



FORTUNE WEEKLY DIGEST



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EDITOR'S NOTE

As UPSC aspirants, it is essential to stay updated on current affairs to excel in the examination. This **Fortune Weekly Digest (ForWarD)** brings you the latest news and developments from around the world, carefully curated and analyzed to help you prepare for the Civil Services (Main) Examination.

We understand that time is precious, and we have made sure to present the information in a concise and easy-to-understand manner.

The magazine is divided into different sections. Mains relevant topics have been covered in detail with a UPSC previous year question perspective. The jot downs are examples and interesting facts to enrich your answer writing. Cherry picks has some key words from the week, helpful again in answer writing and essay. We have also included essay topics and sample questions to help you gauge your preparation.

We have designed this magazine to best supplement the daily current affairs notes we have launched by the name of **FIND (Fortune IAS News Daily)** and **FINDER (Fortune IAS News Daily Explainer)** and the **Fortune Prelims Precise** monthly compilation. This magazine will be explained in detail and your queries addressed in a live class we conduct.

At a time when there is no dearth of current affairs materials, our hope is help you get a one-stop solution for all your current affairs needs.

This magazine is a work in progress and your feedback will be appreciated.

We hope that this magazine will serve as a valuable resource for your exam preparation and contribute to your success in the UPSC examination.

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**FIRST ATTEMPT TOPPERS FROM
OUR PRELIMS CUM MAINS BATCH**

KASTURI SHA
AIR 68

MANJIMA P
AIR 235

FABI RASHEED
AIR 71

SWATHI S BABU
AIR 522

OORMILA J S
AIR 561

WOMEN IN POWER

Congratulations

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THREE-LANGUAGE CONUNDRUM

Syllabus: GS II - Government policies and interventions

PYQ MAPPING

Q) 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)

WHY IN NEWS

CBSE has relaxed the implementation of the three-language policy for Classes 7, 8 and 9 after concerns from parents and students over the sudden shift from foreign languages to Indian languages.

INTRODUCTION

The three-language policy aims to promote **multilingualism, cultural rootedness and national integration**, but its implementation has created a debate over **student burden, parental choice, federal sensitivity and fear of language imposition**. CBSE's recent relaxation for Classes 7, 8 and 9 shows that language policy must be implemented with flexibility, not sudden compulsion.

THREE-LANGUAGE POLICY

- The three-language policy is an educational policy framework in India under which school students are expected to study three languages during their schooling.
- Under NEP 2020, at least two of these three languages should be Indian languages, but no particular language should be imposed on any State or student.
- It is not a separate law passed by Parliament, but a policy guideline implemented through education boards, States, and schools.
- The aim of the policy is to promote multilingualism, protect Indian languages, strengthen cultural unity, and reduce excessive dependence on English.
- The three-language policy is not uniformly implemented across India. As per UDISE+ 2023–24 data cited by the Ministry of Education, 61.6% of Indian schools offer three languages, covering 74.7% of student enrolment. Around 24 States and Union Territories have more than 50% of schools offering three languages. However, States such as Tamil Nadu continue to largely follow a two-language policy, showing that language policy in India remains shaped by federalism, regional identity and political sensitivity.

CURRENT CONTEXT

- ➔ **CBSE has relaxed the new policy for the transition batch:** The current Class 10 batch in 2026–27 will continue with the old two-language system, and no third language will be required for them.
- ➔ **Students of Classes 7, 8 and 9 who already chose two foreign languages can continue them:** They only have to add one Bharatiya Bhasha as an additional language, instead of suddenly changing their existing language combination.
- ➔ **For Class 9, the third language will not create Board exam pressure:** CBSE has clarified that the third language will be assessed through internal school-based assessment only.
- ➔ **NEP 2020 supports the three-language formula with Indian language emphasis:** It recommends that students learn three languages, with at least two of them being native to India.

IMPORTANCE OF THREE LANGUAGE POLICY

- 🔍 **Strengthens India's linguistic diversity:** India has 22 languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, such as Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, Bengali, Marathi, Telugu and others; therefore, school education should help preserve this diversity.
- 🔍 **Promotes cultural rootedness among students:** Learning Indian languages can connect children with local literature, folk traditions, regional history and social life.

- 🔍 **Supports national integration without uniformity:** A student from Kerala learning Hindi, or a student from Delhi learning Tamil or Malayalam, can develop better inter-State cultural understanding.
- 🔍 **Reduce overdependence on English:** English is important for global opportunities, but excessive

dependence on English may weaken Indian languages and create class-based educational inequality.

- 🔍 **It is constitutionally supported:** Article 350A encourages States and local authorities to provide mother-tongue instruction at the primary stage for children belonging to linguistic minorities.

MAIN CONCERNS IN IMPLEMENTATION

- ♣️ **Sudden implementation can disturb students:** Students who already selected foreign languages such as French or German may face academic stress if they are forced to change midway.
- ♣️ **Teacher shortage is a practical challenge:** Many CBSE schools may not have trained teachers for all Indian languages, especially in urban private schools and schools with migrant students.
- ♣️ **It may increase academic burden:** Classes 9 and 10 are already examination-oriented years, so adding another language without proper resources can create pressure.
- ♣️ **There is fear of language imposition:** Some non-Hindi-speaking States may fear that the policy may indirectly promote Hindi over regional languages.
- ♣️ **Migrant families may face continuity problems:** Children whose parents move from one State to another may struggle to continue the same third language.
- ♣️ **Digital and textbook resources are still evolving:** CBSE has stated that grade-appropriate resources and R3 textbooks will be provided, but implementation will depend on timely availability and quality.

SIGNIFICANCE OF CBSE'S RELAXATION

- ☀️ **Protects student interest during transition:** The relaxation ensures that no student is disadvantaged due to sudden policy alignment.
- ☀️ **Reduces examination pressure:** Internal assessment for the third language helps shift focus from rote learning to meaningful language learning.
- ☀️ **Balances NEP goals with ground realities:** CBSE has kept the broader aim of multilingualism but avoided retrospective disruption for existing batches.
- ☀️ **It gives schools time to prepare:** CBSE has allowed flexible staffing, including existing teachers with language proficiency, retired teachers, inter-school sharing and virtual or hybrid teaching.

