

FINDER

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Revolution to resurgence — Iran's strategic moment

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Current events of national and international importance

Mains: General Studies - 2
Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.

1. Is Iran Undergoing a "Second Revolution"?

- **Iran's post-war situation** has been compared to a "Second Revolution."
- Unlike the 1979 Revolution, **the present regime survived instead of being overthrown.**
- National pride and resilience are emerging as key pillars of the post-war political order.
- The war **strengthened the authority of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).**
- The regime emerged politically stronger despite sustained military attacks.

2. How Did the 1979 Iranian Revolution Shape Modern Iran?

- The **1979 Revolution overthrew the rule of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.**
- **Ruhollah Khomeini (Founder and first Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran)** returned from exile and **established the Islamic Republic.**
- The new republic was founded on national pride, Islamic governance, and social justice.
- The **Iran-Iraq War and international sanctions later tested Iran's resilience.**
- The **revolution transformed Iran from a monarchy into an Islamic Republic.**

3. What Changes Are Expected in West Asia's Security and Economy?

- **Confidence in U.S. security guarantees has weakened** following the conflict.
- **Gulf countries may increasingly engage with Iran alongside traditional security partnerships.**
- **Possible sanctions relief** could improve Iran's economic prospects.
- The **Strait of Hormuz remains a major strategic and economic asset** for Iran.
- **Energy exports are expected to remain central** to Iran's economic recovery.

4. What Are the Implications for India's Foreign Policy?

- India is **seen as having moved closer to the Israel-U.S.-UAE bloc during the conflict.**
- **India's ministerial representation** at the funeral reflected **diplomatic balancing.**
- **Iran remains strategically important** for India's regional interests.
- India **faces the challenge of balancing relations with Iran, Gulf countries, and Western partners.**
- The evolving regional order requires India to pursue a carefully calibrated West Asia policy.

The Indian diaspora as Australia's identity, its future

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Current events of national and international importance

Mains: General Studies - 2
Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.

1. Why Is the Indian Diaspora Significant in Australia?

- The **Indian diaspora has become Australia's largest overseas-born community, surpassing the England-born population.**

- This marks a major demographic shift in Australia's historically British-origin society.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Australia places the diaspora at the centre** of bilateral engagement.
- The diaspora serves as a key bridge between India and Australia.

2. How Have India–Australia Relations Evolved?

- Bilateral ties have **evolved from the “Three Cs”: Cricket, Curry and Commonwealth to the “Four Ds”: Democracy, Defence, Diaspora and Dosti.**
- **India and Australia cooperate through the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad)** along with the United States and Japan.
- The **diaspora has emerged as one of the pillars of the India–Australia strategic partnership.**
- **Defence and Indo-Pacific cooperation have strengthened** bilateral relations (e.g., **AUSINDEX naval exercise and the Mutual Logistics Support Arrangement**).
- People-to-people ties **have expanded through trade, education and the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA).**

3. How Has the Indian Diaspora in Australia Evolved?

- **Large-scale Indian migration began** after the dismantling of the White Australia Policy.

White Australia Policy: An Australian immigration policy (1901–1973) that restricted non-European immigration to preserve a predominantly white society. It was progressively dismantled between the 1950s and 1973, paving the way for multicultural immigration.

- The **Australian-Indian community is younger** than Indian diaspora communities in the United States and the United Kingdom.
- Many recent migrants maintain close ties with India through family, business and remittances.
- Recent migration has significantly increased the size of the Indian-origin population.
- The diaspora contributes to Australia's skilled workforce and economy.

4. What Challenges and Opportunities Does the Indian Diaspora Face?

- **Rising anti-immigration sentiment has increasingly targeted** the Indian community in Australia.
- **Right-wing political groups have criticised the rapid growth of immigration.**
- The **Indian diaspora is considered both an economic asset and a subject of domestic political debate.**
- Greater research is needed to understand the settlement and civic experiences of the diaspora.
- **Stronger social cohesion and inclusive policies are essential** for sustaining the India–Australia partnership.

What is the Right to be Forgotten?

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Current events of national and international importance

Mains: General Studies - 2
Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.

1. What is the issue?

- The **Delhi High Court** has laid down principles governing the **Right to be Forgotten (RTBF).**
- The ruling aims to protect individuals whose **digital footprints** continue to cause harm despite legal closure of their cases.
- It seeks to balance **privacy, open justice, and freedom of expression.**
- The judgment has renewed focus on India's data protection framework.

