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IUC ACADEMY NOTES

Complete Syllabus • Conceptual Flowcharts • Comparative Tables • Solved Practice Questions

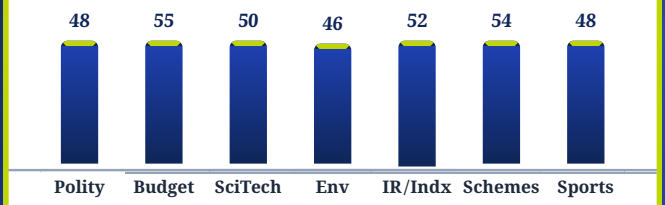
CURRENT AFFAIRS 2026 — COMPLETE ANNUAL COMPENDIUM

Complete 2026 Annual Synthesis of National Polity, Union Budget 2026-27 & Economic Survey, 16th Finance Commission, ISRO & DRDO Milestones, 103 Ramsar Sites, Global Indices 2026, Padma & Nobel Prizes 2026, Sports & Flagship Schemes

Topic-Wise Exam Weightage Distribution (%)



Previous Years' Question Trend Analysis



Target Competitive, Entrance & Departmental Examinations

All-India Competitive Exams: UPSC • State PCS • SSC • Railway • Banking • Defence • Police • EPFO • Teaching

Core Syllabus Pillars & Exam Question Weightage (%)

- National Governance, SC Rulings, New Laws & Schemes 2026 (24%)
- Union Budget 2026-27, Economic Survey, 16th FC & RBI Policy (22%)
- 18th BRICS, G20, G7 Summits, FTAs & Global Indices 2026 (18%)
- ISRO Space Missions, DRDO Defence & Ecology Reports 2026 (18%)
- Padma & Nobel Prizes 2026, Asian Games & T20 World Cup (18%)

Complete Theory
NCERT & Official Sources

Visual Flowcharts
Comparative Matrices

Memory Tricks
Exam Trap Alerts

75+ Solved MCQs
Rapid Revision Points

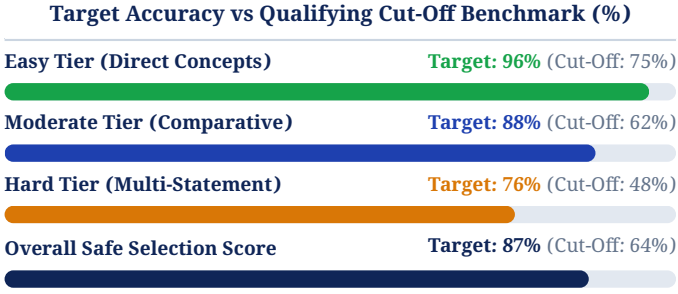
Preface, Exam Weightage Dashboard & Study Strategy — CURRENT AFFAIRS 2026 — COMPLETE ANNUAL COMPENDIUM

IUC Academy (Inclusive Universal Careers Academy | www.iucacademy.com) • Official English Medium Study Notes

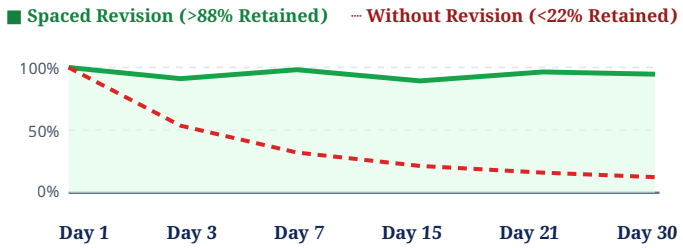
Dear Aspirants,

Modern competitive, entrance, and departmental promotion examinations demand a combination of deep conceptual clarity, statutory precision, and rapid revision tools. Prepared by **Inclusive Universal Careers Academy (IUC Academy — www.iucacademy.com)**, these comprehensive English-medium study notes integrate **structured chapter theory, 4-node conceptual process flowcharts, multi-column comparative tables, inline mathematical/scientific formulas, 'Did You Know?' boxes, 'Exam Trap Alert' callouts, 'Memory Trick' mnemonics, Chapter-End Analytical Synthesis Matrices, 75+ Step-by-Step Solved MCQs, and Rapid-Fire Revision Points**.

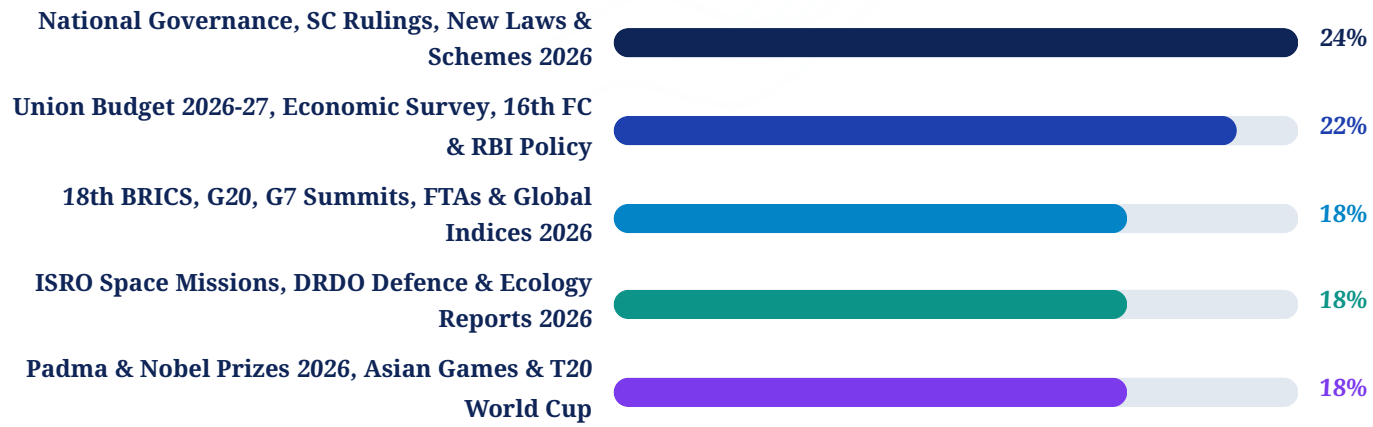
Target Accuracy vs Qualifying Cut-Off Benchmark (%)



Spaced Revision (1-3-7-21 Day Rule) & Retention Curve



Topic-Wise Exam Question Weightage Index (%)



Verified Official Curriculum & Statutory Reference Portals

- पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) (https://www.pib.gov.in/)
- केंद्रीय बजट एवं आर्थिक समीक्षा पोर्टल (https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/)
- नीति आयोग आधिकारिक पोर्टल (https://www.niti.gov.in/)
- IUC अकादमी आधिकारिक पोर्टल (https://www.iucacademy.com)

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- Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comparative Matrix of the Three New Criminal Laws, Constitutional Amendments & Landmark SC Judgments (2026)
- In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

2. Chapter 2: Union Budget 2026–27, Fiscal Consolidation Roadmap & 16th Finance Commission — Macroeconomic Synthesis

- Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Verified Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators of Union Budget 2026–27 (BE 2026–27 vs RE 2025–26)
- In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

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7. Chapter 7: Joint Military Exercises 2026, Defence Exports, India–EFTA Trade Agreement (TEPA) & Strategic Corridors

- Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Directory of India's Joint Military Exercises (Army, Navy, Air Force) & Strategic Partners
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8. Chapter 8: Constitutional Office-Holders, Parliamentary Committees, World Chess & Paralympics Synthesis 2026

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9. Annual Current Affairs 2026 — 45 Solved 4-Option MCQs with Detailed Explanations

10. Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions 46–85)

11. Annual Current Affairs 2026 — 65 Rapid-Fire Revision Points — Current Affairs 2026 Compendium

Edition Overview: This complete Annual Current Affairs 2026 Compendium synthesizes verified full-year 2026 national, constitutional, economic, scientific, environmental, diplomatic, honours, and sporting milestones — including the three new criminal laws (BNS, BNSS, BSA), the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, Union Budget 2026–27 (₹53,47,315 crore expenditure & 4.3% fiscal deficit), the 16th Finance Commission (2026–31), ISRO & DRDO 2026 missions, India State of Forest Report (25.17% cover), 57+ Tiger Reserves, 85+ Ramsar Wetlands, UNFCCC COP31 in Antalya, NITI Aayog SDG India Index (Score 71), Bharat Ratna & Padma Awards 2026, Nobel Prizes 2026, the 20th Asian Games 2026 (85 medals), and the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Chapter *1:* National Polity, Constitutional Amendments, Three New Criminal Laws *(*BNS, BNSS, BSA*)* & Judicial Landmarks *2026*

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 1: National Polity, Constitutional Amendments, Three New Criminal Laws (BNS, BNSS, BSA) & Judicial Landmarks *2026*

Key Study Pillar 1
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comparative Matrix of the Three New Criminal Laws, Constitutional Amendments & Landmark SC Judgments (2026)

Key Study Pillar 2
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Scope & Competitive Exam Relevance: Mandatory for UPSC Prelims & Mains (GS-II Indian Constitution, Polity & Governance), State PCS, Judiciary, CAPF, and Police Services examinations.

In 2026, India consolidated its transition from colonial-era penal statutes to a citizen-centric, technology-driven criminal justice architecture through the nationwide digital implementation of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**). Across police stations and courts, the e-Sakshya cloud evidence platform, Nyaya Shruti virtual court interface, and e-Summons network operationalized mandatory forensic investigation and time-bound trial procedures.

On the constitutional front, institutional preparations advanced for the Census and delimitation exercise required to operationalize one-third (33%) reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies under the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act (Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam) (**Press Information Bureau**). Simultaneously, multi-judge Constitution Benches of the Supreme Court delivered landmark rulings on mineral taxation federalism, Scheduled Caste sub-classification, and Article 39(b) property jurisprudence.

4-Node Conceptual Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Stage 1: Replacement of Colonial Penal Codes with Citizen-Centric BNS, BNSS & BSA

STEP 2
Stage 2: BNS (358 Sections), BNSS (531 Sections) & BSA (170 Sections) Digital Rollout in 2026

STEP 3
Stage 3: Nationwide Integration of e-Sakshya, Nyaya Shruti & Mandatory Forensics (Section 176(3) BNSS)

STEP 4
Stage 4: 106th Amendment (Articles 330A, 332A, 334A) & Landmark 9-Judge Supreme Court Verdicts

Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comparative Matrix of the Three New Criminal Laws, Constitutional Amendments & Landmark SC Judgments *(2026)*

Statute / Constitutional Provision	Replaced Law / Articles Amended	Total Sections / Chapters	Core Citizen-Centric Reforms & 2026 Implementation	Official Source
Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)	Indian Penal Code (IPC, 1860 — 511 Sections)	358 Sections & 20 Chapters	Sedition (124A) repealed; Section 152 penalizes acts endangering sovereignty/ unity; defines Organized Crime (Sec 111) & Terrorist Act (Sec 113)	Press Information Bureau
Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)	Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC, 1973 — 484 Sections)	531 Sections & 39 Chapters	Statutory Zero FIR, e-FIR, mandatory forensic visit for offences punishable with ≥7 years (Sec 176(3)), bail for first-time undertrials (Sec 479)	Press Information Bureau
Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)	Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (167 Sections)	170 Sections & 12 Chapters	Elevates electronic and digital records (emails, server logs, smartphones) to 'primary evidence' under Sections 57 & 63	Press Information Bureau
106th Constitutional Amendment Act	Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill)	Inserts Articles 239AA(2)(ba), 330A, 332A & 334A	33% reservation for women in Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies & NCT Delhi Assembly (15-year initial sunset clause)	Press Information Bureau
105th Constitutional Amendment Act	Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C)	Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs)	Restores constitutional power of States and Union Territories to identify and notify their own State OBC/SEBC lists	Press Information Bureau
e-Sakshya & Nyaya Shruti Platforms (2026)	Ministry of Home Affairs & NCRB / NIC	All-India ICJS 2.0 Digital Policing	Geo-tagged, hash-verified crime scene videography (e-Sakshya) and virtual judicial testimony (Nyaya Shruti)	Press Information Bureau
Mineral Rights Taxation Verdict	9-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court	Article 246 & Seventh Schedule (State List Entries 49 & 50)	Held (8:1) that royalty is not a tax and States possess legislative competence to tax mineral-bearing lands	IUC Academy Portal
SC/ST Sub-Classification Verdict	7-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court	Articles 14, 15(4), 16(4) & 341	Held (6:1, overruling E.V. Chinnaiah 2004) that States may sub-classify Scheduled Castes based on empirical data	IUC Academy Portal

In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Key Provisions of BNS, BNSS, and BSA in Competitive Examinations *(2026)*

• **Prioritization of Offences Against Women and Children (Chapter V of BNS):** Consolidates offences against women and children into a single upfront chapter; gang rape of a woman under 18 years of age carries life imprisonment or the death penalty, and sexual intercourse by deceitful promise of marriage is criminalized under Section 69 (**Press Information Bureau**).

• **Introduction of Community Service as a Statutory Punishment (Section 4 BNS):** For the first time in Indian penal history, 'Community Service' is prescribed forsix minor offences (such as petty theft under ₹5,000 upon restitution, public intoxication, defamation, or attempt to commit suicide to compel public authority).

• **Mandatory Forensic Investigation (Section 176(3) BNSS) & Undertrial Relief (Section 479 BNSS):** For all offences punishable with imprisonment of 7 years or more, a forensic expert must visit the crime scene to collect forensic evidence; first-time undertrial prisoners (not accused of life/death offences) must be granted bail after serving one-third of the maximum sentence.

• **Timelines for Medical Reports, Chargesheets & Judgments:** BNSS mandates forwarding rape medical examination reports within 7 days, completing trials in absentia for proclaimed offenders (Section 356), and pronouncing judicial verdicts within 30 to 45 days after conclusion of arguments (**Press Information Bureau**).

Constitutional Amendments, Electoral Reforms & Landmark Supreme Court Rulings

• **106th Constitutional Amendment Act (Articles 330A, 332A & 334A):** Reserves one-third of all seats (including one-third within seats reserved for SCs and STs) for women in the Lok Sabha (Article 330A), State Legislative Assemblies (Article 332A), and the Delhi Legislative Assembly (Article 239AA), taking effect after the publication of the first Census and subsequent delimitation (**Press Information Bureau**).

• **High-Level Committee on Simultaneous Elections (Kovind Panel):** Chaired by former President Shri Ram Nath Kovind, the committee recommended a two-step synchronization — holding Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections together in Phase I, followed by Municipal and Panchayat elections within 100 days in Phase II — via proposed Articles 82A and 324A.

