjab (North, West)
- Haryana (South, East)

3. HISTORY & HERITAGE



Ancient Background

Region linked to early human settlements and Indus-Ganga cultural transition.



Modern History

- Conceived after Partition (1947) when Lahore went to Pakistan.
- Planned to be the new capital of Punjab.



Union Territory

- Became UT on 1 November 1966 after reorganisation of Punjab.



UNESCO World Heritage Site

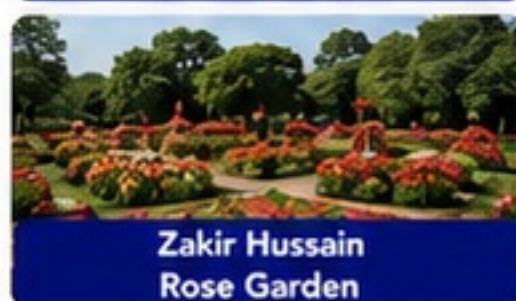
- Capitol Complex (part of "The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier").



High Court of Punjab & Haryana



Rock Garden



Zakir Hussain Rose Garden

4. ECONOMY



Major Sectors

Administration, IT, Education, Healthcare, Banking, Real Estate, Tourism.



Infrastructure

Well-planned roads, public utilities, green belts.



Industries

IT & ITES, Manufacturing, Pharmaceuticals, Light Engineering.



Key Fact

One of India's wealthiest and most literate UTs.



IT Park



Chandigarh International Airport

5. AGRICULTURE



Surrounding Region supports agriculture.



Major Crops

Wheat, Rice, Maize, Vegetables.



Horticulture

Fruits, Flowers, Mushrooms.



Livestock

Dairy, Poultry.



Wheat



Rice



Maize



Vegetables



Dairy Farming



Horticulture

GI Connection (Nearby) Phulkari (Punjab) • Basmati Rice (Punjab)

6. CULTURE & TRADITION



Folk Dances

Bhangra, Giddha, Dhamal.



Folk Music

Tumbi, Algoza, Bhangra beats.



Art Forms

Contemporary Art, Sculpture, Architecture.



Handicrafts

Phulkari, Handloom, Pottery, Wood Craft.



Languages

Punjabi, Hindi, English.



Cultural Practices

Blend of Punjabi and Haryanvi traditions.



Bhangra



Phulkari Work



Contemporary Art

7. FESTIVALS



Baisakhi

Harvest festival.



Diwali

Festival of lights.



Lohri

Winter solstice festival.



Gurpurab

Celebrates Sikh Gurus.



Holi

Festival of colours.



Eid & Christmas

Celebrated with harmony.



Baisakhi Celebration

8. ENVIRONMENT & BIODIVERSITY



Green City with abundant green belts.



Major Green Areas

Sukhna Lake, Rose Garden, Terraced Garden, Leisure Valley.



Biodiversity

Urban flora, migratory birds, wetland ecosystem.



Environmental Issues

Air pollution, waste management, heat island effect.



Sukhna Lake



Terraced Garden



Migratory Birds



Urban Green Belt

Focus Areas Sustainability • Wetland Conservation • Green Mobility

9. TOURISM & HERITAGE



Top Attractions

Rock Garden, Sukhna Lake, Rose Garden, Capitol Complex.



Religious Sites

ISKCON Temple, Gurudwara Nada Sahib, Kalka Temple.



UNESCO Site

Capitol Complex.



Cultural Landmarks

Open Hand Monument, Government Museum, Leisure Valley.



Capitol Complex



Open Hand Monument



Government Museum

10. UPSC VALUE ADDITION



Prelims Facts

Planned city, Le Corbusier, UNESCO site, Shared Capital, No Legislative Assembly.



Mains Points

Urban Planning, Governance, Sustainable Cities, Architecture, Federal Arrangement.



Current Affairs Linkages

Smart City Mission, Sustainable Urban, Clean Air Initiatives, Heritage Conservation.



Strategic Importance

Administrative hub, connectivity node Himalayan states & plains.



Important Personalities

Le Corbusier (Architect).

11. RAPID REVISION – 15 KEY FACTS

- 1 Status – Union Territory
- 2 Capital – Chandigarh
- 3 Formation – 1 Nov 1966
- 4 Architect – Le Corbusier
- 5 Nickname – The City Beautiful
- 6 Area – 114 sq km
- 7 Population (2011) – 10.55 lakh
- 8 Official Languages – English, Hindi, Punjabi
- 9 Shared Capital – Punjab & Haryana
- 10 No Legislative Assembly
- 11 UNESCO Site – Capitol Complex
- 12 Major Lake – Sukhna Lake
- 13 Famous Garden – Rock Garden
- 14 High Court – Punjab & Haryana HC
- 15 Location – Foothills of Shivalik Hills

12. WHY CHANDIGARH MATTERS?



Model of Planned Urban Development



Architectural Heritage of Global Value



Shared Capital – Unique Federal Arrangement



Highly Literate & Developed UT



Gateway Between Himalayan Region & Northern Plains

13. EXAM ORIENTED KEYWORDS

Planned City • Capitol Complex • Le Corbusier • Union Territory
Shared Capital • Urban Governance • UNESCO • Sustainable Urban Development
Shivalik Foothills • Rock Garden • Sukhna Lake • Smart City

Srijan India One | NCERT ONE | MAURYA'S AGE

1 RISE OF THE MAURYAS

- Chandragupta Maurya rose to power with the guidance of Chanakya (Kautilya).
- He overthrew the last Nanda king Dhanananda and established the Mauryan Empire around 322 BCE.
- Founded one of the largest empires of ancient India.



2 EXTENT OF THE MAURYAN EMPIRE

- Under Chandragupta and Bindusara, the empire extended from Kabul in the northwest to Bengal in the east,
- and from the Himalayas in the north to Karnataka in the south.
- It was the first empire to unify a large part of the subcontinent.



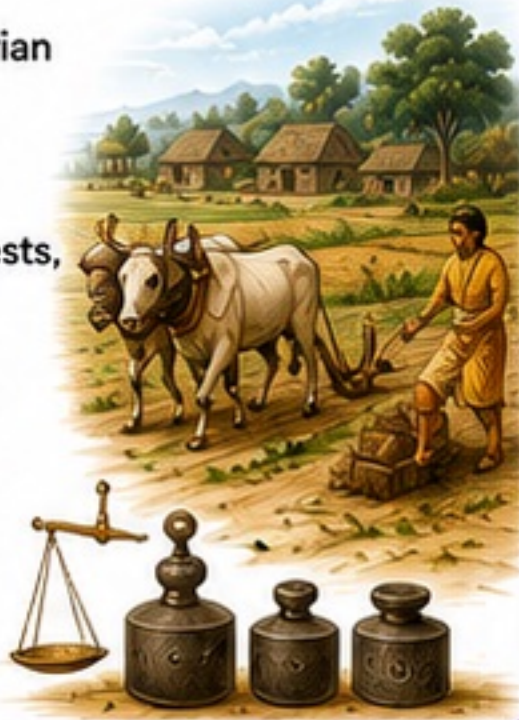
3 ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE

- Centralised administration with the king at the head.
- Divided into provinces and districts.
- Officials were appointed for various departments (Rajya system).
- Arthashastra by Kautilya is a key source on Mauryan administration.