2. What is the Right to be Forgotten?

- It is the right to have **personal information erased or de-indexed** when its continued public availability causes harm and serves no public interest.
- The right flows from the **Right to Privacy** under **Article 21.**
- It generally involves **masking names or de-indexing search results**, rather than deleting judicial records.
- It aims to protect an individual's **dignity, reputation, and informational privacy.**

De-indexing is the removal of a webpage or information from **search engine results** without deleting the original content.

Informational Privacy is an individual's right to **control the collection, use, and disclosure of personal data**.

3. Why is the issue important?

- It balances the **Right to Privacy** with **Freedom of Speech and Expression** under **Article 19(1)(a)**.
- It protects individuals from long-term harm caused by outdated or irrelevant online information.
- It raises questions about **judicial transparency, public interest, and digital rights**.
- It highlights the need for effective enforcement of **data protection** laws.

4. What are the recent developments?

- In **Laksh Vir Singh Yadav v. Union of India (2026)**, the **Delhi High Court** recognised the RTBF under **Article 21**.
- The Court directed that **names may be masked** while judicial records remain publicly accessible.
- It prescribed a **two-week timeline** for legal databases to comply with de-indexing or masking orders.
- The **Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023** provides a limited right to erasure but does not specifically address judicial records.

Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 is India's law regulating the **processing, protection, and rights relating to digital personal data**.

Why is the 'Hummus Trail' relevant?

Prelims: General Studies Paper - 1
Current events of national and international importance

Mains: General Studies - 2
International Relations; International Law; Human Rights

1. What is the issue?

- The **Hind Rajab Foundation (HRF - Belgium-based legal advocacy group)** on accountability for **alleged**

war crimes) has sought the arrest of an **Israeli military reservist** visiting **Old Manali**, via **Hummus Trail**.

- The complaint alleges involvement in **war crimes** during the Gaza conflict.
- The case has brought the **Hummus Trail** and India's obligations under **international law** into focus.
- It raises questions about accountability of treating individuals for alleged international crimes.

2. What is the Hummus Trail?

- The **Hummus Trail** is a **popular travel route** followed by many **young Israeli tourists** across India and Southeast Asia.
- Most of these travellers begin their journey after completing their **compulsory military service** in Israel, often to **relax and explore** new places.
- In India, major destinations include **Kasol, Old Manali, Dharamkot**, and parts of **Goa and Kerala**.
- These destinations have developed Israeli-oriented tourism infrastructure, including **Hebrew signboards** and **Chabad Houses**.

3. Why is the issue important?

- It tests the application of **Universal Jurisdiction** for serious international crimes.
- It highlights India's obligations under the **Fourth Geneva Convention**.

Fourth Geneva Convention (1949) is an international treaty that protects **civilians during armed conflicts** and specifies how the States can prosecute persons responsible for grave breaches.

- It raises questions about balancing **international human rights commitments** with **bilateral diplomatic relations**.
- It reflects the growing role of **digital evidence** in investigating alleged war crimes.

4. What are the legal and constitutional provisions?

- **Universal Jurisdiction** allows States to prosecute certain serious international crimes irrespective of where they were committed.
- **Article 146 of the Fourth Geneva Convention** requires States to search for and prosecute persons

accused of grave breaches.

- **Article 51(c)** of the **Constitution** directs the State to respect **international law** and treaty obligations.
- The case highlights the interaction between **international humanitarian law** and domestic legal processes.

Universal Jurisdiction is a principle of **international law** that allows any State to prosecute individuals accused of grave international crimes regardless of where the crime occurred or the nationality of the accused.

Article 51(c) is a **Directive Principle of State Policy (DPSP)** directing the State to **foster respect for international law and treaty obligations**.

KEYWORDS

Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket



- The Pinaka Long Range Guided Rocket (LRGR-120) is an **extended-range, precision-guided rocket** developed for the Indian Army's Pinaka Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS).
- It has a **maximum strike range of about 120 km** and was successfully tested by the Defence Research and Development Organisation at Integrated Test Range, Chandipur on 8 July 2026.
- The LRGR is **backward compatible with existing in-service Pinaka launchers**, allowing different Pinaka rocket variants **to be fired from the same launcher without structural modifications**.