WAY FORWARD

- ✳️ **The policy should be implemented gradually:** Students should not be forced to change language combinations in the middle of an academic stage.
- ✳️ **Assessment should be light and skill-based:** The third language should test basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills rather than heavy grammar-based memorisation.
- ✳️ **Choice must be preserved:** Students and parents should be allowed to choose from a wide basket of Indian languages instead of being pushed toward one language.
- ✳️ **Federal consultation is necessary:** States must be consulted so that the policy does not appear as linguistic centralisation.
- ✳️ **Teacher training must be strengthened:** CBSE, NCERT and State institutions should create language teacher pools, online modules and regional resource centres.
- ✳️ **Technology should be used:** Digital textbooks, audio lessons, AI-based translation tools and hybrid classes can help schools where teachers are not available.

CONCLUSION

The three-language policy is a good idea if it promotes **multilingualism without compulsion**. India needs students who are globally competent through English and culturally rooted through Indian languages. However, the success of the policy depends on **choice, flexibility, teacher availability, internal assessment and federal sensitivity**. Thus, the present relaxation is a pragmatic step toward balancing NEP 2020 goals with student welfare.

SAMPLE QUESTION

Q) "Discuss the significance and challenges of implementing the three-language policy in India's school education system. How can multilingualism be promoted without compromising student choice and federal sensitivity?"
(15 marks) (250 words)

DIGITAL SLAVERY

Syllabus: GS III - Cyber security

PYQ MAPPING

Q) *Introducing the concept of Artificial Intelligence (AI). How does AI help clinical diagnosis? Do you perceive any threat to the privacy of the individual in the use of AI in healthcare?" (2023)*

Q) *Examine the scope of Fundamental Rights in the light of the latest judgement of the Supreme Court on the Right to Privacy. (2017)*

WHY IN NEWS

Recent warnings regarding the concentration of personal data and AI power in the hands of private technology companies have described unchecked digital control as a new form of **"digital slavery."**

INTRODUCTION

Artificial intelligence, mass data collection and opaque algorithms are creating a form of **"digital slavery"**, in which individuals lose control over their data, identity, behaviour and choices. AI governance is therefore not merely a technological issue but a question of **human dignity, individual autonomy, democracy and constitutional rights**.

MEANING OF DIGITAL SLAVERY

- Digital slavery refers to a condition in which individuals gradually lose control over their personal data, digital identity, behaviour and choices to governments, corporations and automated systems.
- Citizens may become continuously monitored, profiled and influenced without meaningful consent

or knowledge of how algorithms operate.

- Unlike traditional coercion, digital control is often invisible and is exercised through data collection, targeted advertisements, surveillance and algorithmic decision-making.

EMERGING CONCERNS

- ➔ **Loss of privacy and data autonomy:** Technology companies collect and monetise personal data without meaningful informed consent.
 - **Example:** location history, browsing behaviour and facial data may be used for targeted advertising and profiling.
- ➔ **Algorithmic discrimination:** AI systems may reproduce existing social biases
 - **Example:** an automated hiring tool may disadvantage women if it is trained mainly on past recruitment data dominated by male employees.
- ➔ **Deepfakes and electoral manipulation:** AI-generated audio and videos can fabricate political speeches
 - **Example:** a fake video of a candidate making

inflammatory remarks may be circulated just before polling.

- ➔ **Algorithmic polarisation:** Social-media platforms often amplify sensational content because it generates higher engagement
 - **Example:** repeated recommendations of communal or extremist content can trap users in ideological echo chambers.
- ➔ **Foreign information warfare:** Hostile actors can exploit domestic fault lines through coordinated propaganda
 - **Example:** fake accounts may spread AI-generated communal rumours during elections or periods of social tension.

CHALLENGES IN REGULATING AI

- ☀ **Technology develops faster than law:** AI evolves rapidly, while legislation and parliamentary scrutiny take time, making regulations quickly outdated.
- ☀ **Balancing innovation and regulation:** Excessive compliance requirements may burden start-ups, while weak regulation may expose citizens to harm; for example, strict licensing for every AI application may discourage small Indian innovators.
- ☀ **Risk of censorship:** Laws against misinformation may be misused to suppress dissent; for example, genuine criticism or satire may be removed by authorities

under the pretext of combating fake news.

- ☀ **Lack of transparency:** Many AI models operate as black boxes; for example, a loan applicant may be rejected by an algorithm without receiving a clear explanation of the factors behind the decision.
- ☀ **Limited regulatory capacity:** India may lack sufficient technical experts and audit systems; for example, a regulator may find it difficult to independently test whether a complex facial-recognition system is biased or inaccurate.

CONSTITUTIONAL DIMENSIONS

- ✍ **Article 14:** Biased and arbitrary algorithmic decisions may violate equality before law.
- ✍ **Article 19(1)(a):** Deepfakes and information manipulation undermine meaningful freedom of speech by preventing citizens from accessing reliable information.
- ✍ **Article 19(2):** Reasonable restrictions may address public order, defamation, incitement and national security, but they must remain lawful and proportionate.
- ✍ **Free and fair elections:** Systematic manipulation of voters through synthetic media can weaken the constitutional principle of representative democracy.
- ✍ **Right to Be Forgotten:**
 - o The Right to Be Forgotten allows a person to seek correction, erasure or de-indexing of outdated, inaccurate or irrelevant personal information.
 - o It derives from privacy and dignity under **Article 21** and is partly supported by the right to correction and erasure under the **Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023**.
 - o In the *K.S. In the Puttaswamy judgment*, the Supreme Court recognised privacy and control over personal information as fundamental rights.
 - o However, it is not absolute and must be balanced against **Article 19(1)(a)**, freedom of the press, public interest, open justice and the public's right to know