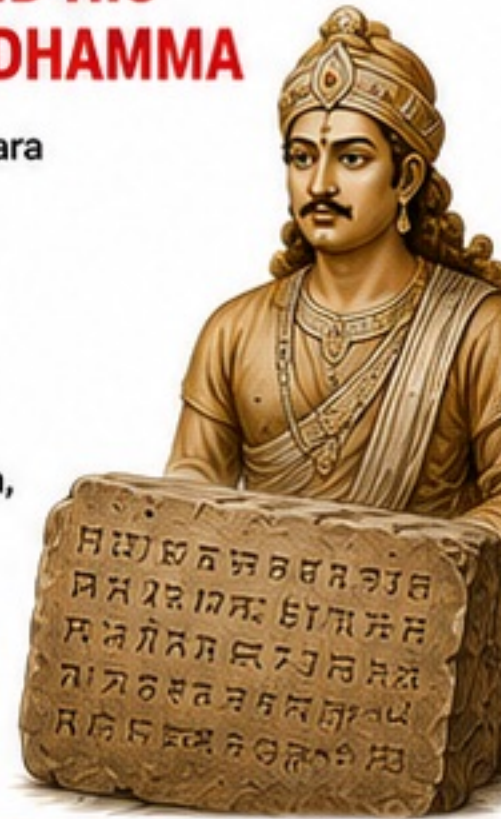
4 ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

- Economy was mainly agrarian with state control over land revenue.
- State managed mines, forests, salt, trade and industries.
- Well-developed system of weights and measures.
- Society was divided into varnas and jatis.



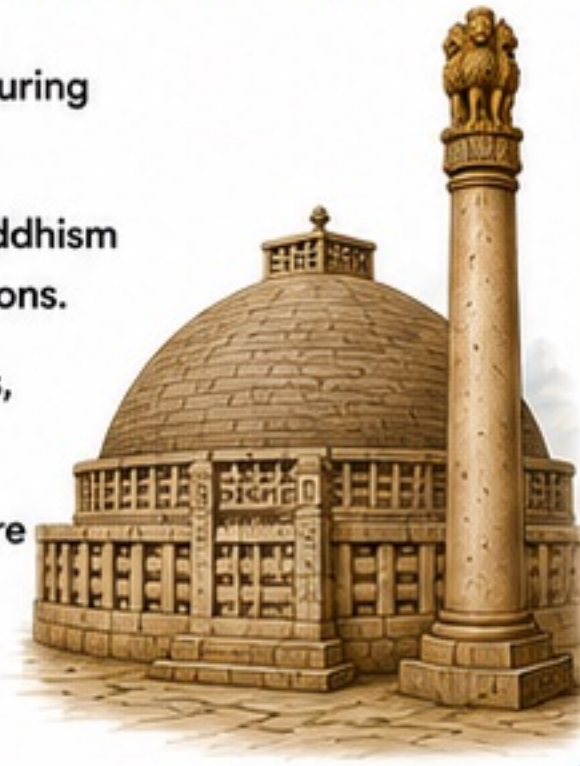
5 ASHOKA AND HIS POLICY OF DHAMMA

- Ashoka succeeded Bindusara around 268 BCE.
- After the Kalinga War, he embraced Buddhism.
- Promoted Dhamma – non-violence, compassion, respect for all religions, and welfare of people.
- Inscriptions and edicts were used to spread his message.



6 RELIGION AND CULTURE

- Buddhism flourished during the Mauryan period.
- Ashoka patronised Buddhism but respected all religions.
- Construction of stupas, viharas and pillars.
- The art and architecture of this period laid the foundation of India's cultural heritage.



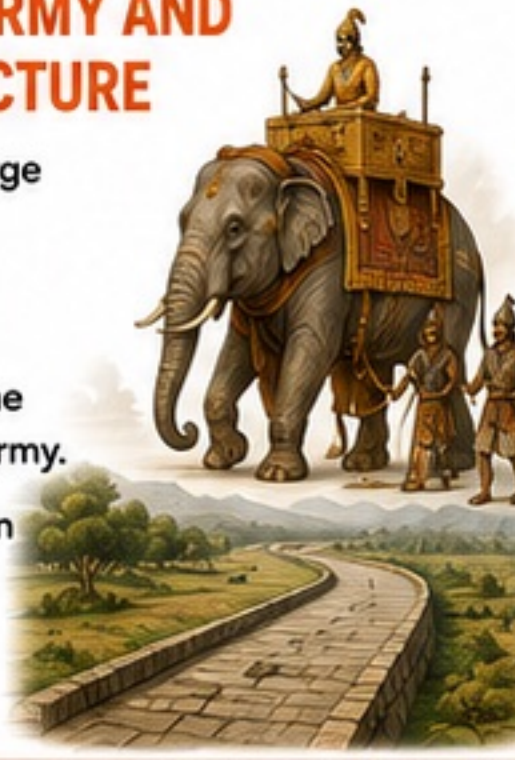
7 ART AND ARCHITECTURE

- Mauryan art is known for its polished stone sculpture and pillars.
- Ashokan Pillars with lion capital are excellent examples.
- Rock-cut caves like Barabar Caves were built during this period.



8 MAURYAN ARMY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- The Mauryan army was large and well-organised with infantry, cavalry, chariots and elephants.
- Megasthenes described the strength of the Mauryan army.
- Developed roads, irrigation systems and rest houses for administration and trade.



9 DECLINE OF THE MAURYAN EMPIRE

- After Ashoka, weak successors led to political instability.
- Rise of regional powers and provincial governors weakened the empire.
- The last Mauryan ruler Brihadratha was killed by his commander Pushyamitra Shunga around 185 BCE.



First empire to unite a large part of India.



Ashoka's Dhamma promoted peace, tolerance and welfare.



Strong administration, economy and army made the Mauryan Empire powerful.



Great contributions to art, architecture and cultural heritage.



Laid the foundation for political unity in later periods.

NCERT ONE

THE MAURYA'S AGE

COMPLETE NCERT NOTES FOR UPSC CSE



COMPLETE NCERT NOTES



PATALIPUTRA



MAURYAN ARMY



ASHOKAN
INSCRIPTIONS



BUDDHISM &
DHAMMA



RISE & EXPANSION



ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE



ECONOMY & SOCIETY



ASHOKA & DHAMMA



ART, CULTURE & ARCHITECTURE



IMPORTANT FACTS & THEMES



NCERT BASED



EXAM ORIENTED



PRELIMS & MAINS



HIGH YIELD CONTENT

Urban Indian private schools at risk of proximity to toxic lead sites: report

A study has found that 90% of private schools in New Delhi are located near a site contaminated with lead, mercury, arsenic, and/or pesticides; as opposed to developed countries, the study found that in low- and middle-income countries, urban schools are 4- to 28-times more likely than rural schools to be near a toxic site

Monika Mondal
NEW DELHI

In high-income countries like the U.S. and the U.K., it is well-established that people who live in poorer and marginalised localities are more exposed to pollution than those in wealthier neighbourhoods. According to a recent report, that pattern seems to be reversed in low and middle income countries (LMICs) like India.

A report, titled 'Schools in the Shadow of Toxic Sites: Pollution Proximity in Low- and Middle-Income Countries', by the Center for Global Development (CGD) looked at how close 2,840 schools were to toxic sites in 17 countries. It concluded that 10% of schools in LMICs lie within 5 km of a documented toxic site, especially in urban areas.