- The **rocket employs inertial navigation along with mid-course/satellite-based guidance to achieve high-precision strikes** against enemy artillery, command centres, and logistics hubs.
- The LRGR was **indigenously developed by Armament Research and Development Establishment in collaboration with High Energy Materials Research Laboratory and other DRDO laboratories**.

WHO Global Status Report on Cancer 2026,

- The **WHO Global Status Report on Cancer 2026**, released with the International Agency for Research on Cancer, estimates 20.6 million new cancer cases and nearly 10 million deaths annually worldwide.
- If current trends continue, **annual global cancer cases are projected to rise to around 35 million by 2050**, driven mainly by population growth and ageing.
- **Lung cancer remains the world's leading cancer** in both new diagnoses and deaths, while female breast cancer ranks second in incidence.
- The **report estimates that about 1 in 5 people worldwide will develop cancer during their lifetime**.
- The **World Health Organization recommends three strategic pillars** for cancer control: **better capabilities, better protections, and better value through universal health coverage**.
- In **2024**, Asia accounted for 50.7% of global cancer cases and 56.5% of deaths, while Europe contributed 21% of cases and 20% of deaths despite having only about 9% of the world's population.

Gender Parity Index (GPI)

- Gender Parity Index (GPI) is **the ratio of female to male enrolment at specific levels of education**.
- GPI is **used to measure equitable participation of girls and boys in the education system**.
- **UNESCO publishes the Gender Parity Index** as part of its Global Education Monitoring Report.

- A **GPI of 1** indicates gender parity, below 1 favours males, and above 1 favours females.
- **India's GPI was 1.08 in 2023–24**, remaining above 1.0 for the seventh consecutive year, indicating higher female participation than male participation in education.

International Gas Union (IGU)

- The International Gas Union (IGU) is a **global non-profit organisation** that promotes the **sustainable development** of the natural gas and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) industry.
- It was established in **1931** and is currently headquartered in **London, United Kingdom**.
- The IGU represents the **global gas value chain**, including exploration, production, transportation, distribution, and utilisation of natural gas.
- It publishes the **annual World LNG Report**, which provides insights into global LNG markets, trade, infrastructure, and emerging trends.
- Recently, the IGU was in the news following the release of its latest World LNG Report, highlighting trends in global LNG trade and **India's growing role as an LNG importer**.

Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing (PABS) System

- The **Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing (PABS) System** is a global mechanism established under the **WHO Pandemic Agreement** to facilitate the timely sharing of **pathogens and their genetic sequence data**.
- It aims to ensure that countries sharing **pathogen information** receive equitable benefits, such as **vaccines, diagnostics, therapeutics, technology transfer, and capacity building**.
- The system seeks to strengthen **global pandemic preparedness** and response by promoting rapid scientific collaboration while ensuring fairness.
- It is based on the principle that access to pathogens should be accompanied by **fair and equitable sharing of benefits** arising from their use.
- Recently, the **PABS System** was in the news as countries negotiated its operational framework under the **WHO Pandemic Agreement**.

Places in News

Prambanan Temple



- Prambanan Temple is the **largest Hindu temple complex in Indonesia**, located in Sleman, Yogyakarta (Southern Java), and is locally known as the Temple of the Slender Virgin (Roro Jonggrang).
- **Built in the 9th century by the Sanjaya dynasty**, the temple is dedicated to the Hindu Trimurti: Shiva, Vishnu, and Brahma.
- The **temple complex originally comprised 240 temples**, with the central compound featuring **eight main and eight minor temples**, including the grand Shiva, Vishnu, and Brahma temples.
- Prambanan's **architecture blends indigenous Javanese traditions with South Indian Pallava-style influences** and is renowned for its intricate Ramayana bas-relief carvings.
- Buried and abandoned for centuries before being rediscovered and restored in the 19th century, **Prambanan was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991**.
- **India is now partnering with Indonesia** for its conservation and restoration.

Bandar Abbas

- **Bandar Abbas** is a major port city located on the **Strait of Hormuz** in **Hormozgan Province**, southern Iran, along the Persian Gulf.
- It is **Iran's largest commercial port** and serves as the **headquarters of the Iranian Navy** and an important base for the **Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Navy**.

- The port is a key hub for **container shipping, oil exports, and maritime trade, connecting Iran with international markets.**
- Owing to its strategic location near the Strait of Hormuz, Bandar Abbas plays a vital role in **global energy trade and regional maritime security.**
- Recently, it was in the news due to its strategic role during the **West Asia crisis.**