WAY FORWARD

- ✳ **Adopt rights-based AI regulation:** AI governance must protect privacy, consent, dignity, equality and digital autonomy. India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 recognises both the individual's right to protect personal data and the need for lawful data processing.
- ✳ **Classify AI systems according to risk:** Systems used in employment, policing, credit, education and health care should face stronger obligations than low-risk applications. The European Union's AI Act provides a useful risk-based regulatory model.
- ✳ **Introduce platform responsibility:** Safe-harbour protection should be linked to due diligence, rapid grievance redressal and action against coordinated bots, deepfakes and harmful algorithmic amplification.
- ✳ **Protect freedom of expression:** Regulation should target impersonation, undisclosed synthetic content, automated manipulation and foreign interference rather than criminalising ordinary opinions or criticism.
- ✳ **Label AI-generated content:** Platforms should require visible and machine-readable labels or watermarks for synthetic political advertisements, cloned voices and realistic AI-generated videos.
- ✳ **Strengthen digital literacy:** Media literacy should be integrated into schools, universities and community programmes so citizens can verify sources, identify emotional manipulation and recognise deepfakes.
- ✳ **Establish an independent AI regulator:** A multidisciplinary authority comprising technologists, constitutional experts, civil society representatives and sectoral regulators can conduct audits and enforce accountability.
- ✳ **Create an early-warning system:** Government agencies, cybersecurity experts, researchers, fact-checkers and ethical hackers should collaborate to detect coordinated misinformation and foreign influence operations in real time.

CONCLUSION

India must treat access to an **unmanipulated information ecosystem** as an extension of the rights to dignity, liberty, free expression and democratic participation. The objective should not be to slow innovation indiscriminately, but to ensure that AI remains **human-centred, transparent, accountable and constitutionally compliant**.

SAMPLE QUESTION

Q) "Unchecked artificial intelligence and data-driven platforms can create a new form of digital slavery." Discuss the emerging concerns and challenges in regulating AI in India. Suggest constitutional guardrails to protect individual rights and democracy. **(15 marks) (250 words)**

UN INQUIRY ON PALESTINIAN CHILDREN AND THE GAZA CONFLICT

Syllabus: GS II - International relations

PYQ MAPPING

Q) “India’s relations with Israel have, of late, acquired a depth and diversity, which cannot be rolled back.” Discuss. (2018)

WHY IN NEWS

On **June 23, 2026**, the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry concluded that Israeli authorities and security forces had deliberately targeted Palestinian children, resulting in genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes in Gaza, along with war crimes in the occupied West Bank. Israel rejected the report and denied deliberately targeting children.

INTRODUCTION

The recent UN Commission of Inquiry report has raised serious concerns over the protection of Palestinian children during the Gaza conflict. By alleging genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, the report has renewed debate on international humanitarian law, accountability and the credibility of the rules-based global order.

SHORT TAKES

- ✦ **The Commission’s report is not a final court judgment:** The UN Commission of Inquiry is an investigative body established by the UN Human Rights Council. It can collect evidence, determine facts and identify possible violations, but it cannot convict individuals or issue a legally binding judgment.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE UN INQUIRY

- ➔ **High child casualties:** The Commission reported that at least **20,179 children were killed and 44,143 injured** between October 7, 2023 and October 7, 2025; children constituted around **30% of reported deaths** in Gaza. The casualty figures cited by the inquiry were based largely on Palestinian health-authority data.
- ➔ **Alleged deliberate targeting:** The Commission argued that Israel continued using high-payload munitions and weapons with wide-area effects in densely populated areas despite mounting child casualties, which it considered evidence of intentional attacks.
- ➔ **Destruction of survival conditions:** The report linked repeated displacement, attacks, restrictions on humanitarian aid, starvation and lack of medicines to preventable deaths, malnutrition and long-term developmental harm among children.
- ➔ **Damage to health and development:** Attacks affecting hospitals and reproductive-health facilities reportedly harmed newborn survival, contributed to miscarriages and created severe psychological trauma among children.
- ➔ **Violations in the West Bank:** The inquiry documented settler violence and alleged systematic mistreatment of Palestinian children in detention, including beatings, forced stripping and deprivation of food. It classified some of this treatment as crimes against humanity involving torture and other inhumane acts.

ISRAEL’S RESPONSE

- ♣ Israel rejected the report as biased and defamatory and denied deliberately targeting children.
- ♣ It stated that its forces seek to minimise civilian casualties and argued that the report failed to adequately consider Hamas’s operations from civilian areas and alleged diversion of humanitarian resources. Hamas has rejected allegations that it diverted aid.

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL DIMENSIONS

- ☀ **Genocide Convention, 1948:**
 - Genocide requires prohibited acts, such as killing or seriously harming members of a protected group, together with the **specific intent to destroy the group wholly or partly**.
 - The Commission concluded that the alleged targeting of children formed part of evidence demonstrating genocidal intent; however, this conclusion remains disputed by Israel and has not yet been confirmed by a final international-court judgment.

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

- 🌀 **Child protection crisis:** The scale of deaths, injuries, malnutrition and trauma raises serious questions about the effectiveness of international mechanisms intended to protect children during war.
- 🌀 **Accountability deficit:** Failure to impartially investigate credible allegations against all parties can promote impunity and weaken international humanitarian law.
- 🌀 **Rules-based order:** Selective application of international law creates perceptions of double

standards and reduces confidence in global institutions.

- 🌀 **Generational consequences:** Loss of education, family members, physical health and psychological security may affect Palestinian society for decades.
- 🌀 **Regional instability:** Prolonged conflict may increase displacement, radicalisation and geopolitical instability across West Asia.

INDIA'S POSITION

- 🇮🇳 India has expressed concern over the humanitarian situation in Gaza and has called for the safe, timely and sustained delivery of humanitarian assistance.
- 🇮🇳 India has supported a ceasefire, the release of hostages and a peaceful settlement through dialogue

and diplomacy.

- 🇮🇳 India continues to support a negotiated **two-state solution**, involving a sovereign, independent and viable Palestinian State living within secure and recognised borders alongside Israel.

WAY FORWARD

- ✳ **Immediate civilian protection:** All parties must comply with international humanitarian law and protect children, hospitals, schools and humanitarian personnel.
- ✳ **Humanitarian access:** Food, water, medicines and relief supplies must reach civilians safely and without obstruction or diversion.
- ✳ **Release of hostages:** All hostages held by Hamas and other armed groups must be released, while detainees

must be treated according to international law.

- ✳ **Independent accountability:** Alleged crimes committed by Israeli forces, Hamas and other armed groups must be independently investigated, with responsibility determined through competent judicial processes.
- ✳ **Political settlement:** A sustainable ceasefire must be accompanied by renewed diplomacy towards a viable two-state solution.