• **9-Judge Bench Ruling on Article 39(b) (Property Owners Association Case):** The Supreme Court held that not every privately owned resource automatically constitutes a 'material resource of the community' under Article 39(b) for state acquisition, overruling the expansive socialist interpretation in Justice Krishna Iyer's 1978 opinion (**IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Statutory, Institutional & Exam-Oriented Synthesis Points

• **Analytical Point 1 (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)):** Indian Penal Code (IPC, 1860 — 511 Sections) (358 Sections & 20 Chapters) — Sedition (124A) repealed; Section 152 penalizes acts endangering sovereignty/unity; defines Organized Crime (Sec 111) & Terrorist Act (Sec 113). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 2 (Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)):** Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC, 1973 — 484 Sections) (531 Sections & 39 Chapters) — Statutory Zero FIR, e-FIR, mandatory forensic visit for offences punishable with ≥7 years (Sec 176(3)), bail for first-time undertrials (Sec 479). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 3 (Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)):** Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (167 Sections) (170 Sections & 12 Chapters) — Elevates electronic and digital records (emails, server logs, smartphones) to 'primary evidence' under Sections 57 & 63. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 4 (106th Constitutional Amendment Act):** Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill) (Inserts Articles 239AA(2)(ba), 330A, 332A & 334A) — 33% reservation for women in Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies & NCT Delhi Assembly (15-year initial sunset clause). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 5 (105th Constitutional Amendment Act):** Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C) (Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs)) — Restores constitutional power of States and Union Territories to identify and notify their own State OBC/SEBC lists. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 6 (e-Sakshya & Nyaya Shruti Platforms (2026)):** Ministry of Home Affairs & NCRB / NIC (All-India ICJS 2.0 Digital Policing) — Geo-tagged, hash-verified crime scene videography (e-Sakshya) and virtual judicial testimony (Nyaya Shruti). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 7 (Mineral Rights Taxation Verdict):** 9-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court (Article 246 & Seventh Schedule (State List Entries 49 & 50)) — Held (8:1) that royalty is not a tax and States possess legislative competence to tax mineral-bearing lands. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 8 (SC/ST Sub-Classification Verdict):** 7-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court (Articles 14, 15(4), 16(4) & 341) — Held (6:1, overruling E.V. Chinnaiah 2004) that States may sub-classify Scheduled Castes based on empirical data. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.

Did You Know?
While the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) streamlined the penal code from 511 sections (in IPC) down to 358 sections, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) expanded procedural safeguards from 484 sections (in CrPC) to 531 sections.

Exam Trap Alert
Exam questions often ask whether the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act provides 33% reservation for women in the Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Councils: remember that it applies ONLY to the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and NCT Delhi Assembly — NOT to the Rajya Sabha or Legislative Councils!

★ Memory Trick
Mnemonic for the 3 New Criminal Laws — 'BNS = 358 Sections (Sec 111 Organized Crime, Sec 113 Terrorism, Sec 152 Sovereignty); BNSS = 531 Sections (Sec 176(3) Mandatory Forensics ≥7 yrs, Sec 479 Undertrial Bail); BSA = 170 Sections (Sec 63 Digital Primary Evidence)'.

Verified Official Portal Citations: Press Information Bureau | Union Budget Portal | NITI Aayog | Ministry of External Affairs | Reserve Bank of India | ISRO Official Portal | IUC Academy Official Portal

Chapter 1 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	Prioritization of Offences Against Women and Children (Chapter V of BNS)	Consolidates offences against women and children into a single upfront chapter; gang rape of a woman under 18 years of age carries life imprisonment or the death penalty, and sexual intercourse by deceitful promise of marriage is criminalized under Section 69 (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comparative Matrix of the Three New Criminal Laws, Constitutional Amendments & Landmark SC Judgments (2026)	Introduction of Community Service as a Statutory Punishment (Section 4 BNS)	For the first time in Indian penal history, 'Community Service' is prescribed forsix minor offences (such as petty theft under ₹5,000 upon restitution, public intoxication, defamation, or attempt to commit suicide to compel public authority).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	Mandatory Forensic Investigation (Section 176(3) BNSS) & Undertrial Relief (Section 479 BNSS)	For all offences punishable with imprisonment of 7 years or more, a forensic expert must visit the crime scene to collect forensic evidence; first-time undertrial prisoners (not accused of life/death offences) must be granted bail after serving one-third of the maximum sentence.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	Timelines for Medical Reports, Chargesheets & Judgments	BNSS mandates forwarding rape medical examination reports within 7 days, completing trials in absentia for proclaimed offenders (Section 356), and pronouncing judicial verdicts within 30 to 45 days after conclusion of arguments (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comparative Matrix of the Three New Criminal Laws, Constitutional Amendments & Landmark SC Judgments (2026)	106th Constitutional Amendment Act (Articles 330A, 332A & 334A)	Reserves one-third of all seats (including one-third within seats reserved for SCs and STs) for women in the Lok Sabha (Article 330A), State Legislative Assemblies (Article 332A), and the Delhi Legislative Assembly (Article 239AA), taking effect after the publication of the first Census and subsequent delimitation (Press Information Bureau).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	High-Level Committee on Simultaneous Elections (Kovind Panel)	Chaired by former President Shri Ram Nath Kovind, the committee recommended a two-step synchronization — holding Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections together in Phase I, followed by Municipal and Panchayat elections within 100 days in Phase II — via proposed Articles 82A and 324A.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	9-Judge Bench Ruling on Article 39(b) (Property Owners Association Case)	The Supreme Court held that not every privately owned resource automatically constitutes a 'material resource of the community' under Article 39(b) for state acquisition, overruling the expansive socialist interpretation in Justice Krishna Iyer's 1978 opinion (IUC Academy Official Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comparative Matrix of the Three New Criminal Laws, Constitutional Amendments & Landmark SC Judgments (2026)	**Analytical Point 1 (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS))**	Indian Penal Code (IPC, 1860 — 511 Sections) (358 Sections & 20 Chapters) — Sedition (124A) repealed; Section 152 penalizes acts endangering sovereignty/unity; defines Organized Crime (Sec 111) & Terrorist Act (Sec 113). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 2 (Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS))**	Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC, 1973 — 484 Sections) (531 Sections & 39 Chapters) — Statutory Zero FIR, e-FIR, mandatory forensic visit for offences punishable with ≥7 years (Sec 176(3)), bail for first-time undertrials (Sec 479). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 3 (Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA))**	Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (167 Sections) (170 Sections & 12 Chapters) — Elevates electronic and digital records (emails, server logs, smartphones) to 'primary evidence' under Sections 57 & 63. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comparative Matrix of the Three New Criminal Laws, Constitutional Amendments & Landmark SC Judgments (2026)	**Analytical Point 4 (106th Constitutional Amendment Act)**	Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill) (Inserts Articles 239AA(2)(ba), 330A, 332A & 334A) — 33% reservation for women in Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies & NCT Delhi Assembly (15-year initial sunset clause). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 5 (105th Constitutional Amendment Act)**	Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C) (Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs)) — Restores constitutional power of States and Union Territories to identify and notify their own State OBC/SEBC lists. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 6 (e-Sakshya & Nyaya Shruti Platforms (2026))**	Ministry of Home Affairs & NCRB / NIC (All-India ICJS 2.0 Digital Policing) — Geo-tagged, hash-verified crime scene videography (e-Sakshya) and virtual judicial testimony (Nyaya Shruti). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comparative Matrix of the Three New Criminal Laws, Constitutional Amendments & Landmark SC Judgments (2026)	**Analytical Point 7 (Mineral Rights Taxation Verdict)**	9-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court (Article 246 & Seventh Schedule (State List Entries 49 & 50)) — Held (8:1) that royalty is not a tax and States possess legislative competence to tax mineral-bearing lands. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.

Chapter 1 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — **Both Statements Verified Correct**

Statement-I (Prioritization of Offences Against Women and Children (Chapter V of BNS)): Consolidates offences against women and children into a single upfront chapter; gang rape of a woman under 18 years of age carries life imprisonment or the death penalty, and sexual intercourse by deceitful promise of marriage is criminalized under Section 69 (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Introduction of Community Service as a Statutory Punishment (Section 4 BNS)): For the first time in Indian penal history, 'Community Service' is prescribed forsix minor offences (such as petty theft under ₹5,000 upon restitution, public intoxication, defamation, or attempt to commit suicide to compel public authority).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — **Both Statements Verified Correct**

Statement-I (Mandatory Forensic Investigation (Section 176(3) BNSS) & Undertrial Relief (Section 479 BNSS)): For all offences punishable with imprisonment of 7 years or more, a forensic expert must visit the crime scene to collect forensic evidence; first-time undertrial prisoners (not accused of life/death offences) must be granted bail after serving one-third of the maximum sentence.

Statement-II (Timelines for Medical Reports, Chargesheets & Judgments): BNSS mandates forwarding rape medical examination reports within 7 days, completing trials in absentia for proclaimed offenders (Section 356), and pronouncing judicial verdicts within 30 to 45 days after conclusion of arguments (Press Information Bureau).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — **Both Statements Verified Correct**

Statement-I (106th Constitutional Amendment Act (Articles 330A, 332A & 334A)): Reserves one-third of all seats (including one-third within seats reserved for SCs and STs) for women in the Lok Sabha (Article 330A), State Legislative Assemblies (Article 332A), and the Delhi Legislative Assembly (Article 239AA), taking effect after the publication of the first Census and subsequent delimitation (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (High-Level Committee on Simultaneous Elections (Kovind Panel)): Chaired by former President Shri Ram Nath Kovind, the committee recommended a two-step synchronization — holding Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections together in Phase I, followed by Municipal and Panchayat elections within 100 days in Phase II — via proposed Articles 82A and 324A.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (9-Judge Bench Ruling on Article 39(b) (Property Owners Association Case)): The Supreme Court held that not every privately owned resource automatically constitutes a 'material resource of the community' under Article 39(b) for state acquisition, overruling the expansive socialist interpretation in Justice Krishna Iyer's 1978 opinion (IUC Academy Official Portal).

Statement-II (Analytical Point 1 (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS))): Indian Penal Code (IPC, 1860 — 511 Sections) (358 Sections & 20 Chapters) — Sedition (124A) repealed; Section 152 penalizes acts endangering sovereignty/unity; defines Organized Crime (Sec 111) & Terrorist Act (Sec 113). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 2 (Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS))): Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC, 1973 — 484 Sections) (531 Sections & 39 Chapters) — Statutory Zero FIR, e-FIR, mandatory forensic visit for offences punishable with ≥7 years (Sec 176(3)), bail for first-time undertrials (Sec 479). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 3 (Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA))): Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (167 Sections) (170 Sections & 12 Chapters) — Elevates electronic and digital records (emails, server logs, smartphones) to 'primary evidence' under Sections 57 & 63. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 1 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 4 (106th Constitutional Amendment Act)): Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill) (Inserts Articles 239AA(2)(ba), 330A, 332A & 334A) — 33% reservation for women in Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies & NCT Delhi Assembly (15-year initial sunset clause). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 5 (105th Constitutional Amendment Act)): Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C) (Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs)) — Restores constitutional power of States and Union Territories to identify and notify their own State OBC/SEBC lists. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *2:* Union Budget *2026–27*, Fiscal Consolidation Roadmap & *16*th Finance Commission — Macroeconomic Synthesis

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 2: Union Budget 2026–27, Fiscal Consolidation Roadmap & 16th Finance Commission — Macroeconomic Synthesis

Key Study Pillar 1
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Verified Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators of Union Budget 2026–27 (BE 2026–27 vs RE 2025–26)

Key Study Pillar 2
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Scope & Competitive Exam Relevance: Core reference for UPSC Prelims & Mains (GS-III Union Budget, Fiscal Policy & Taxation), State PCS, RBI/SBI/IBPS, and SSC examinations.

On 1 February 2026, Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2026–27 in Parliament (**Union Budget Portal** and **Press Information Bureau**). Anchored on capital investment and fiscal consolidation, the total expenditure in Budget Estimates (BE) 2026–27 is estimated at ₹53,47,315 crore (approx. ₹53.5 lakh crore), marking a 7.7% increase over the Revised Estimates (RE) of 2025–26

(₹49.6 lakh crore). Total non-debt receipts in BE 2026–27 are estimated at ₹36,51,547 crore (approx. ₹36.5 lakh crore, up 7.2% over RE 2025–26), with the Centre's net tax receipts pegged at ₹28.7 lakh crore.

Adhering strictly to the fiscal consolidation glide path, the Union Budget 2026–27 targets a fiscal deficit of 4.3% of GDP (down from 4.4% of GDP in RE 2025–26) and a revenue deficit of 1.5% of GDP (**Union Budget Portal**). Public capital expenditure (Capex) rises to over ₹12.2 lakh crore (up from ~₹11.0 lakh crore in RE 2025–26), while the Central Government's Debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to decline to 55.6% in BE 2026–27 (compared to 56.1% in RE 2025–26).

4-Node Conceptual Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Stage 1: Feb 1, 2026 Presentation of Union Budget 2026–27 by Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman

STEP 2
Stage 2: Total Expenditure ₹53,47,315 Cr, Non-Debt Receipts ₹36,51,547 Cr & Net Tax Receipts ₹28.7L Cr

STEP 3
Stage 3: Public Capex >₹12.2L Cr, Fiscal Deficit Targeted at 4.3% of GDP & Revenue Deficit at 1.5%

STEP 4
Stage 4: Debt-to-GDP Lowered to 55.6% (BE 2026–27) on Glide Path to 50±1% by 2030–31

Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table*:* Verified Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators of Union Budget *2026–27 (*BE *2026–27* vs RE *2025–26)*

Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric	Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE)	Revised Estimates 2025–26 (RE)	Growth / Analytical Significance	Official Source
Total Expenditure	₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore)	₹49.6 lakh crore	7.7% higher than RE 2025–26; interest payments account for 26% of total expenditure	Union Budget Portal
Non-Debt Receipts	₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore)	₹34.0 lakh crore	7.2% increase over RE 2025–26; interest payments absorb ~40% of revenue receipts	Press Information Bureau
Centre's Net Tax Receipts	₹28.7 lakh crore	₹26.7 lakh crore	8.0% projected growth in net tax revenue collections	Press Information Bureau
Public Capital Expenditure (Capex)	Over ₹12.2 lakh crore	Approx. ₹11.0 lakh crore	Sustained infrastructure push across railways, highways, defence, energy, and digital corridors	Union Budget Portal
Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP)	4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27)	4.4% of GDP (RE 2025–26)	Continued fiscal consolidation below the 4.5% medium-term threshold	Union Budget Portal
Revenue Deficit (% of GDP)	1.5% of GDP (BE 2026–27)	1.5% of GDP (RE 2025–26)	Stabilized revenue expenditure-to-receipts gap	Union Budget Portal

Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric	Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE)	Revised Estimates 2025–26 (RE)	Growth / Analytical Significance	Official Source	
Central Govt Debt-to-GDP Ratio	55.6% of GDP (BE 2026–27)	56.1% of GDP (RE 2025–26)	50 bps reduction in single year; medium-term anchor set at 50±1% of GDP by 2030–31	Press Information Bureau	
Market Borrowings & Nominal GDP	Gross: ₹17.2L Cr	Net: ₹11.7L Cr (Nominal GDP growth: 10%)	Financed via dated government securities	Balanced market borrowing programme preventing crowding-out of private investment	Press Information Bureau

In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Key Sectoral Announcements & Policy Reforms in Union Budget *2026–27*

• **Fiscal Consolidation & Debt-to-GDP Anchor:** Union Budget 2026–27 brings the fiscal deficit down to 4.3% of GDP and adopts Central Government Debt-to-GDP (55.6% in BE 2026–27) as the operational fiscal anchor to reach 50±1% by FY 2030–31 (Press Information Bureau).