And of all the world's capital cities, New Delhi topped the list, with more than 90% of its private schools located near a site contaminated with lead, mercury, cadmium, arsenic, and/or pesticides.

When exposed to such contaminants, children in particular develop higher risk of heart and kidney diseases as well as of irreversible learning and cognitive disabilities. According to the World Bank, lead exposure during childhood alone costs LMICs \$1 trillion a year.

'Equally exposed to contamination'

While lead exists naturally in the deep layers of the earth, no amount of lead exposure is safe for humans. Once it enters the body, it can stay silently stuck to the bones, mimicking calcium. When mixed with blood, it can lead to severe kidney and heart problems. In individuals showing no acute symptoms, it can spike blood pressure and lead to sudden heart attacks.

Among children, lead can be a powerful neurotoxin that degrades myelin, the protective outer layer of the brain, and hampers brain cell connections.

In the last few decades, more and more studies from both developed and developing countries have linked lead exposure to shortened attention spans, heightened aggression, behavioural disorders, and a permanent drop in IQ.

"But we did not know where exactly the problem was," Lee Crawford, the report's author, and a researcher at the CGD, London.

For the analysis, Mr. Crawford mapped 2.6 million schools to 11,301 documented toxic sites across Mexico, India, Ghana, Kenya, Armenia, and 12 other countries. While the contamination was severe within a few metres of a site, pollutants do not remain there forever. People living as far as 5 km from a toxic site have



Stripping scrapped laptops and air conditioners for metal frequently involves burning away rubber wire casings, releasing lead, mercury, and cadmium into the air. When exposed to such contaminants, children develop higher risk of heart and kidney diseases as well as of cognitive disabilities. AFP

exposure, the poorest are slightly more likely to be exposed than the richest, but since lead exposure can be impactful within 5 km of radius, everyone who lives and breathes in the same air is equally exposed to the contamination," Mr. Crawford said.

The study found 9.7% of schools in the sample were within 5 km of a contaminated site. As a result, "Nearly a billion children have some lead exposure globally. And we know that a big share of that comes from polluted sites, many of them lead-battery recycling," Mr. Crawford said.

As opposed to developed countries, where polluting sites lie where public opposition is weakest, the study found that in LMICs, urban schools are 4- to 28-times more likely than rural schools to be near a toxic site. "The results are a bit surprising," Mr. Crawford said.

"But it makes sense with the urban clustering. If you don't have good regulation of where recycling can happen, then it happens in the most convenient places, which is where people are."

Paradox of development, recycling

Lead-acid batteries are used to start most petrol and diesel motor engines; lead is also present in smaller quantities in the paint, plastic, and pipes of our homes.

cells, wind turbines, and as part of back-up power supply systems. These batteries alone contribute to 86% of global lead consumption.

Lead acid batteries are also popular because they are cheap, rechargeable, and easy to recycle. The metal melts at 327° C, a temperature that can be achieved using a blowtorch in a backyard. Thus, numerous informal enterprises have erupted in India that simply break open old batteries, isolate the lead-containing parts, and toss them in a furnace. The liquid lead is then filtered out and recast into ingots for new batteries.

But without a safe, closed-loop management system, the lead leaches into the soil and can enter human bodies through food, water, and the air.

In developed countries, lead is generally recycled under strict guidelines and with restrictions, and costs tens of millions of dollars. But in LMICs, where enforcement is weak and labour is cheap, a large proportion of recycling happens in backyards.

Thus, in India, even though there are more than 350 well-equipped recycling units, some 90% of the waste ends up in the informal network, where profits are also higher.

estimated to be responsible for around 33% of the world's lead poisoning burden. In LMICs, this burden is equivalent to 80 lakh disability-adjusted life years or 8 lakh annual deaths.

'An invisible problem'

Mr. Crawford said variables like a school being private, secondary or single-sex all correlated to some degree with higher pollution exposure simply because they were clustered in cities. New Delhi had 91.2% of schools within 5 km of a toxic site; it was followed by Manila (86%), Nairobi (71%), Accra (67%), and Jakarta (51%). This clustering is not inevitable, however: Mr. Crawford's analysis also found that Mexico City, despite its large size and high population density, had almost no toxic-site contamination because its industrial manufacturing zones were successfully regulated and separated from the urban core.

"Lead is an invisible problem that's easy to ignore," Mr. Crawford said. "But badly polluted sites can be regulated, closed down or moved out of city/populated areas. It's something that the Indian government has done and they can do it, with more public pressure."

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- 90% of private schools in New Delhi near toxic sites (lead, mercury, arsenic, pesticides).
- In LMICs, urban schools are 4-28 times more likely than rural schools to be near a toxic site.



- Poor & marginalised bear more pollution in high-income countries — reversed in LMICs like India.
- Children face higher risk of heart & kidney diseases, cognitive impairment and irreversible learning disabilities.



- Lead exposure comes from battery recycling, paint, plastics, pipes & informal enterprises.
- Enters body through air, soil, food and water; no safe level of exposure.



- 9.7% of schools in study within 5 km of a toxic site.
- Nearly 1 billion children globally have some lead exposure.
- Lead poisoning responsible for ~33% of global lead burden.



- 86% of global lead consumption from lead-acid batteries.
- In LMICs, cheap & informal recycling in backyards due to weak enforcement & cheap labour.



- Need safe, closed-loop management and strict regulation of recycling.
- Separate industrial zones from urban areas (example: Mexico City reduced contamination).



- Public pressure and awareness crucial to regulate or relocate polluting sites.
- "Invisible problem" easy to ignore but has lifelong health impacts.



- Targeted policy, enforcement and monitoring can end toxic exposure.
- Protect children's health to secure human capital and sustainable development.

KEYWORD

Beyond national interest: role of ethics and emotions in world politics

History offers numerous examples of ethics shaping international politics. Foreign policy is not merely an exercise in strategic calculation; it is also shaped by moral perceptions and collective emotions, as illustrated by the change in public perception towards the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Dhananjay Tripathi

The language of world politics has become remarkably predictable. Every military strike, diplomatic initiative, economic sanction, or strategic partnership is justified in the name of national interest. Television debates and commentaries have a common vocabulary — power, deterrence, balance security. It almost appears as though International Relations has become an emotionless discipline, focused on power concentration, where morality and ethics have little place. Yet the defining geopolitical crises of recent years tell a very different story.

Influence of Western traditions

International Relations, both as an academic discipline and as a practice of diplomacy, has been largely shaped by Western intellectual traditions, with much of academic research originating in the United States of America. No wonder, famous IR scholar, Stanley Hoffman, in his article, argued that IR is an American Social Science. It is difficult to refute Hoffman's argument because initially the modern international order emerged when European powers dominated much of the world, leaving the Global South with little role in designing the institutions, norms, and rules that continue to govern global politics.

However, the discipline itself acquired its modern identity after the Second World War, with the U.S. based scholar, Hans Morgenthau's Realism becoming the dominant framework for understanding international affairs. Realism portrays the international system as anarchic and argues that states, in the absence of a central authority, are compelled to pursue their national interests. Although the theory is far more nuanced than its popular interpretation suggests, public discourse has reduced it to two defining ideas—anarchy and national interest. Over time, Realism travelled from classrooms to newsrooms, becoming the default language through which foreign policy is interpreted.