CONCLUSION

The UN inquiry presents grave findings concerning the treatment of Palestinian children, but legal accuracy requires describing them as the **Commission's conclusions**, not as an uncontested or final judicial verdict. The protection of civilians cannot depend upon their nationality or political identity. International law must be applied impartially to Israeli authorities, Hamas and all other actors, while accountability, humanitarian relief and a negotiated political settlement must proceed together.

SAMPLE QUESTION

Q) "The recent UN inquiry on the treatment of Palestinian children in Gaza has exposed the limitations of international humanitarian law and global accountability mechanisms." Discuss. **(15 marks)**
(250 words)

KURUKSHETHRA MARCH 2026:

RURAL RISE NATIONAL GROWTH

FROM REFORMS TO RESULTS

VIKSIT BHARAT G RAM G ACT 2025

- ➔ Replaced the **MGNREGA, 2005** with a new framework aligned to the **Viksit Bharat @2047** vision.
- ➔ Guarantees **125 days of wage employment** per financial year to every eligible rural household, compared to 100 days under MGNREGA.
- ➔ Operates as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with **60:40 Centre-State funding** for General States and **90:10** for North-Eastern and Himalayan States.
- ➔ Permits States to suspend programme works for up to **60 days** during peak sowing or harvesting seasons to address agricultural labour shortages.

TRADE RECEIVABLES DISCOUNTING SYSTEM (TREDS)

- ➔ An electronic platform that enables **MSMEs to convert their trade receivables (invoices) into immediate cash** by discounting them through multiple financiers.
- ➔ Connects **MSME sellers, corporate buyers (including PSUs and Government Departments), and banks/NBFCs**, ensuring transparent and competitive invoice financing.

ORANGE ECONOMY

- ➔ Economic activities based on **creativity, culture, intellectual property, and innovation** that generate value, employment, and exports.
- ➔ Includes **film and animation, music, performing arts, publishing, design, fashion, architecture, advertising, gaming, software, handicrafts, digital content, and cultural tourism**.



LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR FUTURE READY TECHNOLOGY

INDIA SEMICONDUCTOR MISSION 2.0

- ➔ Approved in **2024** under **MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology)**, it aims to build a **self-reliant semiconductor ecosystem** by promoting **fabs, chip design, packaging, and supply chains**.

INDIA AI MISSION

- ➔ Approved in **March 2024** with **₹10,371.92 crore**, it aims to build a **safe, inclusive AI ecosystem** with strong **computing infrastructure and innovation support**.
- ➔ Focuses on **startups, indigenous AI development, and skilled workforce creation** under **MeitY**.



ACCELERATING RURAL TRANSFORMATION

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)

- Launched in **2000** under **MoRD (Ministry of Rural Development)**, it aims to provide **all-weather road connectivity** to rural habitations.
- Implemented in phases, with **PMGSY-IV (2024)** targeting **25,000 unconnected habitations**.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HOSPITALITY

- Announced in **Budget 2026–27** under the **Ministry of Tourism**, it aims to create a **world-class hospitality education institution**. It will be established by upgrading **NCHMCT (National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology)**.

JAL JEEVAN MISSION

- Launched in **2019** under the **Ministry of Jal Shakti (DDWS – Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation)**, it aims to provide **FHTCs (Functional Household Tap Connections)** ensuring **55 LPCD (Litres Per Capita per Day)** water supply.



BHARATNET

- Launched in **2011** under the **Ministry of Communications (DoT – Department of Telecommunications)**, it aims to provide **broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats**.
- It is the **world's largest rural broadband project**, enabling **Digital India services** like **e-health, e-education, and e-governance**.

DRIVING GROWTH IN AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTOR

PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJANA (PMFBY)

- Under the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**, it provides **crop insurance** against **calamities, pests, and diseases**.
- Features **low premium (2% Kharif, 1.5% Rabi, 5% commercial)** and **tech-based assessment (drones, satellites)** from sowing to post-harvest.

PRADHAN MANTRI KRISHI SINCHAI YOJANA

- Launched in **2015** with multiple ministries, it aims for **“Har Khet Ko Pani”** and **“Per Drop More Crop.”**
- Includes **AIBP (Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme)**, **HKKP (Har Khet Ko Pani)**, **PDMC (Per Drop More Crop)** promoting **micro-irrigation**.



BUILDING A STRONGER AND MORE INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN INDIA

AYUSHMAN BHARAT - PRADHAN MANTRI JAN AROGAYA YOJANA SCHEME (PM - JAY)

- Launched in **2018** under **MoHFW (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)**, it provides **₹5 lakh health insurance per family** for secondary and tertiary care.
- Ensures **cashless, portable treatment** at empanelled hospitals with beneficiaries identified via **SECC 2011 (Socio-Economic and Caste Census)**.



SAKSHAM ANGANWADI & POSHAN 2.0

- Launched in **2021** under **MoWCD (Ministry of Women and Child Development)**, it aims to improve **nutrition and early childhood care (ECCE – Early Childhood Care and Education)**.
- Integrates **Anganwadi Services, POSHAN Abhiyaan, and SAG (Scheme for Adolescent Girls)** with focus on **smart Anganwadis and digital monitoring**.

EMPOWERING YUVA SHAKTI FOR VIKSIT BHARAT

MANAK (MILLION MINDS AUGMENTING NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE)

- Launched in **2015–16** under **DST (Department of Science & Technology)**, it encourages **innovation among school students (Classes 6–10)**.
- Provides **₹10,000 support for prototypes** and promotes ideas through **INSPIRE–MANAK** and **national exhibitions**.

PM – ONE NATION ONE SUBSCRIPTION (ONOS)

- Approved in **2024** under the **Ministry of Education (INFLIBNET–UGC)**, it provides **nationwide access to global scholarly journals**.
- Covers **13,000+ journals** benefiting **HEIs and R&D institutions** through a **single national subscription**.



PM RESEARCH CHAIR SCHEME

- Launched in **2025** under the **Ministry of Education with ANRF (Anusandhan National Research Foundation)**, it aims to **attract and retain top researchers**.
- Provides **long-term funding and infrastructure** in **frontier areas** like **AI, quantum tech, biotech, and semiconductors**.

ANUSANDHAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION (ANRF)

- Established in **2023 (operational 2024)** under **DST**, it aims to **strengthen India's R&D ecosystem**.
- Replaces **SERB (Science and Engineering Research Board)** and funds **multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed research** across sectors.

NATIONAL QUANTUM MISSION (NQM)

- Launched in **2023** under **DST**, it aims to make India a **global leader in quantum technologies**.
- Focuses on **quantum computing (50–1000 qubits)**, **secure communication networks (2000 km)**, and **T-Hubs (Thematic Hubs)**.



EMPOWERING YOUTH STRENGTHENING ENTERPRISE

ONE DISTRICT ONE PRODUCT (ODOP)

- Launched in **2018 (UP)** and scaled nationally in **2020** under **DEH – Districts as Export Hubs**, it aims to promote **district-specific products** for **exports and local employment**.
- Provides support for **branding, GI (Geographical Indication), skill development, and market access** with **cluster-based development**.



CORPORATE MITRA

- Announced in **Budget 2025–26** under the **Ministry of MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises)**, it aims to **mentor MSMEs through corporate experts**.
- Creates a **mentorship platform** linking industry leaders with MSMEs to boost **innovation and global value chain integration**.

PM MITRA (MEGA INTEGRATED TEXTILE REGION AND APPAREL) PARKS

- Launched in **2021** under the **Ministry of Textiles**, it aims to create **integrated textile hubs** based on the **5F (Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign)** approach.
- Plans **7 mega parks with plug-and-play infrastructure** developed via **SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle)**.



SHE-MARTS

- ➔ Announced in **Budget 2025–26** under the **Ministry of MSME**, it aims to **enhance market access for women entrepreneurs**.
- ➔ Creates **physical and digital marketplaces** for women-led enterprises with convergence of **MSME schemes**.

A MAJOR PUSH FOR LIVESTOCK DAIRYING FISHERIES

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND (AHIDF)

- ➔ Launched on 24 June 2020 under *Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan*, this ₹15,000 crore fund promotes private investment in animal husbandry infrastructure with **3% interest subvention** and credit guarantee support.
- ➔ It supports dairy, meat processing, feed plants, and allied sectors, benefiting **MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises)**, **FPOs (Farmer Producer Organisations)**, cooperatives, and entrepreneurs.

WHITE REVOLUTION 2.0

- ➔ Announced in Union Budget 2025–26, it aims to boost milk production and farmers' income through genetic improvement, animal health, fodder development, and modern dairy infrastructure.
- ➔ It complements schemes like **RGM (Rashtriya Gokul Mission)** and **AHIDF (Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund)**.



A NEW CHAPTER FOR INDIA'S WOMEN POLICY, POWER AND POSSIBILITY

MISSION SHAKTI

- ➔ Approved on **28 December 2023** as an umbrella scheme (**2021–26**), it aims to ensure **women's safety, protection, and socio-economic empowerment**.
- ➔ It has two components—**Sambal** (*safety: OSCs – One Stop Centres, Women Helpline 181, BBBP – Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Nari Adalats*) and **Samarthya** (*empowerment: Shakti Sadan, Sakhi Niwas, Palna – National Crèche Scheme, HEW – Hub for Empowerment of Women*).

WEEKLY DOSSIERS

MILITARY TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Why in news:

- ◆ A bird's nest found near Ukraine's front line contained military-grade fibre-optic cable used by drones, raising concerns about the environmental legacy of modern warfare.

Key Issues

- ◆ **Modern warfare is creating new forms of battlefield waste:** In Ukraine, broken drones, batteries, propellers, carbon fibre parts and fibre-optic cables are now scattered across fields, forests and villages.
- ◆ **Fibre-optic drones show how technology can solve one military problem but create another environmental problem:** These drones avoid electronic jamming by remaining connected through long fibre-optic cables, but the cables are left behind after missions.
- ◆ **Wildlife is beginning to interact with military waste:** The bird's nest made partly of fibre-optic cable shows that animals may use battlefield debris as nesting material, creating risks of entanglement and habitat contamination.
- ◆ **War damage is not limited to human casualties and infrastructure loss:** Conflict also damages ecosystems through polluted land, destroyed forests, toxic material, unexploded ammunition and long-lasting synthetic waste.
- ◆ **Historical examples show that the environmental impact of war can continue for decades:** Agent Orange in Vietnam, landmines in Cambodia and Bosnia, and contaminated battlefields of the First World War show that post-war ecological damage can persist long after fighting ends.
- ◆ **Drone warfare has added a new dimension to environmental security:** The large-scale use of cheap

FPV drones in Ukraine has created new waste streams such as fibre-optic cables, lithium batteries and carbon-fibre fragments.

- ◆ **There is a gap in environmental regulation of military technology:** Most defence policies focus on battlefield effectiveness, while disposal, recovery and ecological consequences of military equipment receive less attention.

Way Forward

- ◆ **Post-conflict environmental audits should be made mandatory:** War-affected regions must be assessed for toxic waste, unexploded ordnance, drone debris and habitat destruction.
- ◆ **Military technology should follow eco-design principles:** Defence equipment should use recyclable, traceable and less toxic materials wherever operationally possible.
- ◆ **Wildlife monitoring should be included in post-war recovery:** Scientists should study how animals interact with battlefield debris to prevent long-term ecological harm.
- ◆ **International humanitarian law should recognise environmental damage from new-age warfare:** Drone debris, electronic waste and synthetic battlefield waste should be treated as serious post-conflict environmental concerns.

Conclusion

- ◆ The bird's nest made of fibre-optic cable is a small but powerful symbol of how modern warfare enters nature itself. As wars become more technologically advanced, environmental security must become an integral part of defence planning, post-war reconstruction and international law.

PESTICIDE EXPOSURE IN INDIA: ONE BODY, MULTIPLE PATHWAYS

Why in news:

- ◆ A recent discussion highlighted that India regulates pesticide exposure separately through food, water and air standards, but does not measure their cumulative impact on the human body.

Key Issues

- ◆ **India's pesticide regulation is fragmented:** Food residues are regulated through FSSAI limits, pesticide manufacture

and use through the Insecticides Act, 1968, and water pollution through separate water laws, but there is no single framework to calculate total exposure.