• **First Global Big Cat Summit & Marine Fishery Exemptions:** The budget announced that India will host the first-ever Global Big Cat Summit and exempted fish catch by Indian vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or high seas from customs duty (Union Budget Portal).

• **Nuclear Energy Mission for Viksit Bharat (100 GW by 2047):** Backed by a ₹20,000 crore R&D allocation for Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), the government launched the development of at least five indigenous 'Bharat Small Reactors' (BSRs) and proposed amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act.

• **Agriculture & Regional Boards (PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana & Makhana Board):** Covers 100 low-productivity districts (benefiting 1.7 crore farmers), a 6-year Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses (Tur, Urad, Masoor), and a dedicated Makhana Board in Bihar for value addition and farmer producer organizations (Union Budget Portal).

*16*th Finance Commission *(2026–2031)* & Direct/Indirect Tax Reforms

• **16th Finance Commission (Chairman: Dr. Arvind Panagariya):** Constituted under Article 280 of the Constitution for the five-year award period commencing 1 April 2026 (2026–31), the commission comprises full-time members Ajay Narayan Jha, Annie George Mathew, and Dr. Manoj Panda, part-time member Dr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh, and Secretary Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey (NITI Aayog).

• **Operationalization of Simplified Direct Tax Code:** Replacing the complex provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, the simplified income tax framework reduced litigation, rationalized TDS/TCS rates, and raised the standard deduction and rebate thresholds under the new tax regime.

• **Composition of Borrowings & Interest Burden:** In BE 2026–27, gross market borrowings stand at ₹17.2 lakh crore and net market borrowings from dated securities at ₹11.7 lakh crore, while interest payments constitute 26% of total expenditure and 40% of revenue receipts (Union Budget Portal).

Statutory, Institutional & Exam-Oriented Synthesis Points

• **Analytical Point 1 (Total Expenditure):** ₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore) (₹49.6 lakh crore) — 7.7% higher than RE 2025–26; interest payments account for 26% of total expenditure. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 2 (Non-Debt Receipts):** ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore) (₹34.0 lakh crore) — 7.2% increase over RE 2025–26; interest payments absorb ~40% of revenue receipts. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 3 (Centre's Net Tax Receipts):** ₹28.7 lakh crore (₹26.7 lakh crore) — 8.0% projected growth in net tax revenue collections. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 4 (Public Capital Expenditure (Capex)):** Over ₹12.2 lakh crore (Approx. ₹11.0 lakh crore) — Sustained infrastructure push across railways, highways, defence, energy, and digital corridors. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 5 (Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP)):** 4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27) (4.4% of GDP (RE 2025–26)) — Continued fiscal consolidation below the 4.5% medium-term threshold. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 6 (Revenue Deficit (% of GDP)):** 1.5% of GDP (BE 2026–27) (1.5% of GDP (RE 2025–26)) — Stabilized revenue expenditure-to-receipts gap. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 7 (Central Govt Debt-to-GDP Ratio):** 55.6% of GDP (BE 2026–27) (56.1% of GDP (RE 2025–26)) — 50 bps reduction in single year; medium-term anchor set at 50±1% of GDP by 2030–31. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 8 (Market Borrowings & Nominal GDP):** Gross: ₹17.2L Cr | Net: ₹11.7L Cr (Nominal GDP growth: 10%) (Financed via dated government securities) — Balanced market borrowing programme preventing crowding-out of private investment. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Did You Know?
In Union Budget 2026–27, India's total central government expenditure crossed the ₹53 lakh crore mark for the first time in history at ₹53,47,315 crore, while keeping the fiscal deficit strictly anchored at 4.3% of GDP.

Exam Trap Alert
Do not confuse RE 2025–26 figures with BE 2026–27 figures: in Budget Estimates 2026–27, the Fiscal Deficit is 4.3% of GDP (vs 4.4% in RE 2025–26), Debt-to-GDP is 55.6% (vs 56.1% in RE 2025–26), Total Expenditure is ₹53,47,315 crore, and Non-Debt Receipts are ₹36,51,547 crore!

★ Memory Trick
Mnemonic for Union Budget 2026–27 Core Numbers — 'Expenditure = ₹53.47L Cr, Non-Debt Receipts = ₹36.51L Cr, Net Tax = ₹28.7L Cr, Public Capex = >₹12.2L Cr, Fiscal Deficit = 4.3%, Revenue Deficit = 1.5%, Debt-to-GDP = 55.6%'.

Verified Official Portal Citations: Press Information Bureau | Union Budget Portal | NITI Aayog | Ministry of External Affairs | Reserve Bank of India | ISRO Official Portal | IUC Academy Official Portal

Chapter 2 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Fiscal Consolidation & Debt-to-GDP Anchor**	Union Budget 2026–27 brings the fiscal deficit down to 4.3% of GDP and adopts Central Government Debt-to-GDP (55.6% in BE 2026–27) as the operational fiscal anchor to reach 50±1% by FY 2030–31 (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Verified Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators of Union Budget 2026–27 (BE 2026–27 vs RE 2025–26)	**First Global Big Cat Summit & Marine Fishery Exemptions**	The budget announced that India will host the first-ever Global Big Cat Summit and exempted fish catch by Indian vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or high seas from customs duty (Union Budget Portal).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Nuclear Energy Mission for Viksit Bharat (100 GW by 2047)**	Backed by a ₹20,000 crore R&D allocation for Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), the government launched the development of at least five indigenous 'Bharat Small Reactors' (BSRs) and proposed amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Agriculture & Regional Boards (PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana & Makhana Board)**	Covers 100 low-productivity districts (benefiting 1.7 crore farmers), a 6-year Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses (Tur, Urad, Masoor), and a dedicated Makhana Board in Bihar for value addition and farmer producer organizations (Union Budget Portal).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Verified Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators of Union Budget 2026–27 (BE 2026–27 vs RE 2025–26)	**16th Finance Commission (Chairman: Dr. Arvind Panagariya)**	Constituted under Article 280 of the Constitution for the five-year award period commencing 1 April 2026 (2026–31), the commission comprises full-time members Ajay Narayan Jha, Annie George Mathew, and Dr. Manoj Panda, part-time member Dr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh, and Secretary Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey (NITI Aayog).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Operationalization of Simplified Direct Tax Code**	Replacing the complex provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, the simplified income tax framework reduced litigation, rationalized TDS/TCS rates, and raised the standard deduction and rebate thresholds under the new tax regime.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Composition of Borrowings & Interest Burden**	In BE 2026–27, gross market borrowings stand at ₹17.2 lakh crore and net market borrowings from dated securities at ₹11.7 lakh crore, while interest payments constitute 26% of total expenditure and 40% of revenue receipts (Union Budget Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Verified Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators of Union Budget 2026–27 (BE 2026–27 vs RE 2025–26)	**Analytical Point 1 (Total Expenditure)**	₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore) (₹49.6 lakh crore) — 7.7% higher than RE 2025–26; interest payments account for 26% of total expenditure. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 2 (Non-Debt Receipts)**	₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore) (₹34.0 lakh crore) — 7.2% increase over RE 2025–26; interest payments absorb ~40% of revenue receipts. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 3 (Centre's Net Tax Receipts)**	₹28.7 lakh crore (₹26.7 lakh crore) — 8.0% projected growth in net tax revenue collections. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Verified Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators of Union Budget 2026–27 (BE 2026–27 vs RE 2025–26)	**Analytical Point 4 (Public Capital Expenditure (Capex))**	Over ₹12.2 lakh crore (Approx. ₹11.0 lakh crore) — Sustained infrastructure push across railways, highways, defence, energy, and digital corridors. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 5 (Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP))**	4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27) (4.4% of GDP (RE 2025–26)) — Continued fiscal consolidation below the 4.5% medium-term threshold. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 6 (Revenue Deficit (% of GDP))**	1.5% of GDP (BE 2026–27) (1.5% of GDP (RE 2025–26)) — Stabilized revenue expenditure-to-receipts gap. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Verified Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators of Union Budget 2026–27 (BE 2026–27 vs RE 2025–26)	**Analytical Point 7 (Central Govt Debt-to-GDP Ratio)**	55.6% of GDP (BE 2026–27) (56.1% of GDP (RE 2025–26)) — 50 bps reduction in single year; medium-term anchor set at 50±1% of GDP by 2030–31. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Chapter 2 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Fiscal Consolidation & Debt-to-GDP Anchor): Union Budget 2026–27 brings the fiscal deficit down to 4.3% of GDP and adopts Central Government Debt-to-GDP (55.6% in BE 2026–27) as the operational fiscal anchor to reach 50±1% by FY 2030–31 (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (First Global Big Cat Summit & Marine Fishery Exemptions): The budget announced that India will host the first-ever Global Big Cat Summit and exempted fish catch by Indian vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or high seas from customs duty (Union Budget Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Nuclear Energy Mission for Viksit Bharat (100 GW by 2047)): Backed by a ₹20,000 crore R&D allocation for Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), the government launched the development of at least five indigenous 'Bharat Small Reactors' (BSRs) and proposed amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act.

Statement-II (Agriculture & Regional Boards (PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana & Makhana Board)): Covers 100 low-productivity districts (benefiting 1.7 crore farmers), a 6-year Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses (Tur, Urad, Masoor), and a dedicated Makhana Board in Bihar for value addition and farmer producer organizations (Union Budget Portal).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (16th Finance Commission (Chairman: Dr. Arvind Panagariya)): Constituted under Article 280 of the Constitution for the five-year award period commencing 1 April 2026 (2026–31), the commission comprises full-time members Ajay Narayan Jha, Annie George Mathew, and Dr. Manoj Panda, part-time member Dr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh, and Secretary Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey (NITI Aayog).

Statement-II (Operationalization of Simplified Direct Tax Code): Replacing the complex provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, the simplified income tax framework reduced litigation, rationalized TDS/TCS rates, and raised the standard deduction and rebate thresholds under the new tax regime.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Composition of Borrowings & Interest Burden): In BE 2026–27, gross market borrowings stand at ₹17.2 lakh crore and net market borrowings from dated securities at ₹11.7 lakh crore, while interest payments constitute 26% of total expenditure and 40% of revenue receipts (Union Budget Portal).

Statement-II (Analytical Point 1 (Total Expenditure)): ₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore) (₹49.6 lakh crore) — 7.7% higher than RE 2025–26; interest payments account for 26% of total expenditure. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 2 (Non-Debt Receipts)): ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore) (₹34.0 lakh crore) — 7.2% increase over RE 2025–26; interest payments absorb ~40% of revenue receipts. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 3 (Centre's Net Tax Receipts)): ₹28.7 lakh crore (₹26.7 lakh crore) — 8.0% projected growth in net tax revenue collections. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 2 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 4 (Public Capital Expenditure (Capex))): Over ₹12.2 lakh crore (Approx. ₹11.0 lakh crore) — Sustained infrastructure push across railways, highways, defence, energy, and digital corridors. Verified Reference: Union Budget Portal.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 5 (Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP))): 4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27) (4.4% of GDP (RE 2025–26)) — Continued fiscal consolidation below the 4.5% medium-term threshold. Verified Reference: Union Budget Portal.

✓ Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.

Chapter 3: Science & Technology 2026 — Space Docking (SpaDeX), NISAR, 100th Sriharikota Launch & Quantum Mission

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 3: Science & Technology 2026 — Space Docking (SpaDeX), NISAR, 100th Sriharikota Launch & Quantum Mission

Key Study Pillar 1
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of ISRO Space Missions, Quantum Hubs & Deep-Tech Initiatives (2026)

Key Study Pillar 2
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Scope & Competitive Exam Relevance: High-yield chapter for UPSC Prelims & Mains (GS-III Science & Technology), State PCS, CDS, NDA, and SSC examinations.

India's scientific and space architecture achieved historic breakthroughs in 2026 across orbital rendezvous and docking, dual-frequency Earth observation, reusable methane rocket propulsion, quantum computing, and semiconductor fabrication (ISRO Official Portal and Press Information Bureau). With the successful autonomous docking and undocking of two satellites (SDX01 Chaser and SDX02 Target) under the Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX / PSLV-C60), India became only the fourth country in the world after the USA, Russia, and China to master in-space orbital docking.

Further milestones included ISRO's landmark 100th launch from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota (GSLV-F15 deploying the NVS-02 navigation satellite), earth-observation operations of the NASA–ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR), the 9 October 2026 full ignition test of the NGLV LME-1100 engine, and operationalization of four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) under the ₹6,003.65 crore National Quantum Mission (ISRO Official Portal).