There is much to appreciate in the Realist tradition. It reminds us that power, military capability, and strategic calculations remain central to international politics. However, dominance of Realism has also encouraged the belief that foreign policy is driven purely on national interest. Ethical considerations are often dismissed as idealistic emotions are treated as irrational distractions. Yet certain realpolitik relationships have demonstrated that emotions are integral to international relations. Fear, grief, humiliation, empathy, and pride actively define interests and respond to crises. Foreign policy, exercise in, therefore, is not merely cold calculation but also shaped by how those decisions are perceived by populations.



Moral reckoning: A protest held in solidarity with Palestine, condemning Israel's actions against Gaza, in Bengaluru on September 26, 2025. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

with people become inevitable, leading to human fatalities, livestock depredation, accidental encounters, prolonged rescue operations, and heightened public anxiety. Each incident carries ecological, social, and political consequences, placing enormous pressure on forest departments and district administrations.

The objective of the TOTR is to establish a scientifically grounded, landscape-based framework for conserving tigers outside protected areas while safeguarding human lives and livelihoods. Rather than responding to conflict only after it occurs, the initiative seeks to shift the approach from reactive crisis management to proactive, science-driven governance built on technology, preparedness, and community participation.

The TOTR is being launched as a targeted pilot rather than a nationwide rollout, recognising that long-term policy must be anchored in evidence generated under real field conditions.

The All-India Tiger Estimation (2022) recorded tiger presence across 212 forest divisions. Based on assessment, 40 forest divisions across nine States to State Department is relevant in this context.

Military pillar may calculate strategic gains, but society's emotional response is equally critical. A society that appreciates nationalism and rationalism. Crawford's observation that grief and revenge to share enormous action during emergencies. The second pillar emphasises long-term coexistence.

and treating villagers as partners are central to the initiative. Tigers and people now co-occur across vast shared landscapes, making structured coexistence essential for long-term stability.

Among these, streamlined and timely compensation mechanisms are critical. Although States have their own frameworks, delays often erode public trust and fuel resentment. States must simplify procedures and invest in sustained outreach to build confidence among rural families living alongside tigers.

The role of States

Participating States will also need to invest strategically in both technology and institutional capacity. The programme rightly emphasises the use of modern conservation tools such as camera traps, GPS-enabled monitoring nodes, drones and AI to aid surveillance, improve early warning systems and enable evidence-based decision-making. However, technology alone cannot resolve human-tiger conflict. Effectiveness will ultimately depend on the strength of the local support.

Building public confidence requires well-trained forest guards, not just on how to manage tigers but also on how to engage with the community. By judiciously viewing tiger conservation solely through the lens of protected areas to recognising the wider mosaic of reserve forests and other lands that now support dispersing tigers.

History offers numerous examples of ethics shaping international politics. The Non-Aligned Movement, the initiative signals a shift from viewing the world through the lens of power to one of shared humanity and its implications for America's moral standing.

Ethical concerns over globalisation

History offers numerous examples of ethics shaping international politics. Throughout the Cold War, the U.S. consistently presented itself as the defender of democracy, human rights, and individual liberty while portraying Soviet communism as an authoritarian system hostile to peace and human order. The U.S. derived much of its legitimacy not merely from calculation but from a moral imperative. A society that had a national solidarity. A society that had a national solidarity. A society that had a national solidarity. Building public confidence requires well-trained forest staff, veterinary experts capable of responding to responding the row support and its moral standing. executed with the same determination. The TOTR could become India's defining conservation initiative of the century.

Ethical concerns over growth, Kotumbakam bridge is one family. India's commitment to the world in history, rested not on the growing economic and strategic capabilities but also on its democratic institutions, pluralism, and its commitment to human rights. During the early years of independence, India's international public opinion gradually shifted in India's favour after the nation became widely known. More recently, India's consistent opposition to cross-border terrorism has enjoyed broad international support because it resonates with widely accepted ethical norms.



- World politics is not just about power and strategy; **ethics and emotions** shape decisions and public perception.
- Israel-Palestine conflict shows how **moral perceptions** drive global opinion.



- Emotions like **fear, grief, anger, empathy, pride** influence leaders' choices.
- Public opinion matters—governments are judged by **how actions are perceived**, not just what they do.



- Ethics give legitimacy to foreign policy and build trust.
- Lack of moral grounding erodes **public trust** and fuels resentment.



- Moral and emotional consequences of conflicts often outweigh short-term strategic gains.
- Example: Iran conflict—emotional **backlash** strengthened national solidarity.



- Globalisation created interdependence but failed to bridge **inequalities** between Global North and South.
- Liberal order must be aligned with ethical commitments.



- Global South champions **sovereign equality and justice**.
- India's voice rooted in Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and NAM legacy.



- Ethics enhance a country's international standing.
- India's position on terrorism and humanitarian issues earns **global support**.



- Foreign policy must balance **national interest** with universal values and human dignity.
- Ethical leadership creates long-term credibility and global respect.



- Realism explains power, but ethics and emotions explain **human response to power**.
- Need for moral compass in international relations.

Co-existing with tigers outside reserves

India's tiger conservation story is widely regarded as one of the world's most extraordinary wildlife recoveries – a species brought back from near extinction through sustained political commitment, scientific management, and decades of on-ground protection. Since the launch of Project Tiger in 1973, the country's network of protected areas has expanded from nine reserves covering 18,278 sq km to 58 reserves spanning 84,488 sq km, accounting for nearly 2.6% of India's landmass. India's tiger population has risen from 1,411 in 2006 to 3,682 in 2022, firmly establishing the country as home to over 70% of the world's wild tigers. This success has now created a new conservation frontier – the growing proportion of tigers living outside protected areas.

Although national datasets do not conclusively link rising tiger numbers with increasing human-tiger conflict, forest departments across several escalation in such incidents. As territorial carnivores require extensive home ranges, tigers disperse naturally when core habitats reach saturation. Consequently, more tigers are moving beyond protected boundaries into human-dominated fringes.

According to the National Tiger Conservation Authority, 35-40% of India's tiger population now lives outside designated Tiger Reserves. This reality has prompted the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to launch the Tigers Outside Tiger Reserves (TOTR) initiative.

Beyond protected boundaries

The growing tiger population reflects healthy breeding groups, functional habitats, and well-connected forest corridors. However, when tigers move beyond protected areas into landscapes interwoven with villages, farms, roads and other human infrastructure, interactions



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“The objective of the Tigers Outside Tiger Reserves initiative is to establish a scientifically grounded, landscape-based framework for conserving tigers outside protected areas while safeguarding human lives

with people become inevitable, leading to human fatalities, livestock depredation, accidental encounters, prolonged rescue operations, and heightened public anxiety. Each incident carries ecological, social, and political consequences, placing enormous pressure on forest departments and district administrations.

The objective of the TOTR is to establish a scientifically grounded, landscape-based framework for conserving tigers outside protected areas while safeguarding human lives and livelihoods. Rather than responding to conflict only after it occurs, the initiative seeks to shift the approach from reactive crisis management to proactive, science-driven governance built on technology, preparedness, and community participation.

The TOTR is being launched as a targeted pilot rather than a nationwide rollout, recognising that long-term policy must be anchored in evidence generated under real field conditions.

The All-India Tiger Estimation (2022) recorded tiger presence across 212 forest divisions. Based on this assessment, 40 forest divisions across nine States have been selected for the first phase of the TOTR implementation. The participating States include Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Assam.