- ◆ **Pesticide exposure happens through multiple routes:** A person may consume pesticide residues through vegetables, drinking water and indoor air on the same day, but current regulation treats each route separately.
- ◆ **Food safety monitoring underestimates cumulative risk:** In 2017–18, 23,660 food samples were tested, with pesticide residues found in 19.1% and 2.2% exceeding Maximum Residue Limits, but each food item was assessed separately, not as part of a total diet.
- ◆ **Water contamination is a serious concern in agricultural regions:** Punjab, Haryana, Bihar, eastern Uttar Pradesh and the Ganga basin show pesticide and nitrate contamination due to agricultural runoff and intensive farming.
- ◆ **Historical cases show long-term health risks:** In Kasaragod, Kerala, endosulfan residues were found in soil even two decades after spraying stopped, and exposed populations reported congenital disabilities, cancer, epilepsy and neuro-behavioural disorders.
- ◆ **Indoor air exposure is poorly monitored:** Mosquito repellents, aerosol sprays, vaporisers, fumigants and pesticidal paints can add to pesticide exposure, but India has limited data on indoor pesticide pollution.
- ◆ **Health impacts are increasingly visible:** ICMR-linked studies have associated long-term pesticide exposure with lower acetylcholinesterase activity, cognitive impairment, depression, movement disorders and higher neurological risk among exposed populations.

Way Forward

- ◆ **India should adopt cumulative exposure assessment:** Regulation should calculate total pesticide exposure from food, water and air together, instead of clearing each pathway in isolation.
- ◆ **Toxicology should study chemical mixtures:** Safety testing must assess the combined effect of multiple pesticides, because people are rarely exposed to only one chemical.
- ◆ **Monitoring should include indoor air and household pesticide use:** Repellents, sprays and fumigants should be brought under stronger surveillance due to their direct exposure risks.
- ◆ **Medical history should include pesticide exposure:** Doctors should record occupational and environmental pesticide exposure, especially among farmers and rural populations with neurological symptoms.
- ◆ **Safer farming practices should be promoted:** Integrated Pest Management, organic alternatives, bio-pesticides and farmer training can reduce chemical dependence.
- ◆ **Data integration is necessary:** FSSAI, Central Insecticides Board, pollution control boards, health departments and agriculture departments should share data through a common pesticide exposure surveillance system.

Conclusion

- ◆ India's pesticide regulation is still based on a single-chemical and single-pathway approach, while real-life exposure is cumulative. A human body does not separate food, water and air exposure; therefore, India needs an integrated, health-based and precautionary pesticide regulation framework.

THE CASE AGAINST A ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL ANTIVENOM FOR INDIA

Why in news:

- ◆ Gujarat has started developing a region-specific antivenom using venom collected from local snakes, raising debate on whether India's single polyvalent antivenom is sufficient.

Key Points

- ◆ **India has a very high snakebite burden:** India's National Action Plan on Snakebite Envenoming estimates about 58,000 snakebite deaths per year, making it a major public health issue.
- ◆ **India mainly uses polyvalent antivenom:** The existing antivenom targets the "Big Four" snakes: Indian cobra, common krait, Russell's viper and saw-scaled viper.
- ◆ **One antivenom is not enough because venom varies by region:** The same snake species may produce different venom in different regions due to variation in prey, habitat, genetics and evolutionary history.
- ◆ **The current venom pool is geographically limited:** Much of India's commercial antivenom production has traditionally depended on venom collected from the Irula Snake Catchers' Cooperative in Tamil Nadu,

so it may not fully represent snake venom diversity across India.

- ♦ **Scientific studies show regional venom differences:** Research has reported variation in venom composition among cobras, kraits and Russell's vipers from different parts of India, which may affect antivenom neutralisation.
- ♦ **Region-specific antivenom may improve treatment outcomes:** Antivenom made from locally collected venom can better match the toxin profile of snakes in that region, as Gujarat is now attempting through its Snake Research Institute.

Way Forward

- ♦ **India should develop geographically representative venom pools:** Venom should be collected from different ecological regions so antivenom reflects India's actual snake diversity.
- ♦ **Region-specific antivenoms should be tested scientifically:** Gujarat's model can be expanded only after multicentric validation and clinical evidence.
- ♦ **Peripheral healthcare must be strengthened:**

Primary health centres and community health centres should have adequate antivenom, trained staff and emergency referral systems.

- ♦ **Snakebite surveillance should be improved:** Snakebite cases, deaths, species involved and treatment outcomes should be properly recorded.
- ♦ **Public awareness is essential:** Rural communities, farmers and children should be educated on prevention, first aid and early hospital care.
- ♦ **India should implement the National Action Plan effectively:** The Government launched the National Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming with the aim of halving snakebite deaths by 2030.

Conclusion

- ♦ India cannot depend only on a one-size-fits-all antivenom because snake venom varies across regions and species. However, region-specific antivenom must be combined with better healthcare access, surveillance, awareness and strong regulation to reduce snakebite deaths effectively.

BEYOND VERDICTS: KEY JUDICIAL INTERVENTIONS

Living Will: Ensuring the Right to Die with Dignity

- ♦ In **Common Cause v. Union of India (2018)**, the Supreme Court held that the **right to life under Article 21 includes the right to die with dignity**, thereby recognizing **passive euthanasia** and the validity of **Living Wills (Advance Medical Directives)**.
- ♦ A Living Will allows a mentally competent adult to specify in advance that, in cases of irreversible illness or permanent loss of consciousness, they do not wish to be kept alive through artificial life-support systems such as ventilators or feeding tubes. The Court further simplified the procedure in **2023** to make its execution easier.
- ♦ The concept promotes patient autonomy, reduces the emotional and financial burden on families, and shifts end-of-life care from futile medical interventions to palliative care focused on comfort and dignity. It is viewed as an important step toward ensuring a peaceful and dignified death.