4-Node Conceptual Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Stage 1: SpaDeX Orbital Docking (PSLV-C60) & 100th Sriharikota Launch (GSLV-F15 / NVS-02)

STEP 2
Stage 2: Dual-Frequency L & S Band Earth Observation via NASA–ISRO NISAR Mission

STEP 3
Stage 3: Oct 9, 2026 Full Ignition Test of 3D-Printed LME-1100 Methane Engine for NGLV 'Soorya'

STEP 4
Stage 4: 4 Quantum T-Hubs (IISc, IIT-M, IIT-B, IIT-D) & Dholera/Morigaon Semiconductor Fabs

Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of ISRO Space Missions, Quantum Hubs & Deep-Tech Initiatives *(2026)*

Mission / Scientific Initiative	Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle	Core Technical Specifications & 2026 Milestone	Strategic & Global Significance	Official Source
NGLV ('Soorya') LME-1100 Engine	ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre)	First full ignition test on 9 October 2026; 110-tonne thrust LOX-Methane Gas Generator Cycle	>70% 3D-printed components; powers India's future reusable heavy-lift launch vehicle (30t to LEO)	ISRO Official Portal
SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment)	ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target)	Two 220-kg satellites docked using indigenous Bharatiya Docking System (BDS) & power transfer	India became 4th nation globally with space docking capability; essential for Chandrayaan-4 & BAS	ISRO Official Portal
100th Launch from Sriharikota (NVS-02)	ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage)	Deployed NVS-02 (2nd generation NavIC satellite) with L1, L5, S-band payloads & Rubidium atomic clock	Marked the historic 100th orbital launch from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota	ISRO Official Portal
NISAR Earth Observation Satellite	NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II)	World's first dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (NASA L-band 24 cm + ISRO S-band 12 cm)	Maps global land deformation, ice-sheet collapse, earthquakes & forest biomass every 12 days	ISRO Official Portal
Aditya-L1 Solar Observatory	ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point)	7 payloads (including VELC & SUIT) observing 2026 Solar Maximum flares & Coronal Mass Ejections	Situated 1.5 million km from Earth (1% of Earth–Sun distance) providing uninterrupted solar weather alerts	ISRO Official Portal
National Quantum Mission (NQM)	Department of Science & Technology (DST)	₹6,003.65 crore outlay; targets 50–1,000 physical qubit intermediate-scale quantum computers	4 Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) at IISc Bengaluru, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay & IIT Delhi	Press Information Bureau
Anusandhan National Research Foundation	DST (Governing Board chaired by Prime Minister)	₹50,000 crore corpus over 5 years (₹14,000 Cr Govt + ₹36,000 Cr industry/philanthropy)	Operationalized in 2026 to seed university R&D, EV mobility, and deep-tech translational research	Press Information Bureau
India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)	Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)	₹76,000 crore incentive outlay	Tata Electronics wafer fab at Dholera (Gujarat), OSAT at Morigaon (Assam) & Micron/CG Power at Sanand	Press Information Bureau

In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

ISRO's Orbital Docking, Navigation, Solar & Interplanetary Missions *(2026)*

• **Bharatiya Docking System (BDS) & SpaDeX:** Unlike the wider international docking mechanisms, ISRO developed a compact, low-impact androgynous 'Bharatiya Docking System' using laser range finders and docking cameras, validating autonomous rendezvous, docking, inter-satellite electrical power transfer, and undocking (ISRO Official Portal).

• **100th Launch from Sriharikota & Second-Generation NavIC:** Launched aboard GSLV-F15, NVS-02 joined NVS-01 in the second-generation Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) fleet, incorporating the civilian L1 frequency band for widespread smartphone and IoT compatibility alongside indigenous Rubidium atomic clocks.

• **NASA–ISRO NISAR SweepSAR Technology:** Utilizing a 12-meter deployable gold-plated wire-mesh reflector antenna, NISAR combines NASA's deeper-penetrating L-band radar (24 cm wavelength) with ISRO's higher-resolution S-band radar (12 cm wavelength) (**ISRO Official Portal**).

• **ISRO Leadership & Upcoming Flagships:** Under Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan (Secretary, Department of Space), ISRO advanced the Gaganyaan G1 uncrewed flight, Chandrayaan-4 (5-module lunar sample return), Venus Orbiter Mission (Shukrayaan), and Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS-1).

National Quantum Mission *(4* T-Hubs*)*, ANRF & Semiconductor Ecosystem *(2026)*

• **Four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) of the National Quantum Mission:** DST established four premier consortia: (1) Quantum Computing at IISc Bengaluru; (2) Quantum Communication at IIT Madras (with C-DOT); (3) Quantum Sensing & Metrology at IIT Bombay; and (4) Quantum Materials & Devices at IIT Delhi (**Press Information Bureau**).

• **Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF):** Established by an Act of Parliament, ANRF bridges the gap between academic research and industrial application, launching the Prime Minister Early Career Research Grant and Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA).

• **Domestic Semiconductor Manufacturing Computing Centres:** Under the ₹76,000 crore India Semiconductor Mission, construction progressed rapidly in 2026 on India's first commercial compound/silicon wafer fabrication plant at Dholera (Gujarat by Tata Electronics & PSMC) and ATMP/OSAT facilities in Sanand (Gujarat) and Jagiroad, Morigaon (Assam) (**Press Information Bureau**).

Statutory, Institutional & Exam-Oriented Synthesis Points

• **Analytical Point 1 (NGLV ('Soorya') LME-1100 Engine):** ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre) (First full ignition test on 9 October 2026; 110-tonne thrust LOX-Methane Gas Generator Cycle) — >70% 3D-printed components; powers India's future reusable heavy-lift launch vehicle (30t to LEO). Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 2 (SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment)):** ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target) (Two 220-kg satellites docked using indigenous Bharatiya Docking System (BDS) & power transfer) — India became 4th nation globally with space docking capability; essential for Chandrayaan-4 & BAS. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 3 (100th Launch from Sriharikota (NVS-02)):** ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage) (Deployed NVS-02 (2nd generation NavIC satellite) with L1, L5, S-band payloads & Rubidium atomic clock) — Marked the historic 100th orbital launch from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 4 (NISAR Earth Observation Satellite):** NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II) (World's first dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (NASA L-band 24 cm + ISRO S-band 12 cm)) — Maps global land

deformation, ice-sheet collapse, earthquakes & forest biomass every 12 days. Verified Reference: ISRO Official Portal.

• **Analytical Point 5 (Aditya-L1 Solar Observatory):** ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point) (7 payloads (including VELC & SUIT) observing 2026 Solar Maximum flares & Coronal Mass Ejections) — Situated 1.5 million km from Earth (1% of Earth–Sun distance) providing uninterrupted solar weather alerts. Verified Reference: ISRO Official Portal.

• **Analytical Point 6 (National Quantum Mission (NQM)):** Department of Science & Technology (DST) (₹6,003.65 crore outlay; targets 50–1,000 physical qubit intermediate-scale quantum computers) — 4 Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) at IISc Bengaluru, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay & IIT Delhi. Verified Reference: Press Information Bureau.

• **Analytical Point 7 (Anusandhan National Research Foundation):** DST (Governing Board chaired by Prime Minister) (₹50,000 crore corpus over 5 years (₹14,000 Cr Govt + ₹36,000 Cr industry/philanthropy)) — Operationalized in 2026 to seed university R&D, EV mobility, and deep-tech translational research. Verified Reference: Press Information Bureau.

• **Analytical Point 8 (India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)):** Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) (₹76,000 crore incentive outlay) — Tata Electronics wafer fab at Dholera (Gujarat), OSAT at Morigaon (Assam) & Micron/CG Power at Sanand. Verified Reference: Press Information Bureau.

Did You Know?
Every year on August 23, India celebrates 'National Space Day' to commemorate the historic soft landing of the Chandrayaan-3 Vikram lander near the lunar south pole at 'Statio Shiv Shakti' (while the Chandrayaan-2 crash site is named 'Tiranga Point').

Exam Trap Alert
Exam questions frequently test the exact matching of the 4 National Quantum Mission T-Hubs: remember 'Quantum Computing = IISc Bengaluru, Quantum Communication = IIT Madras, Quantum Sensing = IIT Bombay, and Quantum Materials = IIT Delhi'!

★ Memory Trick
Mnemonic for ISRO's Key Milestones — 'SpaDeX = PSLV-C60 (4th nation in docking); 100th SHAR Launch = GSLV-F15 (NVS-02); NISAR = NASA L-band + ISRO S-band; NGLV Engine = LME-1100 (tested Oct 9, 2026)'.

Verified Official Portal Citations: Press Information Bureau | Union Budget Portal | NITI Aayog | Ministry of External Affairs | Reserve Bank of India | ISRO Official Portal | IUC Academy Official Portal

Chapter 3 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Bharatiya Docking System (BDS) & SpaDeX**	Unlike the wider international docking mechanisms, ISRO developed a compact, low-impact androgynous 'Bharatiya Docking System' using laser range finders and docking cameras, validating autonomous rendezvous, docking, inter-satellite electrical power transfer, and undocking (ISRO Official Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of ISRO Space Missions, Quantum Hubs & Deep-Tech Initiatives (2026)	**100th Launch from Sriharikota & Second-Generation NavIC**	Launched aboard GSLV-F15, NVS-02 joined NVS-01 in the second-generation Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) fleet, incorporating the civilian L1 frequency band for widespread smartphone and IoT compatibility alongside indigenous Rubidium atomic clocks.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**NASA–ISRO NISAR SweepSAR Technology**	Utilizing a 12-meter deployable gold-plated wire-mesh reflector antenna, NISAR combines NASA's deeper-penetrating L-band radar (24 cm wavelength) with ISRO's higher-resolution S-band radar (12 cm wavelength) (ISRO Official Portal).
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**ISRO Leadership & Upcoming Flagships**	Under Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan (Secretary, Department of Space), ISRO advanced the Gaganyaan G1 uncrewed flight, Chandrayaan-4 (5-module lunar sample return), Venus Orbiter Mission (Shukrayaan), and Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS-1).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of ISRO Space Missions, Quantum Hubs & Deep-Tech Initiatives (2026)	**Four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) of the National Quantum Mission**	DST established four premier consortia: (1) Quantum Computing at IISc Bengaluru; (2) Quantum Communication at IIT Madras (with C-DOT); (3) Quantum Sensing & Metrology at IIT Bombay; and (4) Quantum Materials & Devices at IIT Delhi (Press Information Bureau).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)**	Established by an Act of Parliament, ANRF bridges the gap between academic research and industrial application, launching the Prime Minister Early Career Research Grant and Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA).
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Domestic Semiconductor Manufacturing Computing Centres**	Under the ₹76,000 crore India Semiconductor Mission, construction progressed rapidly in 2026 on India's first commercial compound/silicon wafer fabrication plant at Dholera (Gujarat by Tata Electronics & PSMC) and ATMP/OSAT facilities in Sanand (Gujarat) and Jagiroad, Morigaon (Assam) (Press Information Bureau).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of ISRO Space Missions, Quantum Hubs & Deep-Tech Initiatives (2026)	**Analytical Point 1 (NGLV ('Soorya') LME-1100 Engine)**	ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre) (First full ignition test on 9 October 2026; 110-tonne thrust LOX-Methane Gas Generator Cycle) — >70% 3D-printed components; powers India's future reusable heavy-lift launch vehicle (30t to LEO). Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 2 (SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment))**	ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target) (Two 220-kg satellites docked using indigenous Bharatiya Docking System (BDS) & power transfer) — India became 4th nation globally with space docking capability; essential for Chandrayaan-4 & BAS. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 3 (100th Launch from Sriharikota (NVS-02))**	ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage) (Deployed NVS-02 (2nd generation NavIC satellite) with L1, L5, S-band payloads & Rubidium atomic clock) — Marked the historic 100th orbital launch from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of ISRO Space Missions, Quantum Hubs & Deep-Tech Initiatives (2026)	**Analytical Point 4 (NISAR Earth Observation Satellite)**	NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II) (World's first dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (NASA L-band 24 cm + ISRO S-band 12 cm)) — Maps global land deformation, ice-sheet collapse, earthquakes & forest biomass every 12 days. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 5 (Aditya-L1 Solar Observatory)**	ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point) (7 payloads (including VELC & SUIT) observing 2026 Solar Maximum flares & Coronal Mass Ejections) — Situated 1.5 million km from Earth (1% of Earth–Sun distance) providing uninterrupted solar weather alerts. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 6 (National Quantum Mission (NQM))**	Department of Science & Technology (DST) (₹6,003.65 crore outlay; targets 50–1,000 physical qubit intermediate-scale quantum computers) — 4 Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) at IISc Bengaluru, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay & IIT Delhi. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of ISRO Space Missions, Quantum Hubs & Deep-Tech Initiatives (2026)	**Analytical Point 7 (Anusandhan National Research Foundation)**	DST (Governing Board chaired by Prime Minister) (₹50,000 crore corpus over 5 years (₹14,000 Cr Govt + ₹36,000 Cr industry/philanthropy)) — Operationalized in 2026 to seed university R&D, EV mobility, and deep-tech translational research. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Chapter 3 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Bharatiya Docking System (BDS) & SpaDeX): Unlike the wider international docking mechanisms, ISRO developed a compact, low-impact androgynous 'Bharatiya Docking System' using laser range finders and docking cameras, validating autonomous rendezvous, docking, inter-satellite electrical power transfer, and undocking (ISRO Official Portal).

Statement-II (100th Launch from Sriharikota & Second-Generation NavIC): Launched aboard GSLV-F15, NVS-02 joined NVS-01 in the second-generation Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) fleet, incorporating the civilian L1 frequency band for widespread smartphone and IoT compatibility alongside indigenous Rubidium atomic clocks.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (NASA–ISRO NISAR SweepSAR Technology): Utilizing a 12-meter deployable gold-plated wire-mesh reflector antenna, NISAR combines NASA's deeper-penetrating L-band radar (24 cm wavelength) with ISRO's higher-resolution S-band radar (12 cm wavelength) (ISRO Official Portal).