The TOTR rests on two complementary pillars. The first focuses on reducing human-tiger conflict and strengthening field protection. This includes upgrading communication systems, deploying rapid response teams, improving rescue infrastructure, and ensuring coordinated action during emergencies. The second pillar emphasises long-term coexistence.

and treating villagers as partners are central to the initiative. Tigers and people now co-occur across vast shared landscapes, making structured coexistence essential for long-term stability.

Among these, streamlined and timely compensation mechanisms are critical. Although States have their own frameworks, delays often erode public trust and fuel resentment. States must simplify procedures and invest in sustained outreach to build confidence among rural families living alongside tigers.

The role of States

Participating States will also need to invest strategically in both technology and institutional capacity. The programme rightly emphasises the use of modern conservation tools such as camera traps, GPS-enabled monitoring systems, drones and AI to strengthen surveillance, improve early warning systems and enable evidence-based decision-making. However, technology alone cannot resolve human-tiger conflict. Its effectiveness will ultimately depend on the strength of the institutions that support it. requires well-trained forest staff, veterinarians, and rescue teams capable of responding rapidly in conflict situations.

The TOTR underscores a broader national imperative: strengthening the governance of shared landscapes where ecological processes and human livelihoods intersect daily. The initiative signals a shift from viewing tiger conservation solely through the lens of protected areas to recognising the wider mosaic of reserve forests and other lands that now support dispersing tigers.

If executed with the same determination that made Project Tiger a global benchmark, the TOTR could become India's defining conservation initiative of the century proving that people and large carnivores can share space safely.



- India is home to >70% of the world's wild tigers.
- Tiger population increased from 1,411 (2006) to 3,682 (2022).
- 35–40% of tigers now live outside Tiger Reserves.



- Rising human–tiger conflict due to habitat saturation and expansion into human-dominated fringes.
- Leads to human fatalities, livestock depredation, accidental encounters and public anxiety.
- Incidents create ecological, social and political pressure on authorities.



- Objective: Landscape-based framework for conserving tigers outside PAs while safeguarding human lives & livelihoods.
- Shift from reactive crisis management to proactive, science-driven governance.
- Focus on technology, preparedness and community participation.



- All-India Tiger Estimation (2022): 212 forest divisions with tiger presence.
- TOTR pilot in 40 forest divisions across 9 States: Uttarakhand, UP, Rajasthan, MP, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Assam.
- Evidence-based, field-grounded approach.



- Pillar 1: Reduce conflict & strengthen field protection – communication, rapid response teams, rescue infrastructure, coordinated action.
- Pillar 2: Long-term coexistence – community engagement, awareness, timely compensation.



- Use of camera traps, GPS, drones, AI for monitoring & early warning.
- Need strong institutions, trained staff, veterinarians & rescue teams.
- Technology effective only with capable institutions.



- TOTR shifts focus from “only protected areas” to wider landscape-level conservation.
- Strengthen ecological processes and human livelihoods together.
- If implemented well, TOTR can be India's defining conservation initiative of the century.

The urban nightmare — a fire with no escape

On June 22, 2026, 15 people gasped to death in a burning building in Aliganj, Lucknow. Trapped behind smoke-filled corridors and sealed exits, they never had a chance. The commercial establishment operating from a residential neighbourhood was a veritable death trap — pigeonhole-sized workstations crammed into an unauthorised structure with no viable fire escape.

It was not merely a building that caught fire, but a system that failed. A tragedy waiting to happen, aided by those whose job it was to prevent it.

All this happened, while the TV channels discussed animatedly U.S.-Iran parleys, where India played no role, and analysts dissected the number of Members of Parliament defecting to the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena. Not aware if there was ever a mention of a collapse of political ethics and morality. But then, do ethics, morality and professions aim figure in urban governance today? Major fires have erupted in cities across India in 2026 on account of failures of urban regulation — signifying abject greed and mismanagement.

On June 3, a fire in a bed and breakfast facility, Malviya Nagar, Delhi, was also caused by illegal construction with no emergency exit. In February, a Bhiwadi garment plant, Rajasthan, which caught fire was an illegal firecracker-manufacturing unit behind closed doors; the fire in a cracker manufacturing unit in Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu, took place when the factory was running illegally on a Sunday.

Yet, amidst the horror, emerged stories of extraordinary courage. In Delhi's Malviya Nagar fire, a mattress shop owner reportedly emptied his entire stock onto the street to cushion those jumping from the burning building. Young residents rushed forward without waiting for instructions, while police personnel administered CPR, evacuated victims and continued rescue efforts despite injuries to themselves. Such acts of humanity stand in sharp contrast to the institutional failures.

Historical data trends suggest that India sees approximately 13,000-15,000 fire deaths annually, with the summer of 2026 projected to be one of the worst due to extreme heatwaves triggering electrical fires. In the first quarter of 2026, 39 people have died in fires in Delhi alone, even before the summer peak began.

Violations without consequences

The problem extends far beyond Aliganj and Malviya Nagar. Death traps of varying forms exist in countless urban settlements across India. They may differ in appearance but share a common characteristic: everyone knows the violations exist, yet they continue.

This is what makes the present crisis particularly troubling when India today possesses technological capabilities unimaginable even a decade ago. Satellite imagery can identify



Yashovardhan Azad

Retired Indian Police Service officer, who has served as the Central Information Commissioner, Secretary – Security, Government of India, and Special Director, Intelligence Bureau

constructions. Geographic Information Systems can track land use changes. Digital property databases can identify violations. Artificial intelligence can flag anomalies and real-time dashboards can monitor compliance.

Is it really difficult for a municipal commissioner, a development authority official, a State government functionary or the Lieutenant Governor to call for a list of establishments operating without licences, fire clearances or in myriad violations of building norms?

The difficulty lies elsewhere. It lies in political pressure and vote-bank calculations and in the thriving informal economies that governments are reluctant to confront and where urban laws and regulations are routinely violated. But, most importantly, it lies in corruption.

Could the fire in Lucknow have been averted? Yes. In 2016, a notice for demolition was given but within two months was withdrawn. It was clearly a political decision. The property stood out as a symbol of political patronage under benign oversight of officials, right in the midst of a prominent locality of the capital. This sends out a message to the lower officials, the enforcers, who then entrench a system of their own beneficiaries, overlooking various violations for monetary benefits.

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed to investigate the fire comprised two senior officers, from the IAS and the IPS from the State of Uttar Pradesh, with the report to be submitted to another IAS officer of the government. The head of Lucknow had development Authority is also an IAS officer. In such a situation, can the inquiry yield anything purposeful.

This pattern is visible across the country. In Noida, a young professional lost his life after falling into a waterlogged, poorly protected urban hazard. In Indore, celebrated nationally for cleanliness, deaths linked to contaminated water supply raise disturbing questions about basic civic safeguards. Bengaluru, India's technology capital, repeatedly grinds to a halt after heavy rains. Mumbai, India's financial capital, continues to struggle with flooding despite decades of investment and repeated expert recommendations.

A common thread

Different cities. Different governments. Different political parties, but the same outcome. The real concern is the absence of accountability and governance deficit. What happened after Delhi's basement coaching centre tragedy? Arrests were made. Committees were constituted. Headlines were generated. Yet, illegal and unsafe basement operations continue to flourish in many cities.

Urban neglect, political apathy, and corruption continue to claim lives across India

altered urban governance? How many officials have faced meaningful consequences years after disasters? How many systemic reforms have followed repeated tragedies? India has actually become adept at managing outrage and far less effective in preventing a recurrence of man-made tragedies.