Five Years Since Stan Swamy's Custodial Death

- ♦ Five years after the death of **Father Stan Swamy** in judicial custody, concerns over the alleged misuse of the **UAPA** remain. The 84-year-old tribal rights activist died in 2021 while awaiting trial in the **Bhima Koregaon case**, after repeated denial of bail despite serious health issues. His death highlighted issues of prolonged pre-trial detention, low conviction rates under UAPA, and the need to balance national security with the constitutional right to personal liberty and human dignity.

Justice Lokur Criticises MEA's Stand on Passports and Citizenship

- ♦ Former Supreme Court judge **Justice Madan B. Lokur** criticised the Ministry of External Affairs' statement that a

passport is merely a travel document and not proof of citizenship.

- ◆ Referring to the **Passports Act, 1967**, he argued that the law clearly distinguishes between a **passport** and a **travel document**, and that an Indian passport generally signifies Indian citizenship.
- ◆ He warned that treating passports as mere travel documents could create constitutional and practical issues, particularly regarding the exercise of rights available only to citizens under **Article 19** and in international travel and visa processes. He called for a wider public debate on the issue due to its significant constitutional implications.

Madras High Court: Private Schools Not Under RTI, But Must Display Fee Structure

- ◆ The **Madras High Court** held that **private unaided schools are not “public authorities”** under the RTI Act, 2005, and therefore are not directly subject to RTI obligations.
- ◆ However, the Court clarified that under the **Tamil Nadu Private Schools (Regulation) Rules**, schools are legally required to display details such as **fee structure, infrastructure, staff strength, student strength, and available seats** on their notice boards and websites.
- ◆ While setting aside the Information Commission's order on jurisdictional grounds, the Court exercised its powers under **Article 226** and directed schools to comply with the statutory requirement of publicly displaying fee details.

Bombay High Court Orders Removal of Preity Zinta Deepfakes

- ◆ The **Bombay High Court** directed social media platforms to remove **AI-generated deepfakes, morphed images, superimposed visuals, and other unauthorized content** involving actor **Preity Zinta**.
- ◆ The Court held that such content violates her **personality rights, publicity rights, privacy, dignity, and reputation**, causing irreparable harm that cannot be adequately compensated through monetary damages. Relying on **Articles 19(1)(a) and 21 of the Constitution** and the **IT Rules, 2021**, the Court observed that intermediaries have a duty to exercise due diligence and remove objectionable content. The matter is scheduled for further hearing on **September 3, 2026**.

ETHICS - CASE STUDY

Q) You are the District Magistrate of a district where a major cyberattack has disabled the computer systems of government hospitals, revenue offices and the public distribution system. The attackers have encrypted sensitive citizen data, including medical records, Aadhaar-linked details and welfare-beneficiary information, and demanded a large ransom in cryptocurrency.

The technical team informs you that paying the ransom may restore essential services quickly, but there is no guarantee that the data will be recovered or deleted by the attackers. Refusing payment may prolong disruption, endanger patients and delay food and pension benefits. Meanwhile, a senior political leader asks you to conceal the scale of the breach to avoid public panic and reputational damage to the government.

As District Magistrate, you must balance public safety, transparency, privacy, administrative accountability and national cybersecurity policy.

Questions

- Identify the major stakeholders and ethical dilemmas involved in the case.
- Would you agree to pay the ransom? Give reasons for your decision.
- How would you balance transparency with the need to prevent panic and protect the investigation?
- What immediate and long-term measures would you take to restore services, protect affected citizens and prevent similar cyberattacks?

ETHICS - EXAMPLES

- Leadership:** Founded by Shipa and Hardik Patel, Chhapa revived traditional hand block printing while providing sustainable livelihoods to around 25 artisans. By preserving a 300-year-old craft through eco-friendly practices, they showed commitment to sustainable development.
- Environmental Ethics:** After restoring a neglected century-old open well in Bengaluru's Sampangiram Nagar, the SayTrees Environmental Trust, in partnership with local residents and civic authorities, transformed a garbage-filled dumping ground into a reliable community water source supplying over 1,000 litres daily.
- Social Responsibility:** After leaving a stable career in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), **Parmeshwar Poul** returned to his drought-prone village in Maharashtra to address water scarcity through scientific planning and community participation. By introducing water budgeting, rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, and training hundreds of *Jalduts* (Water Ambassadors), his work has helped over 1,000 villages conserve millions of litres of water.
- Innovation:** Founded by IIT graduates Johns T. Mathai and Kannappa Palaniappan, Kochi-based EyeROV developed India's first indigenous AI-powered marine robotics platform to inspect underwater infrastructure and monitor fragile coral reefs in the Andaman and Lakshadweep islands. It replaced hazardous human dives with innovative technology while supporting marine conservation and infrastructure safety.
- Resilience:** After failing Class 9 and struggling with self-doubt, Imtiaz Ali transformed his approach to learning by focusing on understanding concepts rather than rote memorisation. He went on to top Delhi University and became one of India's most celebrated filmmakers.
- Dedication to Cultural Preservation:** Recognising that the centuries-old art of Sawantwadi Ganjifa was on the verge of extinction, the Sawant Bhonsle royal family learnt the craft themselves, established a dedicated revival initiative, supported local artisans, secured a Geographical Indication (GI) tag, and introduced the art to modern audiences.
- Environmental Ethics:** Faced with recurring water scarcity and increasing groundwater salinity, **Chetan Soorenji** designed a low-cost rainwater harvesting and borewell recharge system that not only restored water availability in his own home but also replenished two neighbouring borewells.
- Empowerment:** Through the Rani Laxmi Bai Kendras established in Rajasthan's government colleges, over 25,000 young women have received training in self-defence, legal rights, cybersecurity, financial literacy, and career planning. Established by the Rajasthan Department of Higher Education, it has covered over 150 government colleges in the state.

MODEL ESSAY

"To do two things at once is to do neither."

Introduction

- Quote by Publilius Syrus, Roman writer.
- A study by Clifford Nass at Stanford University found that multitaskers perform worse at filtering irrelevant information, switch tasks more slowly, and make more mistakes than those who focus on one task.