Statement-II (ISRO Leadership & Upcoming Flagships): Under Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan (Secretary, Department of Space), ISRO advanced the Gaganyaan G1 uncrewed flight, Chandrayaan-4 (5-module lunar sample return), Venus Orbiter Mission (Shukrayaan), and Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS-1).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) of the National Quantum Mission): DST established four premier consortia: (1) Quantum Computing at IISc Bengaluru; (2) Quantum Communication at IIT Madras (with C-DOT); (3) Quantum Sensing & Metrology at IIT Bombay; and (4) Quantum Materials & Devices at IIT Delhi (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)): Established by an Act of Parliament, ANRF bridges the gap between academic research and industrial application, launching the Prime Minister Early Career Research Grant and Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Domestic Semiconductor Manufacturing Computing Centres): Under the ₹76,000 crore India Semiconductor Mission, construction progressed rapidly in 2026 on India's first commercial compound/silicon wafer fabrication plant at Dholera (Gujarat by Tata Electronics & PSMC) and ATMP/OSAT facilities in Sanand (Gujarat) and Jagiroad, Morigaon (Assam) (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Analytical Point 1 (NGLV ('Soorya') LME-1100 Engine)): ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre) (First full ignition test on 9 October 2026; 110-tonne thrust LOX-Methane Gas Generator Cycle) — >70% 3D-printed components; powers India's future reusable heavy-lift launch vehicle (30t to LEO). Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 2 (SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment))): ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target) (Two 220-kg satellites docked using indigenous Bharatiya Docking System (BDS) & power transfer) — India became 4th nation globally with space docking capability; essential for Chandrayaan-4 & BAS. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 3 (100th Launch from Sriharikota (NVS-02))): ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage) (Deployed NVS-02 (2nd generation NavIC satellite) with L1, L5, S-band payloads & Rubidium atomic clock) — Marked the historic 100th orbital launch from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 3 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 4 (NISAR Earth Observation Satellite)): NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II) (World's first dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (NASA L-band 24 cm + ISRO S-band 12 cm)) — Maps global land deformation, ice-sheet collapse, earthquakes & forest biomass every 12 days. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 5 (Aditya-L1 Solar Observatory)): ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point) (7 payloads (including VELC & SUIT) observing 2026 Solar Maximum flares & Coronal Mass Ejections) — Situated 1.5 million km from Earth (1% of Earth–Sun distance) providing uninterrupted solar weather alerts. Verified Reference: **ISRO Official Portal**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4: Environment, Ecology, Forest Survey (25.17%), 57+ Tiger Reserves, 85+ Ramsar Wetlands & Clean Energy 2026

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 4: Environment, Ecology, Forest Survey (25.17%), 57+ Tiger Reserves, 85+ Ramsar Wetlands & Clean Energy 2026

Key Study Pillar 1
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Reference Table of India's Forest Cover, Tiger Reserves, Ramsar Sites, UNESCO Sites & Green Missions (2026)

Key Study Pillar 2
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Scope & Competitive Exam Relevance: High-weightage chapter for UPSC Prelims (Environment & Forest Service) & Mains (GS-III), State PCS, and SSC exams.

India's ecological conservation and clean energy transition recorded major quantitative milestones in 2026 (**Press Information Bureau** and **NITI Aayog**). According to the biennial India State of Forest Report (ISFR) compiled by the Forest Survey of India (FSI, Dehradun), India's total Forest and Tree Cover has expanded to 8,27,357 sq km, representing 25.17% of the country's total geographical area (21.76% Forest Cover and 3.41% Tree Cover). Furthermore, India has already created an additional carbon sink of 2.29 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent against its 2030 Paris Agreement NDC target of 2.5 to 3.0 billion tonnes.

In wildlife and wetland conservation, the notification of Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla (Chhattisgarh) and Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh) expanded India's Tiger Reserve network to 57+ reserves, while India's Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance crossed 85+ sites (the highest in Asia, led by Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh) (**Press Information Bureau**). In cultural-ecological heritage, Assam's Charaideo Moidams was inscribed as India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site.

4-Node Conceptual Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Stage 1: India State of Forest Report — Total Forest & Tree Cover Reaches 25.17% (8,27,357 sq km)

STEP 2
Stage 2: Expansion to 57+ Tiger Reserves (Guru Ghasidas & Ratapani) and 85+ Ramsar Wetlands

STEP 3
Stage 3: Inscription of Charaideo Moidams (Assam) as India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site

STEP 4
Stage 4: National Green Hydrogen Mission (5 MMT) & PM Surya Ghar Rooftop Solar Rollout in 2026

Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Reference Table of India's Forest Cover, Tiger Reserves, Ramsar Sites, UNESCO Sites & Green Missions *(2026)*

Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission	Verified Figure / Status (2026)	Top States / Key Highlights	Constitutional / Statutory & Exam Facts	Official Source	
Total Forest & Tree Cover (ISFR)	8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area)	Forest Cover: 7,15,342.61 sq km (21.76%)	Tree Cover: 1,12,014.34 sq km (3.41%)	Largest forest area: Madhya Pradesh > Arunachal Pradesh > Chhattisgarh; Highest %: Mizoram (85.34%)	**Press Information Bureau**
Tiger Reserves in India	57+ Notified Tiger Reserves	56th: Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla (Chhattisgarh)	57th: Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh)	Notified by States on NTCA recommendation under Section 38V of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972	**Press Information Bureau**
Ramsar Wetlands in India	85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia)	Most sites: Tamil Nadu (1st) > Uttar Pradesh (2nd)	Recent additions include Nanjarayan & Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuaries (TN) and Tawa Reservoir (MP)	**Press Information Bureau**	
UNESCO World Heritage Sites (India)	43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed)	43rd Site: Moidams — Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty (Charaideo, Assam)	42nd: Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas (Karnataka); 41st: Santiniketan (WB); Mixed: Khangchendzonga (Sikkim)	**Press Information Bureau**	
National Green Hydrogen Mission	₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE)	Target: 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) annual production by 2030 + 125 GW renewable energy	SIGHT incentive scheme; Kandla, Paradip & Tuticorin designated as Green Hydrogen Hubs	**Press Information Bureau**	

Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission	Verified Figure / Status (2026)	Top States / Key Highlights	Constitutional / Statutory & Exam Facts	Official Source
PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana	₹75,021 crore outlay	1 crore households to receive rooftop solar and up to 300 units of free electricity monthly	Central subsidy of ₹30,000 (1 kW), ₹60,000 (2 kW), and ₹78,000 (3 kW or higher)	Press Information Bureau
International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)	HQ: New Delhi, India (Treaty-based intergovernmental body)	Conserves 7 Big Cats: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar & Puma	Union Budget 2026–27 announced that India will host the first-ever Global Big Cat Summit	Union Budget Portal
Mangrove Cover & MISHTI Scheme	Total Mangrove Cover: 4,991.68 sq km (0.15% of area)	Top States: West Bengal (Sundarbans ~42%) > Gujarat > Andaman & Nicobar Islands	MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes) restores 540 sq km of mangroves	Press Information Bureau

In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Key Findings of the India State of Forest Report, Tiger Reserves & Ramsar Sites

• **Forest and Tree Cover Breakdown (25.17%):** Prepared by FSI Dehradun using indigenous Resourcesat-2 LISS-III satellite data, the report records Forest Cover at 7,15,342.61 sq km (21.76%) and Tree Cover at 1,12,014.34 sq km (3.41%), registering a net combined increase of 1,445 sq km (Press Information Bureau).

• **Top Gainers in Combined Forest & Tree Cover:** Chhattisgarh recorded the highest increase (684 sq km), followed by Uttar Pradesh (559 sq km), Odisha (559 sq km), and Rajasthan (394 sq km).

• **56th and 57th Tiger Reserves of India:** Chhattisgarh's 'Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve' (2,829 sq km — making it India's third-largest tiger reserve after Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam in AP and Manas in Assam) became the 56th reserve, while Madhya Pradesh's 'Ratapani Tiger Reserve' (Raisen district) became the 57th (and Madhya Pradesh's 8th) tiger reserve (Press Information Bureau).

• **India's 85+ Ramsar Wetlands Network:** Under the 1971 Ramsar Convention (World Wetlands Day is observed on February 2), India leads South Asia with 85+ sites covering over 1.35 million hectares, with Tamil Nadu holding the highest number of sites followed by Uttar Pradesh.

43rd UNESCO Site (Charaideo Moidams), IBCA & Clean Energy Transition (2026)

• **Charaideo Moidams — India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site:** Located in the foothills of the Patkai Ranges in eastern Assam, the royal mound-burial landscapes (*Moidams*) of the Tai-Ahom dynasty (spanning 600 years from the 13th to 19th centuries CE) became Northeast India's first 'Cultural' UNESCO World Heritage Site (joining Natural sites Kaziranga and Manas) (Press Information Bureau).

• **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA):** Headquartered in New Delhi with a central budgetary support of ₹150 crore, the IBCA framework agreement brings together range countries to protect the Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma (of which five are found in India, excluding the Jaguar and Puma).

• **Green Hydrogen & Rooftop Solar Milestones (2026):** Under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (₹19,744 crore) and PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (₹75,021 crore), India accelerated its non-fossil fuel installed electricity capacity above 200 GW toward its 2030 target of 500 GW (**Press Information Bureau**).

Statutory, Institutional & Exam-Oriented Synthesis Points

• **Analytical Point 1 (Total Forest & Tree Cover (ISFR)):** 8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area) (Forest Cover: 7,15,342.61 sq km (21.76%) | Tree Cover: 1,12,014.34 sq km (3.41%)) — Largest forest area: Madhya Pradesh > Arunachal Pradesh > Chhattisgarh; Highest %: Mizoram (85.34%). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 2 (Tiger Reserves in India):** 57+ Notified Tiger Reserves (56th: Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla (Chhattisgarh) | 57th: Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh)) — Notified by States on NTCA recommendation under Section 38V of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 3 (Ramsar Wetlands in India):** 85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia) (Most sites: Tamil Nadu (1st) > Uttar Pradesh (2nd)) — Recent additions include Nanjarayan & Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuaries (TN) and Tawa Reservoir (MP). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 4 (UNESCO World Heritage Sites (India)):** 43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed) (43rd Site: Moidams — Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty (Charaideo, Assam)) — 42nd: Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas (Karnataka); 41st: Santiniketan (WB); Mixed: Khangchendzonga (Sikkim). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 5 (National Green Hydrogen Mission):** ₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE) (Target: 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) annual production by 2030 + 125 GW renewable energy) — SIGHT incentive scheme; Kandla, Paradip & Tuticorin designated as Green Hydrogen Hubs. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 6 (PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana):** ₹75,021 crore outlay (1 crore households to receive rooftop solar and up to 300 units of free electricity monthly) — Central subsidy of ₹30,000 (1 kW), ₹60,000 (2 kW), and ₹78,000 (3 kW or higher). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 7 (International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)):** HQ: New Delhi, India (Treaty-based intergovernmental body) (Conserves 7 Big Cats: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar & Puma) — Union Budget 2026–27 announced that India will host the first-ever Global Big Cat Summit. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 8 (Mangrove Cover & MISHTI Scheme):** Total Mangrove Cover: 4,991.68 sq km (0.15% of area) (Top States: West Bengal (Sundarbans ~42%) > Gujarat > Andaman & Nicobar Islands) — MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes) restores 540 sq km of mangroves. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Did You Know?
At 2,829.38 sq km, Chhattisgarh's newly notified Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve is the third-largest Tiger Reserve in India, surpassed only by Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve in Andhra Pradesh (3,296 sq km) and Manas Tiger Reserve in Assam (2,837 sq km).

Exam Trap Alert
In questions on the 7 Big Cats covered by the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), remember that while 5 big cats (Tiger, Asiatic Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, and reintroduced Cheetah) occur in India, two — the 'Jaguar' and the 'Puma' (Cougar) — are native to the Americas and are NOT found in the wild in India!

★ Memory Trick
Mnemonic for Forest Report Figures — 'Forest Cover 21.76% + Tree Cover 3.41% = Total Cover 25.17% (8,27,357 sq km); Top Area = MP, Top % = Mizoram (85.34%), Top Gain = Chhattisgarh (+684 sq km)'.

Verified Official Portal Citations: Press Information Bureau | Union Budget Portal | NITI Aayog | Ministry of External Affairs | Reserve Bank of India | ISRO Official Portal | IUC Academy Official Portal

Chapter 4 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Forest and Tree Cover Breakdown (25.17%)**	Prepared by FSI Dehradun using indigenous Resourcesat-2 LISS-III satellite data, the report records Forest Cover at 7,15,342.61 sq km (21.76%) and Tree Cover at 1,12,014.34 sq km (3.41%), registering a net combined increase of 1,445 sq km (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Reference Table of India's Forest Cover, Tiger Reserves, Ramsar Sites, UNESCO Sites & Green Missions (2026)	**Top Gainers in Combined Forest & Tree Cover**	Chhattisgarh recorded the highest increase (684 sq km), followed by Uttar Pradesh (559 sq km), Odisha (559 sq km), and Rajasthan (394 sq km).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**56th and 57th Tiger Reserves of India**	Chhattisgarh's 'Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve' (2,829 sq km — making it India's third-largest tiger reserve after Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam in AP and Manas in Assam) became the 56th reserve, while Madhya Pradesh's 'Ratapani Tiger Reserve' (Raisen district) became the 57th (and Madhya Pradesh's 8th) tiger reserve (Press Information Bureau).
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**India's 85+ Ramsar Wetlands Network**	Under the 1971 Ramsar Convention (World Wetlands Day is observed on February 2), India leads South Asia with 85+ sites covering over 1.35 million hectares, with Tamil Nadu holding the highest number of sites followed by Uttar Pradesh.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Reference Table of India's Forest Cover, Tiger Reserves, Ramsar Sites, UNESCO Sites & Green Missions (2026)	**Charaideo Moidams — India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site**	Located in the foothills of the Patkai Ranges in eastern Assam, the royal mound-burial landscapes (*Moidams*) of the Tai-Ahom dynasty (spanning 600 years from the 13th to 19th centuries CE) became Northeast India's first 'Cultural' UNESCO World Heritage Site (joining Natural sites Kaziranga and Manas) (Press Information Bureau).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)**	Headquartered in New Delhi with a central budgetary support of ₹150 crore, the IBCA framework agreement brings together range countries to protect the Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma (of which five are found in India, excluding the Jaguar and Puma).
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Green Hydrogen & Rooftop Solar Milestones (2026)**	Under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (₹19,744 crore) and PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (₹75,021 crore), India accelerated its non-fossil fuel installed electricity capacity above 200 GW toward its 2030 target of 500 GW (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Reference Table of India's Forest Cover, Tiger Reserves, Ramsar Sites, UNESCO Sites & Green Missions (2026)	**Analytical Point 1 (Total Forest & Tree Cover (ISFR))**	8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area) (Forest Cover: 7,15,342.61 sq km (21.76%) | Tree Cover: 1,12,014.34 sq km (3.41%)) — Largest forest area: Madhya Pradesh > Arunachal Pradesh > Chhattisgarh; Highest %: Mizoram (85.34%). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 2 (Tiger Reserves in India)**	57+ Notified Tiger Reserves (56th: Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla (Chhattisgarh) | 57th: Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh)) — Notified by States on NTCA recommendation under Section 38V of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 3 (Ramsar Wetlands in India)**	85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia) (Most sites: Tamil Nadu (1st) > Uttar Pradesh (2nd)) — Recent additions include Nanjarayan & Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuaries (TN) and Tawa Reservoir (MP). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Reference Table of India's Forest Cover, Tiger Reserves, Ramsar Sites, UNESCO Sites & Green Missions (2026)	**Analytical Point 4 (UNESCO World Heritage Sites (India))**	43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed) (43rd Site: Moidams — Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty (Charaideo, Assam)) — 42nd: Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas (Karnataka); 41st: Santiniketan (WB); Mixed: Khangchendzonga (Sikkim). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 5 (National Green Hydrogen Mission)**	₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE) (Target: 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) annual production by 2030 + 125 GW renewable energy) — SIGHT incentive scheme; Kandla, Paradip & Tuticorin designated as Green Hydrogen Hubs. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 6 (PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana)**	₹75,021 crore outlay (1 crore households to receive rooftop solar and up to 300 units of free electricity monthly) — Central subsidy of ₹30,000 (1 kW), ₹60,000 (2 kW), and ₹78,000 (3 kW or higher). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Reference Table of India's Forest Cover, Tiger Reserves, Ramsar Sites, UNESCO Sites & Green Missions (2026)	**Analytical Point 7 (International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA))**	HQ: New Delhi, India (Treaty-based intergovernmental body) (Conserves 7 Big Cats: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar & Puma) — Union Budget 2026–27 announced that India will host the first-ever Global Big Cat Summit. Verified Reference: **Union Budget Portal**.