At the heart of the problem lies a governance structure that nobody wishes to discuss honestly. For over three decades, since the 74th Constitutional Amendment, India has spoken of empowering urban local bodies. Yet, most city governments remain weak. Every Chief Minister is the de facto mayor for all cities in his/her State and municipal corporations have responsibility without authority. Elected representatives have visibility without power. Important functions remain scattered across development authorities, municipal corporations, public works departments, water boards, transport agencies and numerous specialised bodies.

A flooded road belongs to one agency, a drain to another, land to a third and enforcement to a fourth. Citizens, meanwhile, simply see government. This fragmentation has created a dangerous accountability vacuum.

Fix governance first

The answer therefore is not another scheme. Indian cities are already overflowing with schemes, missions, projects and programmes. Every few years a new initiative comes up with a new acronym and fresh funding. The problem is not the absence of schemes, but the absence of governance. A number of well-meaning schemes lie buried under corruption and mismanagement. Cities require empowered urban management, clear accountability and fearless enforcement. Technology must become an instrument of compliance rather than a showcase of modernisation. Most importantly, governments must find the political courage to dismantle entrenched systems of tolerated illegality. Officers, the enforcers, look away fearing a clash with political vested interests.

The victims of Lucknow and Delhi fires did not die because India lacks fire safety laws. They died despite those laws. That is the distinction policymakers must understand. Urban governance is ultimately measured not by the number of projects inaugurated, smart-city dashboards installed or schemes announced, but by the number of tragedies prevented. The real test of governance is whether an ordinary citizen can work, live, study, shop or sleep in a building without fear of dying because somebody chose to ignore the rules.

Will this tragedy become yet another file, another enquiry and another forgotten headline? Or will it finally compel us to confront the uncomfortable truth that India's cities are not merely growing beyond their capacity but are increasingly failing the very citizens they were meant to serve?



Core Issue

- Recurring urban fire tragedies
- Systemic failure of governance, not just individual lapses



Key Causes

- Illegal constructions & no fire safety clearances
- Political patronage & vote-bank politics
- Corruption and informal economies
- Fragmeed, weak urban governance (authority without responsibility)



Impact on Society

- Loss of lives and property
- Erosion of trust in institutions
- Urban chaos: floods, fires, unsafe infrastructure
- Inequality – poor suffer the most



Governance Challenges

- Multiple agencies, no accountability
- Elected reps lack real power
- Lack of enforcement & follow-up
- Committees formed, reforms rarely implemented



Way Forward

- Empower local bodies with clear roles
- Professional urban management
- Strict enforcement & accountability
- Use technology: GIS, AI, real-time monitoring
- Dismantle tolerated illegality; end political protection



Enrichment for UPSC

- 74th Constitutional Amendment – urban local bodies
- Article 21 – Right to life (safe environment)
- Good Governance: accountability, transparency, rule of law
- Sustainable Development Goal 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities



Thinkers / Reports

- John Rawls – Justice as Fairness
- Amartya Sen – Capability Approach
- UN-Habitat – State of the World's Cities Report

Q. Critically examine the impact of Capitalism, Socialism and Communism on social equality, economic development and political institutions across the world.

1 INTRODUCTION



Capitalism, Socialism and Communism are major political philosophies that shape the economic system, society and political institutions of nations. Their impact varies in terms of social equality, economic development and governance.

CAPITALISM



Based on private property, profit motive, free markets and limited state intervention.

Example Countries:
USA, UK, Singapore

SOCIALISM



Based on social ownership of key resources, welfare state and economic redistribution.

Example Countries:
Sweden, France, India

COMMUNISM



Based on collective ownership, classless society, central planning and abolition of private property.

Example Countries:
USSR (Past), Cuba, China (Early phase)

GLOBAL SPREAD (EXAMPLES)



- Capitalist Dominant** – USA, Canada, Australia, UK, Western Europe, Japan, Singapore
- Socialist/Welfare Model** – Nordic Countries, France, India (Mixed)
- Communist / Ex-Communist** – China, Cuba, North Korea, Vietnam, USSR (Past)
- Mixed / Transition Economies** – Eastern Europe, Latin America, Others

2 IMPACT COMPARISON

	CAPITALISM	SOCIALISM	COMMUNISM
SOCIAL EQUALITY	- Encourages individual freedom and opportunity. - Leads to income inequality and wealth concentration. - Social mobility possible but uneven.	- Focus on equality, welfare and social justice. - Reduces inequality through redistribution. - Universal healthcare, education and social security.	- Aims for classless, equal society. - Eliminates private property and poverty (in theory). - Inequalities reduced initially but new elite often emerged.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	- Drives innovation, entrepreneurship and productivity. - Efficient resource allocation through market mechanism. - Prone to cycles of boom-bust, unemployment and crises.	- Ensures inclusive growth and balanced development. - Strong public investment in key sectors. - Excessive state control can reduce efficiency and innovation.	- Rapid industrialization in early stages (USSR, China 1950s–70s). - Central planning mobilizes resources effectively. - Long-term inefficiency, shortages and stagnation due to lack of market incentives.
POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS	- Associated with liberal democracy and rule of law. - Protects individual rights and political freedoms. - However, corporate influence can distort democratic processes.	- Compatible with democracy (Democratic Socialism). - Strengthens welfare institutions and participatory governance. - Large bureaucracy may lead to inefficiency.	- One-party rule and centralised authority. - Limited political freedoms and suppression of dissent. - Strong state capacity but weak democratic accountability.

3 MAJOR EXAMPLES



USA (Capitalism)

- High innovation, strong economy but income inequality.



Sweden (Social Democracy)

- High equality, welfare state and strong human development.



USSR (Communism – Past)

- Rapid industrial growth but lack of freedom and eventual collapse.



China (Communism with Market Reforms)

- State control with market reforms, rapid growth, poverty reduction.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- No ideology is perfect; each has strengths and limitations.
- Modern states follow mixed models combining market efficiency with social justice.
- Sustainable development requires balance between efficiency, equality, liberty and justice.
- Goal should be inclusive growth with human dignity and democratic governance.



COMPARATIVE SNAPSHOT

Aspect	Capitalism	Socialism	Communism
Ownership	Private	Social / State	Collective
Main Aim	Profit & Growth	Welfare & Equality	Classless Society
Resource Allocation	Market Mechanism	Planned + Market	Central Planning
Role of State	Minimal	Active / Regulated	Dominant
Individual Freedom	High	Moderate	Low
Best Example	USA, UK	Nordic Countries, India	USSR (Past), Cuba



CONCLUSION

Capitalism promotes growth but risks inequality; Socialism ensures welfare but may face inefficiency; Communism seeks equality but often at the cost of freedom. The future lies in a balanced approach – combining economic efficiency with social justice, individual liberty and democratic values.