Why multitasking fails

- **Cognitive Limitations of the Brain:** Human brain performs **task-switching, not true multitasking**. Eg: Research in cognitive psychology shows reduced efficiency when switching between tasks.
- **Decline in Quality of Work:** Divided attention leads to **errors and superficial outcomes**. Eg: A driver using a phone → higher accident risk.
- **Loss of Time and Productivity:** Switching tasks increases **time lag (switching cost)**. Eg: Constant email checking reduces deep work efficiency (as discussed by Cal Newport).
- **Mental Stress and Burnout:** Multitasking creates **cognitive overload**. Eg: Corporate employees handling multiple deadlines → anxiety, burnout.
- **Impact on Learning and Creativity:** Deep focus is essential for **critical thinking and innovation**

When multitasking may work

- **Routine or Low-Cognitive Tasks:** Some tasks can be combined if one is **automatic**. Eg: Listening to music while jogging.
- **Modern Work Demand:** Fast-paced environments require **parallel handling of tasks**. Eg: Managers coordinating meetings, emails, and decisions simultaneously.
- **Technological Assistance:** Tools and AI reduce

cognitive load. Eg: Automation software managing repetitive tasks.

- **Individual Differences:** Some individuals develop **higher adaptability**. Eg: Experienced professionals handling multiple workflows efficiently.

Way Forward

- **Prioritization and Time Management:** Use techniques like **Eisenhower Matrix** (urgent vs important) - Focus on one high-value task at a time.
- **Adoption of Deep Work Culture:** Encourage uninterrupted work periods. Eg: "Focus hours" in organizations.
- **Mindfulness and Attention Training:** Practices like meditation improve concentration.
- **Smart Use of Technology:** Use tech to **reduce multitasking**, not increase distractions. Eg: Notification control, productivity apps.
- **Task Structuring:** Break work into **sequential, manageable units** instead of parallel overload.

Conclusion

- Multitasking has limited utility in specific contexts. However, for meaningful outcomes, **depth over dispersion is essential**.

Sample Quotes

- *Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence - Robert Frost*
- *Attention is the rarest and purest form of generosity - Simone Weil*
- *The most dangerous worldview is the worldview of those who have not viewed the world - Alexander von Humboldt*

MAINS JOT DOWN



GS I: INDIAN ART & CULTURE

- The 170th anniversary of the Santhal Hool is being commemorated across India. Led by Sidho, Kanho, Chand and Bhairav Murmu, along with Phulo and Jhano, the 1855–56 uprising challenged British rule, exploitative landlords, oppressive taxation, forced labour, debt and tribal land alienation under the Permanent Settlement. Its aftermath led to the creation of the Santhal Parganas as a separate administrative unit and later strengthened legal protection against the transfer of tribal land to non-tribals.



GS II: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- Greece has become the latest overseas market to enable India's **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**, expanding its global reach. UPI services are also available in the UAE, Singapore, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, France, Mauritius and Qatar.



GS III: ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

- Recent CEEW research has highlighted India's deepening water crisis, with 11 of its 15 major river basins classified as water-stressed, having annual availability below 1,700 cubic metres per person.
- Water scarcity has thus become a structural risk, threatening households, agriculture, industry and urban economies, as seen in cities such as Bengaluru and Delhi.



GS III: INTERNAL SECURITY

- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the **National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction**, a comprehensive framework focusing on prevention, awareness, treatment, rehabilitation, capacity building and social reintegration.
- It addresses the serious challenge of substance use disorder, which affected over seven crore people in India according to a 2019 survey.



GS III: ENERGY

- The Ministry of Power has proposed a credit-trading mechanism under the **Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (CAFE) norms**, allowing passenger vehicle manufacturers to trade surplus compliance credits or purchase credits through the Bureau of Energy Efficiency to meet prescribed fuel-efficiency targets.



GS III: DEFENCE

- The Indian Navy commissioned **INS Mahendragiri**, its sixth Project 17A indigenous stealth frigate, at Visakhapatnam on 11 July 2026.
- Designed by the Navy's Warship Design Bureau and built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, the vessel has over **75% indigenous content** and strengthens India's anti-air, anti-surface and anti-submarine warfare capabilities.



GS II: GOVERNMENT POLICIES & INTERVENTIONS

- The Ministry of Home Affairs launched the **FCRA 2.0 Portal** and **e-OCI Card**.
- The e-OCI Card digitises the entire OCI process, reducing paperwork and costs while enabling centralised data management, improved security and real-time verification at airports.
- Approved for nationwide rollout, **PM-SETU** is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in 2025.
- It seeks to transform ITIs into modern, industry-driven training institutions through upgraded infrastructure, relevant courses and stronger industry linkages, thereby improving youth employability in emerging sectors.



GS III: AGRICULTURE

- Launched on 1 July 2015, the **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana** has completed over a decade of promoting irrigation-led agricultural growth.
- It has benefited more than 27 million farmers, created or restored irrigation potential across 24.61 million hectares, and expanded micro-irrigation to nearly 110 lakh hectares.
- The scheme has also increased crop yields by about 25–30% while reducing input costs such as fertilisers.
- Direct-Seeded Rice (DSR) is gaining popularity amid El Niño-induced water stress and rising labour costs.
- It is a water- and labour-saving method in which rice seeds are sown directly in the field without nursery raising or transplanting. DSR reduces cultivation costs, methane emissions and sowing delays, but requires effective weed management and proper water control for optimum yields.

CHERRYPICKS OF THE WEEK

PETROGLYPHS

- They are images or symbols carved directly onto rock surfaces by pecking or engraving them with stone tools. In contrast, images painted on rocks are known as **pictographs**.

GEOGLYPHS

- They are a form of prehistoric rock art created on laterite plateaus by removing parts of the rock surface through incision, pecking, carving or abrasion.

STRAWBERRY MOON

- It is the full moon near the Northern Hemisphere's summer solstice. Named after the wild strawberry harvest, it may appear larger and golden-orange near the horizon due to the Moon illusion and

atmospheric scattering.

MICROGASTRINAE

- They are a subfamily of parasitoid wasps that develop inside the larvae of butterflies and moths. They serve as natural biological-control agents against agricultural and forestry pests and, owing to their high diversity and close host associations, also help estimate overall insect richness.

TRIBEX

- It is a first-of-its-kind digital learning platform dedicated to India's tribal art, culture and traditional knowledge systems. It supports structured learning, research and digital documentation, and offers five UGC-recognised one-year hybrid diploma programmes, including a course in the Santali language using the Ol Chiki script.