Chapter 4 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Forest and Tree Cover Breakdown (25.17%)): Prepared by FSI Dehradun using indigenous Resourcesat-2 LISS-III satellite data, the report records Forest Cover at 7,15,342.61 sq km (21.76%) and Tree Cover at 1,12,014.34 sq km (3.41%), registering a net combined increase of 1,445 sq km (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Top Gainers in Combined Forest & Tree Cover): Chhattisgarh recorded the highest increase (684 sq km), followed by Uttar Pradesh (559 sq km), Odisha (559 sq km), and Rajasthan (394 sq km).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (56th and 57th Tiger Reserves of India): Chhattisgarh's 'Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve' (2,829 sq km — making it India's third-largest tiger reserve after Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam in AP and Manas in Assam) became the 56th reserve, while Madhya Pradesh's 'Ratapani Tiger Reserve' (Raisen district) became the 57th (and Madhya Pradesh's 8th) tiger reserve (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (India's 85+ Ramsar Wetlands Network): Under the 1971 Ramsar Convention (World Wetlands Day is observed on February 2), India leads South Asia with 85+ sites covering over 1.35 million hectares, with Tamil Nadu holding the highest number of sites followed by Uttar Pradesh.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Charaideo Moidams — India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site): Located in the foothills of the Patkai Ranges in eastern Assam, the royal mound-burial landscapes (*Moidams*) of the Tai-Ahom dynasty (spanning 600 years from the 13th to 19th centuries CE) became Northeast India's first 'Cultural' UNESCO World Heritage Site (joining Natural sites Kaziranga and Manas) (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)): Headquartered in New Delhi with a central budgetary support of ₹150 crore, the IBCA framework agreement brings together range countries to protect the Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma (of which five are found in India, excluding the Jaguar and Puma).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Green Hydrogen & Rooftop Solar Milestones (2026)): Under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (₹19,744 crore) and PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (₹75,021 crore), India accelerated its non-fossil fuel installed electricity capacity above 200 GW toward its 2030 target of 500 GW (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Analytical Point 1 (Total Forest & Tree Cover (ISFR))): 8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area) (Forest Cover: 7,15,342.61 sq km (21.76%) | Tree Cover: 1,12,014.34 sq km (3.41%)) — Largest forest area: Madhya Pradesh > Arunachal Pradesh > Chhattisgarh; Highest %: Mizoram (85.34%). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 2 (Tiger Reserves in India)): 57+ Notified Tiger Reserves (56th: Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla (Chhattisgarh) | 57th: Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh)) — Notified by States on NTCA recommendation under Section 38V of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 3 (Ramsar Wetlands in India)): 85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia) (Most sites: Tamil Nadu (1st) > Uttar Pradesh (2nd)) — Recent additions include Nanjarayan & Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuaries (TN) and Tawa Reservoir (MP). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 4 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 4 (UNESCO World Heritage Sites (India))): 43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed) (43rd Site: Moidams — Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty (Charaideo, Assam)) — 42nd: Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas (Karnataka); 41st: Santiniketan (WB); Mixed: Khangchendzonga (Sikkim). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 5 (National Green Hydrogen Mission)): ₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE) (Target: 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) annual production by 2030 + 125 GW renewable energy) — SIGHT incentive scheme; Kandla, Paradip & Tuticorin designated as Green Hydrogen Hubs. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5: NITI Aayog SDG India Index (Score 71) & India's Rankings in Major Global Indices 2026

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 5: NITI Aayog SDG India Index (Score 71) & India's Rankings in Major Global Indices 2026

Key Study Pillar 1
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: India's Performance in NITI Aayog SDG India Index & Major Global Indices Reference Table

Key Study Pillar 2
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Scope & Competitive Exam Relevance: High-frequency prelims topic for UPSC CSE, State PCS, SSC CGL/CHSL, Banking PO, and Railway examinations.

In NITI Aayog's latest 'SDG India Index', India's composite national score rose to 71 out of 100 (up from 66 in the previous edition, 60 in 2019–20, and 57 in the 2018 baseline), placing the nation firmly in the 'Front-Runner' category (score range 65–99) (NITI Aayog and Press Information Bureau). Among States, Uttarakhand and Kerala jointly secured the top rank with a composite score of 79 each, followed by Tamil Nadu (78) and Goa (77), while Chandigarh topped the Union Territories with a score of 77.

Globally, India climbed to 39th place among 133 economies in the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) Global Innovation Index (ranking 1st in Central and Southern Asia and 1st among lower-middle-income economies), entered the top 10 globally across all three intellectual property filing categories (Patents 6th, Trademarks 4th, Industrial Designs 7th), and achieved 'Tier-1 (Role-modelling)' status with a score of 98.49/100 in the UN ITU Global Cybersecurity Index (Press Information Bureau).

4-Node Conceptual Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Stage 1: NITI Aayog Evaluates States/UTs Across 113 Indicators Aligned to UN's 17 SDGs

STEP 2
Stage 2: India's Composite SDG Score Rises to 71/100 (32 States/UTs in Front-Runner Category)

STEP 3
Stage 3: Uttarakhand & Kerala Jointly Rank 1st (Score 79); UP (+8 Points) Among Fastest Movers

STEP 4
Stage 4: India Ranks 39th in WIPO Global Innovation Index & Tier-1 in ITU Cybersecurity Index

Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: India's Performance in NITI Aayog SDG India Index & Major Global Indices Reference Table

Index / Global Report	Publishing Institution	India's Rank / Score	Top Performer & Key Exam Takeaways	Official Source
SDG India Index	NITI Aayog (Government of India)	Composite National Score: 71 / 100	Top States: Uttarakhand & Kerala (79 each, joint 1st); Lowest: Bihar (57); Top UT: Chandigarh (77)	NITI Aayog
Global Innovation Index (GII)	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva)	39th Rank (out of 133 economies)	Top Global: Switzerland (1st), Sweden (2nd), USA (3rd); India 1st in Central & Southern Asia	Press Information Bureau
World Intellectual Property Indicators	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	Patents: 6th	Trademarks: 4th	Industrial Designs: 7th	Patent filings in India grew by 15.7% — fastest growth among top 20 global origins for 5th straight year	Press Information Bureau
Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI)	International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN)	Tier-1 ('Role-modelling') with 98.49 / 100 score	Evaluated across 5 pillars: legal, technical, organizational, capacity development, and cooperation	Press Information Bureau
Network Readiness Index (NRI)	Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.)	49th Rank (climbed 11 spots into Top 50)	Ranked 1st in AI scientific publications and 2nd in ICT services exports & domestic market scale	Press Information Bureau
Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	World Bank	38th Rank (out of 139 countries)	Driven by PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, ULIP digital logistics, and Dedicated Freight Corridors	Press Information Bureau

Index / Global Report	Publishing Institution	India's Rank / Score	Top Performer & Key Exam Takeaways	Official Source
Travel & Tourism Development Index	World Economic Forum (WEF)	39th Rank (1st in South Asia)	Top Global: United States (1st); India scored high on natural, cultural, and price competitiveness	Press Information Bureau
National Multidimensional Poverty Index	NITI Aayog (with UNDP & OPHI technical inputs)	24.82 crore Indians escaped multidimensional poverty	Headcount ratio fell from 29.17% to 11.28%; UP (5.94 Cr) & Bihar (3.77 Cr) recorded largest poverty decline	NITI Aayog

In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Analytical Breakdown of NITI Aayog's SDG India Index & National MPI

• **Four Classification Categories of SDG India Index:** NITI Aayog classifies States/UTs based on scores from 0 to 100 into: (1) Aspirant (0–49), (2) Performer (50–64), (3) Front-Runner (65–99), and (4) Achiever (100) (NITI Aayog).

• **Zero States in Aspirant Category & 32 Front-Runners:** No State or UT remains in the Aspirant category (<50); 32 States and UTs now reside in the 'Front-Runner' category (65–99), including 10 new entrants such as Uttar Pradesh (score 67), Rajasthan, Odisha, and Arunachal Pradesh.

• **Fastest Moving States (+8 Points Gain):** Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, and Punjab registered the highest score improvement (+8 points each), while Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) recorded the highest national goal score at 96 (NITI Aayog).

• **12 Indicators of NITI Aayog's National MPI:** While the global MPI (UNDP & OPHI) uses 10 indicators across Health, Education, and Standard of Living, NITI Aayog's National MPI incorporates 12 indicators by adding 'Maternal Health' (under Health) and 'Bank Account' (under Standard of Living).

India's Rise in WIPO Innovation, IP Filings, Logistics & Cybersecurity Indices

• **42-Spot Jump in WIPO Global Innovation Index (81st to 39th):** India rose from 81st in 2015 to 39th among 133 economies in WIPO's Global Innovation Index, with Bengaluru, Delhi, Chennai, and Mumbai ranked among the world's top 100 Science & Technology computing centres (Press Information Bureau).

• **Top-10 Global Standing Across All Three IP Categories:** Per WIPO's World Intellectual Property Indicators report, India ranks 6th globally in Patents, 4th in Trademarks, and 7th in Industrial Designs, with resident filings exceeding 50% of total patent applications for the first time.

• **ITU Global Cybersecurity Index Tier-1 Achievement:** Scoring 98.49 out of 100 (including a perfect 20/20 in Legal, Technical, and Cooperation pillars), India joined the top Tier-1 ('Role-modelling') group of nations in the UN International Telecommunication Union's assessment (**Press Information Bureau**).

Statutory, Institutional & Exam-Oriented Synthesis Points

• **Analytical Point 1 (SDG India Index):** NITI Aayog (Government of India) (Composite National Score: 71 / 100) — Top States: Uttarakhand & Kerala (79 each, joint 1st); Lowest: Bihar (57); Top UT: Chandigarh (77). Verified Reference: **NITI Aayog**.

• **Analytical Point 2 (Global Innovation Index (GII)):** World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva) (39th Rank (out of 133 economies)) — Top Global: Switzerland (1st), Sweden (2nd), USA (3rd); India 1st in Central & Southern Asia. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 3 (World Intellectual Property Indicators):** World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (Patents: 6th | Trademarks: 4th | Industrial Designs: 7th) — Patent filings in India grew by 15.7% — fastest growth among top 20 global origins for 5th straight year. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 4 (Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI)):** International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN) (Tier-1 ('Role-modelling') with 98.49 / 100 score) — Evaluated across 5 pillars: legal, technical, organizational, capacity development, and cooperation. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 5 (Network Readiness Index (NRI)):** Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.) (49th Rank (climbed 11 spots into Top 50)) — Ranked 1st in AI scientific publications and 2nd in ICT services exports & domestic market scale. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 6 (Logistics Performance Index (LPI)):** World Bank (38th Rank (out of 139 countries)) — Driven by PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, ULIP digital logistics, and Dedicated Freight Corridors. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 7 (Travel & Tourism Development Index):** World Economic Forum (WEF) (39th Rank (1st in South Asia)) — Top Global: United States (1st); India scored high on natural, cultural, and price competitiveness. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 8 (National Multidimensional Poverty Index):** NITI Aayog (with UNDP & OPHI technical inputs) (24.82 crore Indians escaped multidimensional poverty) — Headcount ratio fell from 29.17% to 11.28%; UP (5.94 Cr) & Bihar (3.77 Cr) recorded largest poverty decline. Verified Reference: **NITI Aayog**.

Did You Know?
In NITI Aayog's SDG India Index, Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) achieved the highest score among all 16 evaluated goals at 96 out of 100, reflecting 100% household electrification (Saubhagya) and clean cooking fuel (Ujjwala) penetration.

Exam Trap Alert
Do not assume Kerala alone topped the latest NITI Aayog SDG India Index: 'Uttarakhand and Kerala' are JOINTLY ranked 1st with an identical score of 79 out of 100!

★ Memory Trick
Mnemonic for India's Key Index Scores — 'SDG India Index = 71 (Uttarakhand & Kerala = 79); WIPO Global Innovation Index = 39th; WEF Travel & Tourism Index = 39th; World Bank Logistics Index = 38th; Network Readiness = 49th; ITU Cybersecurity = Tier-1 (98.49)'.