1 पश्चिमी घाट के लिए केंद्र ने ड्राफ्ट ईको-ज़ोन फिर से जारी किया

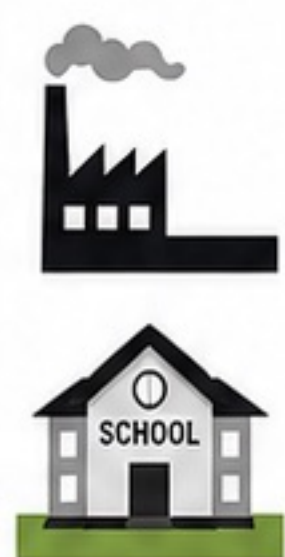


पश्चिमी घाट

- ईको-संसेटिव जोन (ESZ) का ड्राफ्ट फिर जारी
- पर्यावरणीय रूप से संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों पर लागू
- ESM वर्गीकरण: इकोलॉजिकल सेंसिटिविटी आधारित
- विकास व संरक्षण के बीच संतुलन का उद्देश्य
- क्षेत्र में भविष्य की परियोजनाओं को विनियमित करेगा
- पश्चिमी घाट संरक्षण प्रोत्साहन का हिस्सा

पर्यावरण संरक्षण अधिनियम, 1986 • EIA अधिसूचना, 2006
GS III • पर्यावरण • जैव विविधता • संरक्षण

2 शहरी भारतीय निजी स्कूल जहरीले लेड स्थलों के पास होने से खतरे में: रिपोर्ट



- कई निजी स्कूल विषैले लेड स्थलों के पास
- लेड एक्सपोजर से बच्चों के स्वास्थ्य पर दुष्प्रभाव
- खनन, बैटरी व रीसाइक्लिंग इकाइयों से जुड़ा जोखिम
- जोखिम मानचित्रण व विनियमन की तात्कालिक आवश्यकता
- स्वास्थ्य निगरानी व शमन उपाय जरूरी
- पर्यावरणीय न्याय व बच्चों के अधिकारों से जुड़ा मुद्दा

विषैले पदार्थ • बाल स्वास्थ्य • पर्यावरणीय न्याय
GS III • स्वास्थ्य • पर्यावरण • संवेदनशील समूह

3 एंड्रोमेडा: आकाशगंगा का मध्य आयु काल



- एंड्रोमेडा एक स्पाइरल आकाशगंगा (M31)
- 'गैलेक्टिक मिडिल एज' यानी विकास का मध्य चरण
- तारों के निर्माण की दर मध्यम अवस्था में
- हमारा आकाशगंगा समूह की सबसे बड़ी गैलेक्सी
- मिल्की वे के भविष्य को समझने में सहायक
- उन्नत खगोलीय अवलोकनों से नई अंतर्दृष्टि

हबल वर्गीकरण • गैलेक्सी विकास • खगोल विज्ञान
GS III • विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी • अंतरिक्ष • अनुसंधान

4 प्रोटेस्ट (विरोध) की सुरक्षा



- शांतिपूर्ण विरोध लोकतांत्रिक अधिकार
- अनुच्छेद 19(1)(क) व (ख) से अभिव्यक्ति व सभा की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित
- प्रतिबंध केवल अनु. 19(2) के तहत वैध कारणों से
- उचित, आनुपातिक व कानूनी विनियमन आवश्यक
- अत्यधिक रोक से लोकतंत्र में भागीदारी घटती है
- असहमति की रक्षा से लोकतंत्र मजबूत होता है

अनुच्छेद 19 • अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता • लोकतंत्र
GS III • नीति निर्देशक तत्व/अधिकार • संवैधानिक नैतिकता

5 घटती प्रासंगिकता



- संस्थानों का सार्वजनिक विश्वास व प्रभाव घट रहा है
- बदलते समय में प्रासंगिकता की आवश्यकता
- नागरिक अपेक्षाओं के अनुरूप सुधार जरूरी
- समावेशन व पारदर्शिता अनिवार्य
- प्रौद्योगिकी व डेटा का अनुकूलन महत्वपूर्ण
- जन-वैधता व प्रभाव के लिए निरंतर मूल्यांकन आवश्यक

संस्थागत सुधार • जवाबदेही • शासन
GS III • राजनीति • सुशासन • सार्वजनिक संस्थान

6 शहरी दुःस्वप्न — बाहर निकलने का कोई रास्ता नहीं (आग की घटना)



- शहरी आग से भारी जनहानि व संपत्ति हानि
- भवन निर्माण मानकों का कड़ाई से पालन नहीं
- आपात निकास व फायर सेफ्टी सिस्टम अपर्याप्त
- फायर ऑडिट व निरीक्षण की कमी
- शहरी घनत्व जोखिम को बढ़ाता है
- जवाबदेही व त्वरित प्रतिक्रिया तंत्र निर्णायक

अग्नि सुरक्षा • आपदा प्रबंधन • शहरी शासन
GS III • आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण • शहरी नियोजन

7 ईरान का अफगान संतुलन: क्षेत्रीय उथल-पुथल के बीच



- ईरान अस्थिर पड़ोस में संतुलन बनाए रखने की कोशिश में
- तालिबान शासन से व्यावहारिक जुड़ाव, हितों की रक्षा हेतु
- सुरक्षा, सीमा-स्थिरता व शरणार्थी मुद्दे प्रमुख चिंता
- आर्थिक व ट्रांजिट हित (चाबहार सहित) महत्वपूर्ण
- वैश्विक व क्षेत्रीय शक्तियों के बीच संतुलन साधना
- व्यावहारिक, हित-आधारित कूटनीति अपनाई जा रही

पड़ोसी कूटनीति • क्षेत्रीय सुरक्षा • जियोपॉलिटिक्स
GS III • अंतरराष्ट्रीय संबंध • पश्चिम एशिया • रणनीतिक हित

8 संरक्षित क्षेत्रों के बाहर बाघों के साथ सह-अस्तित्व



- कई बाघ संरक्षित क्षेत्रों के बाहर पाए जा रहे
- मानव-वन्यजीव सह-अस्तित्व अत्यंत आवश्यक
- लैंडस्केप स्तर पर संरक्षण दृष्टिकोण जरूरी
- संघर्ष कम करने के उपाय प्रभावी होने चाहिए
- समुदाय की भागीदारी व लाभ साझा करना आवश्यक
- गलियारों व आवास जोड़ने की योजना अनिवार्य

वन्यजीव संरक्षण • मानव-वन्यजीव संघर्ष • लैंडस्केप दृष्टिकोण
GS III • पर्यावरण • पारिस्थितिकी • वन्यजीव संरक्षण

9 राष्ट्रीय हित से परे: विश्व राजनीति में नैतिकता और भावनाओं की भूमिका



- नैतिकता वैश्विक वैधता को आकार देती है
- भावनाएँ निर्णय प्रक्रिया व राज्य व्यवहार को प्रभावित करती हैं
- केवल राष्ट्रीय हित दृष्टिकोण सीमित और अल्पकालिक
- सहानुभूति, विश्वास और मानवीय संवेदनशीलता आवश्यक
- सहयोग व संवाद को बढ़ावा मिलता है
- टिकाऊ वैश्विक व्यवस्था के लिए नैतिक व भावनात्मक संतुलन जरूरी

नैतिकता • भावनाएँ • वैश्विक शासन • मानदंड
GS II • अंतरराष्ट्रीय संबंध • वैश्विक राजनीति • सहयोग

क्विक न्यूज़ (9)