Verified Official Portal Citations: Press Information Bureau | Union Budget Portal | NITI Aayog | Ministry of External Affairs | Reserve Bank of India | ISRO Official Portal | IUC Academy Official Portal

Chapter 5 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	Four Classification Categories of SDG India Index	NITI Aayog classifies States/UTs based on scores from 0 to 100 into: (1) Aspirant (0–49), (2) Performer (50–64), (3) Front-Runner (65–99), and (4) Achiever (100) (NITI Aayog).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: India's Performance in NITI Aayog SDG India Index & Major Global Indices Reference Table	Zero States in Aspirant Category & 32 Front-Runners	No State or UT remains in the Aspirant category (<50); 32 States and UTs now reside in the 'Front-Runner' category (65–99), including 10 new entrants such as Uttar Pradesh (score 67), Rajasthan, Odisha, and Arunachal Pradesh.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	Fastest Moving States (+8 Points Gain)	Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, and Punjab registered the highest score improvement (+8 points each), while Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) recorded the highest national goal score at 96 (NITI Aayog).
Node Conceptual Flowchart	12 Indicators of NITI Aayog's National MPI	While the global MPI (UNDP & OPHI) uses 10 indicators across Health, Education, and Standard of Living, NITI Aayog's National MPI incorporates 12 indicators by adding 'Maternal Health' (under Health) and 'Bank Account' (under Standard of Living).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: India's Performance in NITI Aayog SDG India Index & Major Global Indices Reference Table	42-Spot Jump in WIPO Global Innovation Index (81st to 39th)	India rose from 81st in 2015 to 39th among 133 economies in WIPO's Global Innovation Index, with Bengaluru, Delhi, Chennai, and Mumbai ranked among the world's top 100 Science & Technology computing centres (Press Information Bureau).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	Top-10 Global Standing Across All Three IP Categories	Per WIPO's World Intellectual Property Indicators report, India ranks 6th globally in Patents, 4th in Trademarks, and 7th in Industrial Designs, with resident filings exceeding 50% of total patent applications for the first time.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**ITU Global Cybersecurity Index Tier-1 Achievement**	Scoring 98.49 out of 100 (including a perfect 20/20 in Legal, Technical, and Cooperation pillars), India joined the top Tier-1 ('Role-modelling') group of nations in the UN International Telecommunication Union's assessment (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: India's Performance in NITI Aayog SDG India Index & Major Global Indices Reference Table	**Analytical Point 1 (SDG India Index)**	NITI Aayog (Government of India) (Composite National Score: 71 / 100) — Top States: Uttarakhand & Kerala (79 each, joint 1st); Lowest: Bihar (57); Top UT: Chandigarh (77). Verified Reference: **NITI Aayog**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 2 (Global Innovation Index (GII))**	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva) (39th Rank (out of 133 economies)) — Top Global: Switzerland (1st), Sweden (2nd), USA (3rd); India 1st in Central & Southern Asia. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 3 (World Intellectual Property Indicators)**	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (Patents: 6th | Trademarks: 4th | Industrial Designs: 7th) — Patent filings in India grew by 15.7% — fastest growth among top 20 global origins for 5th straight year. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: India's Performance in NITI Aayog SDG India Index & Major Global Indices Reference Table	**Analytical Point 4 (Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI))**	International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN) (Tier-1 ('Role-modelling') with 98.49 / 100 score) — Evaluated across 5 pillars: legal, technical, organizational, capacity development, and cooperation. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 5 (Network Readiness Index (NRI))**	Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.) (49th Rank (climbed 11 spots into Top 50)) — Ranked 1st in AI scientific publications and 2nd in ICT services exports & domestic market scale. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 6 (Logistics Performance Index (LPI))**	World Bank (38th Rank (out of 139 countries)) — Driven by PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, ULIP digital logistics, and Dedicated Freight Corridors. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: India's Performance in NITI Aayog SDG India Index & Major Global Indices Reference Table	**Analytical Point 7 (Travel & Tourism Development Index)**	World Economic Forum (WEF) (39th Rank (1st in South Asia)) — Top Global: United States (1st); India scored high on natural, cultural, and price competitiveness. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Chapter 5 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Four Classification Categories of SDG India Index): NITI Aayog classifies States/UTs based on scores from 0 to 100 into: (1) Aspirant (0–49), (2) Performer (50–64), (3) Front-Runner (65–99), and (4) Achiever (100) (NITI Aayog).

Statement-II (Zero States in Aspirant Category & 32 Front-Runners): No State or UT remains in the Aspirant category (<50); 32 States and UTs now reside in the 'Front-Runner' category (65–99), including 10 new entrants such as Uttar Pradesh (score 67), Rajasthan, Odisha, and Arunachal Pradesh.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Fastest Moving States (+8 Points Gain)): Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, and Punjab registered the highest score improvement (+8 points each), while Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) recorded the highest national goal score at 96 (NITI Aayog).

Statement-II (12 Indicators of NITI Aayog's National MPI): While the global MPI (UNDP & OPHI) uses 10 indicators across Health, Education, and Standard of Living, NITI Aayog's National MPI incorporates 12 indicators by adding 'Maternal Health' (under Health) and 'Bank Account' (under Standard of Living).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (42-Spot Jump in WIPO Global Innovation Index (81st to 39th)): India rose from 81st in 2015 to 39th among 133 economies in WIPO's Global Innovation Index, with Bengaluru, Delhi, Chennai, and Mumbai ranked among the world's top 100 Science & Technology computing centres (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Top-10 Global Standing Across All Three IP Categories): Per WIPO's World Intellectual Property Indicators report, India ranks 6th globally in Patents, 4th in Trademarks, and 7th in Industrial Designs, with resident filings exceeding 50% of total patent applications for the first time.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (ITU Global Cybersecurity Index Tier-1 Achievement): Scoring 98.49 out of 100 (including a perfect 20/20 in Legal, Technical, and Cooperation pillars), India joined the top Tier-1 ('Role-modelling') group of nations in the UN International Telecommunication Union's assessment (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Analytical Point 1 (SDG India Index)): NITI Aayog (Government of India) (Composite National Score: 71 / 100) — Top States: Uttarakhand & Kerala (79 each, joint 1st); Lowest: Bihar (57); Top UT: Chandigarh (77). Verified Reference: **NITI Aayog**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 2 (Global Innovation Index (GII))): World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva) (39th Rank (out of 133 economies)) — Top Global: Switzerland (1st), Sweden (2nd), USA (3rd); India 1st in Central & Southern Asia. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 3 (World Intellectual Property Indicators)): World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (Patents: 6th | Trademarks: 4th | Industrial Designs: 7th) — Patent filings in India grew by 15.7% — fastest growth among top 20 global origins for 5th straight year. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 5 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 4 (Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI))): International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN) (Tier-1 ('Role-modelling') with 98.49 / 100 score) — Evaluated across 5 pillars: legal, technical, organizational, capacity development, and cooperation. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 5 (Network Readiness Index (NRI))): Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.) (49th Rank (climbed 11 spots into Top 50)) — Ranked 1st in AI scientific publications and 2nd in ICT services exports & domestic market scale. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *6:* Bharat Ratna Conferments, Padma Awards *2026,* Dadasaheb Phalke Honours & Major Literary Awards

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 6: Bharat Ratna Conferments, Padma Awards 2026, Dadasaheb Phalke Honours & Major Literary Awards

Key Study Pillar 1
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan 2026, Cinema & Literary Honours

Key Study Pillar 2
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Scope & Competitive Exam Relevance: High-yield chapter for UPSC Prelims, State PCS, SSC, Railway, Banking, and Police examinations.

In the domain of national and international honours, Current Affairs 2026 encompasses the historic conferment of five Bharat Ratna awards (taking the all-time total to 53 recipients), the 131 Padma Awards of 2026 (5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan, and 113 Padma Shri), the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Awards (conferred on Mithun Chakraborty and veteran actor Anant Nag), the 58th Jnanpith Award, and the Nobel and Booker Prizes (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

India's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna, was conferred upon social justice pioneer Karpoori Thakur (Posthumous), veteran statesman L. K. Advani, former Prime Ministers Chaudhary Charan Singh (Posthumous) and P. V. Narasimha Rao (Posthumous), and the architect of India's Green Revolution Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (Posthumous) (**Press Information Bureau**). In literature, the 58th Jnanpith Award honoured Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya and Urdu poet Gulzar.

4-Node Conceptual Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Stage 1: Bharat Ratna Conferments on 5 National Icons (Total Recipients Now 53 Since 1954)

STEP 2
Stage 2: Padma Awards 2026 — 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan & 113 Padma Shri (Total 131)

STEP 3
Stage 3: Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Honours (Mithun Chakraborty & Anant Nag)

STEP 4
Stage 4: 58th Jnanpith Award (Rambhadracharya & Gulzar), Booker Prize & Nobel Prizes 2026

Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table*:* Comprehensive Directory of Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan *2026*, Cinema & Literary Honours

Award / National Honour	Laureates / Recipients	Field / Language / Affiliation	Historical & Exam-Specific Significance	Official Source
Bharat Ratna (5 Conferments)	Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao & Dr. M.S. Swaminathan	Public Affairs & Agricultural Science (All-time total: 53)	Honours social justice (Mungerilal Commission), 1991 economic reforms, peasant welfare & Green Revolution	Press Information Bureau
Padma Vibhushan 2026 (5 Winners)	Dharmendra (Posthumous), Justice K.T. Thomas, Dr. N. Rajam, P. Narayanan & V.S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous)	Art, Public Affairs, and Literature & Education	Announced on 25 January 2026 as part of 131 Padma Awards (5 Vibhushan + 13 Bhushan + 113 Shri)	Press Information Bureau
Padma Awards 2026 (Sports)	Vijay Amritraj (Padma Bhushan); Rohit Sharma, Harmanpreet Kaur, Savita Punia, Praveen Kumar (Padma Shri)	Tennis, Cricket, Hockey & Para-Athletics	9 sports personalities honoured in the 2026 Republic Day Padma list	Press Information Bureau
Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement	Mithun Chakraborty (54th) & Anant Nag (55th)	Indian Cinema (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)	Carries Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus), shawl, and ₹10 lakh cash prize; India's highest cinema honour	Press Information Bureau
58th Jnanpith Award	Jagadguru Rambhadracharya & Gulzar (Sampooran Singh Kalra)	Sanskrit Literature & Urdu Literature	Rambhadracharya (founder of Tulsi Peeth, Chitrakoot) is only the 2nd Sanskrit laureate after Satya Vrat Shastri	IUC Academy Portal

Award / National Honour	Laureates / Recipients	Field / Language / Affiliation	Historical & Exam-Specific Significance	Official Source
Booker Prize & International Booker	Samantha Harvey ('Orbital') & Jenny Erpenbeck ('Kairos')	English Fiction & Translated German Fiction (tr. Michael Hofmann)	'Orbital' follows six astronauts aboard the International Space Station across 16 sunrises in 24 hours	IUC Academy Portal
Nobel Literature & Peace Prizes 2026	Anne Carson (Literature, Canada) & Navi Pillay (Peace, South Africa)	Contemporary Poetry/Classics & International Human Rights Law	Anne Carson and Indian-origin jurist Navi Pillay were the two women laureates on the 2026 Nobel roster	Ministry of External Affairs
National Film Awards (Rationalized)	70th & 72nd National Film Awards	Directorate of Film Festivals / NFDC	Best Feature Film (70th): 'Aattam' (Malayalam); Best Actor: Rishab Shetty ('Kantara')	Press Information Bureau

In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Historical Profiles of the Five Bharat Ratna Laureates & Padma Vibhushan *2026*

• **53 Total Bharat Ratna Recipients Since 1954:** Instituted on 2 January 1954 (first awarded to C. Rajagopalachari, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, and Dr. C. V. Raman), the Bharat Ratna now counts 53 laureates following the five conferments on Karpoori Thakur, L. K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P. V. Narasimha Rao, and Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (Press Information Bureau).

• **Jannayak Karpoori Thakur (49th Laureate):** Two-time Chief Minister of Bihar (1970–71 and 1977–79), he implemented the landmark Mungerilal Commission report in 1978 introducing layered reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs), women, and economically weaker upper castes.

• **Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (53rd Laureate) & P. V. Narasimha Rao (52nd Laureate):** Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (1925–2023), recipient of the first World Food Prize (1987), developed high-yielding dwarf wheat varieties with Norman Borlaug and chaired the National Commission on Farmers (recommending MSP at C2 + 50%), while 9th Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao (1991–96) spearheaded the 1991 LPG economic liberalization and the 73rd/74th Constitutional Amendments (Press Information Bureau).

• **Padma Vibhushan 2026 Roster:** The five 2026 Padma Vibhushan awardees are Dharmendra (Posthumous — Art), Justice K. T. Thomas (Public Affairs), Dr. N. Rajam (Art — Violin), P. Narayanan (Literature & Education), and V. S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous — Public Affairs).

Dadasaheb Phalke Awards, National Film Awards & Literary Honours

• **Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award:** Instituted in 1969 (first recipient: Devika Rani) to commemorate Dhundiraj Govind Phalke (who directed India's first full-length feature film *Raja Harishchandra* in 1913), the award was conferred upon Mithun Chakraborty (who won three National Film Awards starting with his debut *Mrigayaa* in 1976) and veteran Kannada actor Anant Nag (Press Information Bureau).

• **Renaming of National Film Award Categories:** Following the rationalized recommendations of the Neerja Sekhar Committee, the 'Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director' was renamed 'Best Debut Film

of a Director', and the 'Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration' was renamed 'Best Feature Film Promoting National, Social and Environmental Values'.

• **58th Jnanpith Award:** Instituted in 1961 (first awarded in 1965 to Malayalam poet G. Sankara Kurup), India's highest literary award was shared for its 58th edition by Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya and Urdu poet-lyricist Gulzar (**IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Statutory, Institutional & Exam-Oriented Synthesis Points

• **Analytical Point 1 (Bharat Ratna (5 Conferments)):** Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao & Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (Public Affairs & Agricultural Science (All-time total: 53)) — Honours social justice (Mungerilal Commission), 1991 economic reforms, peasant welfare & Green Revolution. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 2 (Padma Vibhushan 2026 (5 Winners)):** Dharmendra (Posthumous), Justice K.T. Thomas, Dr. N. Rajam, P. Narayanan & V.S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous) (Art, Public Affairs, and Literature & Education) — Announced on 25 January 2026 as part of 131 Padma Awards (5 Vibhushan + 13 Bhushan + 113 Shri). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 3 (Padma Awards 2026 (Sports)):** Vijay Amritraj (Padma Bhushan); Rohit Sharma, Harmanpreet Kaur, Savita Punia, Praveen Kumar (Padma Shri) (Tennis, Cricket, Hockey & Para-Athletics) — 9 sports personalities honoured in the 2026 Republic Day Padma list. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 4 (Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement):** Mithun Chakraborty (54th) & Anant Nag (55th) (Indian Cinema (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)) — Carries Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus), shawl, and ₹10 lakh cash prize; India's highest cinema honour. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 5 (58th Jnanpith Award):** Jagadguru Rambhadracharya & Gulzar (Sampooran Singh Kalra) (Sanskrit Literature & Urdu Literature) — Rambhadracharya (founder of Tulsi Peeth, Chitrakoot) is only the 2nd Sanskrit laureate after Satya Vrat Shastri. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 6 (Booker Prize & International Booker):** Samantha Harvey ('Orbital') & Jenny Erpenbeck ('Kairos') (English Fiction & Translated German Fiction (tr. Michael Hofmann)) — 'Orbital' follows six astronauts aboard the International Space Station across 16 sunrises in 24 hours. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.

• **Analytical Point 7 (Nobel Literature & Peace Prizes 2026):** Anne Carson (Literature, Canada) & Navi Pillay (Peace, South Africa) (Contemporary Poetry/Classics & International Human Rights Law) — Anne Carson and Indian-origin jurist Navi Pillay were the two women laureates on the 2026 Nobel roster. Verified Reference: **Ministry of External Affairs**.