- छात्रों के आंदोलन में हिरासत में लिए गए मासूमों को रिहा करें: सुप्रीम कोर्ट
- कर्नाटक के सालिगा जनजाति पर अध्ययन, 'फॉट्रेस कंजर्वेशन' दृष्टिकोण के खिलाफ
- अध्ययन: भारत में एक साथ कई डेंगू वायरस स्ट्रेन सक्रिय
- 70% से अधिक पुलिसकर्मी बल प्रयोग पर प्रतिरक्षा के पक्ष में
- सार्वजनिक भाषण में संयम की आवश्यकता
- ग्रिड सुरक्षा हेतु भारत ने 8,133 GWh सौर ऊर्जा कटीती की
- 'पीन ने बनी-बनाई घरेलू इमर्शन DUV चिपमेकिंग मशीनों का उत्पादन शुरू किया'
- खदान बंदी से परिपत्र अर्थव्यवस्था में अवसर, पर समन्वित प्रयास जरूरी
- जून 2026 में औद्योगिक वृद्धि 23 महीने के उच्च स्तर 7.3% पर पहुंची

प्रिलिम तथ्य (9)

- पश्चिमी घाट — UNESCO विश्व धरोहर स्थल
- लेड — भारी धातु; तंत्रिका तंत्र पर दुष्प्रभाव
- एंड्रोमेडा गैलेक्सी (M31) — मिल्की वे के निकटतम बड़ी आकाशगंगा
- अनुच्छेद 19 — अभिव्यक्ति व सभा की स्वतंत्रता की गारंटी
- फायर NOC — भवनों व सार्वजनिक स्थानों के लिए अनिवार्य
- सोलिगा — विशेष रूप से संवेदनशील जनजातीय समूह (कर्नाटक)
- डेंगू — एडिस मच्छर से संचारित वायरस जनित रोग
- भारत का सौर लक्ष्य — 2030 तक 280 GW (मिशन)
- IIP जून 2026 — औद्योगिक वृद्धि 7.3% (23 महीने का उच्चतम)

महत्वपूर्ण शब्द (5)

- प्रमाणिकता — प्रामाणिक व सत्यनिष्ठ होना
- संतुलन — समन्वय स्थापित रखना
- उत्तरदायित्व — जवाबदेही व जिम्मेदारी
- वैधता — स्वीकार्यता व वैध समर्थन
- सहानुभूति — दूसरों के प्रति संवेदनशीलता

1 Centre reissues draft on Western Ghats eco-zone



- Draft reissued for public consultation
- Applies to ecologically sensitive areas
- ESM classification based on ecological sensitivity
- Aims to balance development & ecology
- Will guide future projects in the region
- Part of Western Ghats conservation push

Environment Protection Act, 1986 • EIA Notification, 2006
GS III • Environment • Biodiversity • Conservation

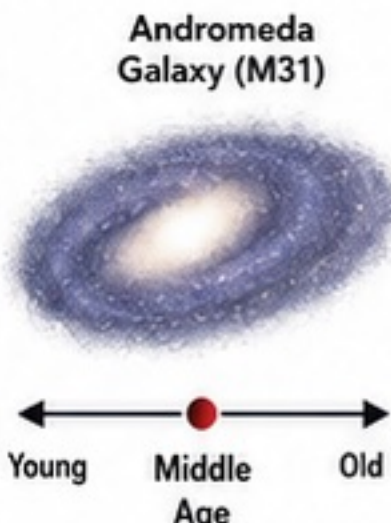
2 Urban Indian private schools at risk of proximity to toxic lead sites: report



- Many private schools near toxic lead sites
- Lead exposure harms children's health
- Link to mining, battery & recycling units
- Urgent need for risk mapping & regulation
- Calls for health monitoring & remediation
- Impacts learning & cognitive development

Toxic Substances • Child Health • Environmental Justice
GS III • Health • Environment • Vulnerable Groups

3 Andromeda: galactic middle age



- Andromeda is a spiral galaxy (M31)
- Found in 'galactic middle age'
- Insights into galaxy evolution stages
- Helps study Milky Way's future
- Improves understanding of star formation
- Advances in astronomical observations

Hubble Classification • Galaxy Evolution • Astrophysics
GS III • Science & Tech • Space • Research

4 Protecting protest



- Peaceful protest is a democratic right
- Art. 19(1)(a) & 19(1)(b) guarantee freedoms
- Restrictions only under Art. 19(2) for state interest
- Need clear, proportionate regulations
- Excessive curbs chill democratic participation
- Protect dissent, strengthen democracy

Article 19 • Freedom of Expression • Democracy
GS III • Polity • Rights • Constitutional Morality

5 Diminishing relevance



- Institutions losing public trust & influence
- Need for relevance in changing times
- Reform to meet citizen expectations
- Inclusivity & transparency essential
- Adaptation to technology & data vital
- Relevance ensures legitimacy & impact

Institutional Reform • Accountability • Governance
GS III • Polity • Governance • Public Institutions

6 The urban nightmare — a fire with no escape



- Urban fires expose gross safety failures
- Poor building norms enforcement
- Inadequate exits & safety systems
- Need strict fire safety audits
- Urban density increases vulnerability
- Accountability & response systems critical

Urban Safety • Disaster Management • Fire NOC
GS III • Disaster Risk Reduction • Urban Governance

7 Iran's Afghan balancing act amid regional upheaval



- Iran balances ties in volatile neighbourhood
- Engages Taliban while protecting interests
- Security & border stability priorities
- Seeks economic & transit cooperation
- Manages ties with global & regional powers
- Pragmatic, interest-driven diplomacy

Neighbourhood Diplomacy • Regional Security • Geopolitics
GS II • IR • West Asia • Strategic Interests

8 Co-existing with tigers outside reserves



- Tigers found outside protected areas
- Human-wildlife coexistence is key
- Landscape-level conservation needed
- Reduce conflict through mitigation
- Community participation essential
- Strengthen corridors & land-use planning

Wildlife Conservation • Human-Wildlife Conflict
GS III • Environment • Ecology • Wildlife Protection

9 Beyond national interest: role of ethics and emotions in world politics



- Ethics shapes global legitimacy
- Emotions influence state behaviour
- Beyond narrow national interest
- Enables cooperation & empathy
- Strengthens global norms & institutions
- Builds sustainable world order

Ethics • Emotions • Global Governance • Norms
GS II • IR • International Relations • Global Politics

QUICK NEWS

- 1 Release minors held during students' stir: SC
- 2 Study draws on Soligas in Karnataka to make case against 'fortress conservation approach'
- 3 Study finds multiple dengue virus strains circulating together in India
- 4 Over 70% of police back immunity for using force
- 5 Need for moderation in public speech
- 6 India curtailed 8,133 GWh solar power to maintain grid security
- 7 China starts making home-grown immersion DUV chipmaking tools
- 8 Mine closure opens opportunities in circular economy but requires coordinated efforts
- 9 Industrial growth hits 23-month high of 7.3%

PRELIM FACTS

- 1 Western Ghats — UNESCO World Heritage Site
- 2 Lead — Toxic heavy metal; affects nervous system
- 3 Andromeda Galaxy (M31) — Nearest major galaxy
- 4 Article 19 guarantees freedoms under the Constitution
- 5 Fire NOC — Mandatory for buildings & public spaces
- 6 Soliga — Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (Karnataka)
- 7 Dengue — Transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes
- 8 Solar curtailment — To maintain grid frequency & stability
- 9 IIP June 2026 — Industrial growth at 7.3% (23-month high)

VOCABULARY

- 1 **Proportionate** — Balanced and appropriate to the objective
- 2 **Legitimacy** — Acceptance as lawful and rightful
- 3 **Pragmatic** — Dealing with things sensibly and realistically
- 4 **Resilience** — Capacity to recover quickly from difficulties
- 5 **Normative** — Relating to accepted standards of behaviour