• **Analytical Point 8 (National Film Awards (Rationalized)):** 70th & 72nd National Film Awards (Directorate of Film Festivals / NFDC) — Best Feature Film (70th): 'Aattam' (Malayalam); Best Actor: Rishab Shetty ('Kantara'). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Did You Know?
Mithun Chakraborty is one of the very few actors in Indian cinema history to win the National Film Award for Best Actor for his debut film — Mrinal Sen's 'Mrigayaa' (1976) — followed by two more National Awards for 'Tahader Katha' (1992) and 'Swami Vivekananda' (1998).

Exam Trap Alert
In questions on the 2026 Padma Awards in the sports category, do not confuse Padma Bhushan with Padma Shri: tennis legend 'Vijay Amritraj' received the Padma Bhushan (2026), whereas 'Rohit Sharma, Harmanpreet Kaur, Savita Punia, and Praveen Kumar' received the Padma Shri (2026)!

★ Memory Trick
Mnemonic for the 5 Bharat Ratna Icons — 'Karpoori Thakur (Bihar Social Justice), L.K. Advani (Parliamentarian), Charan Singh (5th PM / Kisan Leader), Narasimha Rao (9th PM / 1991 Reforms), and M.S. Swaminathan (Green Revolution & C2+50% MSP)'.

Verified Official Portal Citations: Press Information Bureau | Union Budget Portal | NITI Aayog | Ministry of External Affairs | Reserve Bank of India | ISRO Official Portal | IUC Academy Official Portal

Chapter *6* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**53 Total Bharat Ratna Recipients Since 1954**	Instituted on 2 January 1954 (first awarded to C. Rajagopalachari, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, and Dr. C. V. Raman), the Bharat Ratna now counts 53 laureates following the five conferments on Karpoori Thakur, L. K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P. V. Narasimha Rao, and Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan 2026, Cinema & Literary Honours	**Jannayak Karpoori Thakur (49th Laureate)**	Two-time Chief Minister of Bihar (1970–71 and 1977–79), he implemented the landmark Mungerilal Commission report in 1978 introducing layered reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs), women, and economically weaker upper castes.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (53rd Laureate) & P. V. Narasimha Rao (52nd Laureate)**	Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (1925–2023), recipient of the first World Food Prize (1987), developed high-yielding dwarf wheat varieties with Norman Borlaug and chaired the National Commission on Farmers (recommending MSP at C2 + 50%), while 9th Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao (1991–96) spearheaded the 1991 LPG economic liberalization and the 73rd/74th Constitutional Amendments (Press Information Bureau).
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Padma Vibhushan 2026 Roster**	The five 2026 Padma Vibhushan awardees are Dharmendra (Posthumous — Art), Justice K. T. Thomas (Public Affairs), Dr. N. Rajam (Art — Violin), P. Narayanan (Literature & Education), and V. S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous — Public Affairs).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan 2026, Cinema & Literary Honours	**Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award**	Instituted in 1969 (first recipient: Devika Rani) to commemorate Dhundiraj Govind Phalke (who directed India's first full-length feature film *Raja Harishchandra* in 1913), the award was conferred upon Mithun Chakraborty (who won three National Film Awards starting with his debut *Mrigayaa* in 1976) and veteran Kannada actor Anant Nag (Press Information Bureau).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Renaming of National Film Award Categories**	Following the rationalized recommendations of the Neerja Sekhar Committee, the 'Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director' was renamed 'Best Debut Film of a Director', and the 'Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration' was renamed 'Best Feature Film Promoting National, Social and Environmental Values'.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**58th Jnanpith Award**	Instituted in 1961 (first awarded in 1965 to Malayalam poet G. Sankara Kurup), India's highest literary award was shared for its 58th edition by Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya and Urdu poet-lyricist Gulzar (IUC Academy Official Portal).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan 2026, Cinema & Literary Honours	**Analytical Point 1 (Bharat Ratna (5 Conferments))**	Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao & Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (Public Affairs & Agricultural Science (All-time total: 53)) — Honours social justice (Mungerilal Commission), 1991 economic reforms, peasant welfare & Green Revolution. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 2 (Padma Vibhushan 2026 (5 Winners))**	Dharmendra (Posthumous), Justice K.T. Thomas, Dr. N. Rajam, P. Narayanan & V.S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous) (Art, Public Affairs, and Literature & Education) — Announced on 25 January 2026 as part of 131 Padma Awards (5 Vibhushan + 13 Bhushan + 113 Shri). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 3 (Padma Awards 2026 (Sports))**	Vijay Amritraj (Padma Bhushan); Rohit Sharma, Harmanpreet Kaur, Savita Punia, Praveen Kumar (Padma Shri) (Tennis, Cricket, Hockey & Para-Athletics) — 9 sports personalities honoured in the 2026 Republic Day Padma list. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan 2026, Cinema & Literary Honours	**Analytical Point 4 (Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement)**	Mithun Chakraborty (54th) & Anant Nag (55th) (Indian Cinema (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)) — Carries Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus), shawl, and ₹10 lakh cash prize; India's highest cinema honour. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 5 (58th Jnanpith Award)**	Jagadguru Rambhadracharya & Gulzar (Sampooran Singh Kalra) (Sanskrit Literature & Urdu Literature) — Rambhadracharya (founder of Tulsi Peeth, Chitrakoot) is only the 2nd Sanskrit laureate after Satya Vrat Shastri. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 6 (Booker Prize & International Booker)**	Samantha Harvey ('Orbital') & Jenny Erpenbeck ('Kairos') (English Fiction & Translated German Fiction (tr. Michael Hofmann)) — 'Orbital' follows six astronauts aboard the International Space Station across 16 sunrises in 24 hours. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Comprehensive Directory of Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan 2026, Cinema & Literary Honours	**Analytical Point 7 (Nobel Literature & Peace Prizes 2026)**	Anne Carson (Literature, Canada) & Navi Pillay (Peace, South Africa) (Contemporary Poetry/Classics & International Human Rights Law) — Anne Carson and Indian-origin jurist Navi Pillay were the two women laureates on the 2026 Nobel roster. Verified Reference: **Ministry of External Affairs**.

Chapter *6* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (53 Total Bharat Ratna Recipients Since 1954): Instituted on 2 January 1954 (first awarded to C. Rajagopalachari, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, and Dr. C. V. Raman), the Bharat Ratna now counts 53 laureates following the five conferments on Karpoori Thakur, L. K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P. V. Narasimha Rao, and Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Jannayak Karpoori Thakur (49th Laureate)): Two-time Chief Minister of Bihar (1970–71 and 1977–79), he implemented the landmark Mungerilal Commission report in 1978 introducing layered reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs), women, and economically weaker upper castes.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (53rd Laureate) & P. V. Narasimha Rao (52nd Laureate)): Dr. M. S. Swaminathan (1925–2023), recipient of the first World Food Prize (1987), developed high-yielding dwarf wheat varieties with Norman Borlaug and chaired the National Commission on Farmers (recommending MSP at C2 + 50%), while 9th Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao (1991–96) spearheaded the 1991 LPG economic liberalization and the 73rd/74th Constitutional Amendments (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Padma Vibhushan 2026 Roster): The five 2026 Padma Vibhushan awardees are Dharmendra (Posthumous — Art), Justice K. T. Thomas (Public Affairs), Dr. N. Rajam (Art — Violin), P. Narayanan (Literature & Education), and V. S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous — Public Affairs).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award): Instituted in 1969 (first recipient: Devika Rani) to commemorate Dhundiraj Govind Phalke (who directed India's first full-length feature film *Raja Harishchandra* in 1913), the award was conferred upon Mithun Chakraborty (who won three National Film Awards starting with his debut *Mrigayaa* in 1976) and veteran Kannada actor Anant Nag (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Renaming of National Film Award Categories): Following the rationalized recommendations of the Neerja Sekhar Committee, the 'Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director' was renamed 'Best Debut Film of a Director', and the 'Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration' was renamed 'Best Feature Film Promoting National, Social and Environmental Values'.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (58th Jnanpith Award): Instituted in 1961 (first awarded in 1965 to Malayalam poet G. Sankara Kurup), India's highest literary award was shared for its 58th edition by Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya and Urdu poet-lyricist Gulzar (IUC Academy Official Portal).

Statement-II (Analytical Point 1 (Bharat Ratna (5 Conferments))): Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao & Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (Public Affairs & Agricultural Science (All-time total: 53)) — Honours social justice (Mungerilal Commission), 1991 economic reforms, peasant welfare & Green Revolution. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 2 (Padma Vibhushan 2026 (5 Winners))): Dharmendra (Posthumous), Justice K.T. Thomas, Dr. N. Rajam, P. Narayanan & V.S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous) (Art, Public Affairs, and Literature & Education) — Announced on 25 January 2026 as part of 131 Padma Awards (5 Vibhushan + 13 Bhushan + 113 Shri). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 3 (Padma Awards 2026 (Sports))): Vijay Amritraj (Padma Bhushan); Rohit Sharma, Harmanpreet Kaur, Savita Punia, Praveen Kumar (Padma Shri) (Tennis, Cricket, Hockey & Para-Athletics) — 9 sports personalities honoured in the 2026 Republic Day Padma list. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 6 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 4 (Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement)): Mithun Chakraborty (54th) & Anant Nag (55th) (Indian Cinema (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)) — Carries Swarna Kamal (Golden Lotus), shawl, and ₹10 lakh cash prize; India's highest cinema honour. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 5 (58th Jnanpith Award)): Jagadguru Rambhadracharya & Gulzar (Sampooran Singh Kalra) (Sanskrit Literature & Urdu Literature) — Rambhadracharya (founder of Tulsi Peeth, Chitrakoot) is only the 2nd Sanskrit laureate after Satya Vrat Shastri. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7: Joint Military Exercises *2026*, Defence Exports, India–EFTA Trade Agreement (TEPA) & Strategic Corridors

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 7: Joint Military Exercises 2026, Defence Exports, India–EFTA Trade Agreement (TEPA) & Strategic Corridors

Key Study Pillar 1
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Directory of India's Joint Military Exercises (Army, Navy, Air Force) & Strategic Partners

Key Study Pillar 2
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Scope & Competitive Exam Relevance: Essential for UPSC Prelims & Mains (GS-II & GS-III), NDA, CDS, CAPF, State PCS, and Police examinations.

In 2026, the Indian Armed Forces expanded joint operational readiness across the Indo-Pacific, Central Asia, and the Indian Ocean Region through bilateral and multilateral military exercises (**Press Information Bureau** and **Ministry of External Affairs**). Hosting its first-ever large-scale multilateral air exercise 'Tarang Shakti' across Sulur (Tamil Nadu) and Jodhpur (Rajasthan), the Indian Air Force demonstrated indigenous Tejas, Prachand LCH, and Netra AEW&C platforms alongside major global air forces, complemented by the Indian Navy's MILAN and Malabar exercises.

On the geo-economic front, India signed the landmark Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with the four-nation European Free Trade Association (EFTA — Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein), incorporating a legally binding commitment to invest USD 100 billion in India and generate 1 million direct jobs over 15 years (**Press Information Bureau**). Concurrently, India signed a 10-year operational contract for the Shahid Beheshti Terminal at Iran's Chabahar Port and operationalized the India–UAE Virtual Trade Corridor under the IMEC framework.

4-Node Conceptual Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Stage 1: Tri-Service Defence Diplomacy — Tarang Shakti (IAF), MILAN & Malabar (Navy), Yudh Abhyas & Shakti (Army)

STEP 2
Stage 2: India–EFTA (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein) TEPA Pact with $100B Investment Pledge

STEP 3
Stage 3: 10-Year Chabahar Port Contract (IPGL) & India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)

STEP 4
Stage 4: Indigenous Defence Exports Cross ₹21,083+ Crore Including BrahMos Delivery to Philippines

Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Directory of India's Joint Military Exercises (Army, Navy, Air Force) & Strategic Partners

Exercise Name	Partner Country / Grouping	Service Wing (Army / Navy / Air Force)	Venue & Core Operational Focus	Official Source
Tarang Shakti	Multilateral (USA, France, Germany, UK, Australia, Japan, UAE, etc.)	Air Force (Hosted by Indian Air Force)	Phase I: Sulur (TN) & Phase II: Jodhpur (Rajasthan); largest multilateral air exercise ever hosted by India	Press Information Bureau
Malabar & MILAN	Malabar: QUAD (India, USA, Japan, Australia)	MILAN: 50+ Friendly Navies	Naval Exercises	Visakhapatnam & Bay of Bengal; anti-submarine warfare, maritime domain awareness & Indo-Pacific security	Press Information Bureau
Yudh Abhyas, Vajra Prahar & Tiger Triumph	India & United States (USA)	Army, Special Forces & Tri-Service HADR	Mahajan Field Firing Ranges (Rajasthan) & Eastern Seaboard; high-altitude warfare & amphibious relief	Press Information Bureau

Exercise Name	Partner Country / Grouping	Service Wing (Army / Navy / Air Force)	Venue & Core Operational Focus	Official Source
Shakti, Varuna & Garuda	India & France	Shakti (Army), Varuna (Navy) & Garuda (Air Force)	Umroi (Meghalaya), Mediterranean Sea & France; joint interoperability of Rafale & Su-30 MKI fleets	Press Information Bureau
Dharma Guardian, Veer Guardian & JIMEX	India & Japan	Dharma Guardian (Army), Veer Guardian (Air) & JIMEX (Navy)	Mahajan (Rajasthan) & Yokosuka (Japan); urban counter-insurgency and maritime security	Press Information Bureau
INDRA & KAZIND	INDRA: India–Russia	KAZIND: India–Kazakhstan	Tri-Service / Army & Air Force	Auli (Uttarakhand) & Russia; counter-terrorism operations under UN mandate	Ministry of External Affairs
Surya Kiran, Sampriti & Mitra Shakti	Surya Kiran: Nepal	Sampriti: Bangladesh	Mitra Shakti: Sri Lanka	Army Exercises	Jungle warfare, mountain counter-insurgency, and disaster relief with immediate neighbours	Press Information Bureau
Dustlik, Khanjar, Sada Tanseeq & Cyclone	Dustlik: Uzbekistan	Khanjar: Kyrgyzstan	Sada Tanseeq: Saudi Arabia	Cyclone: Egypt	Army & Special Forces Exercises	Desert warfare and special forces tactical drills across Central Asia and West Asia	Ministry of External Affairs

In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Analysis of India's Joint Military Exercises & Record Defence Exports *(2026)*

• **Exercise Tarang Shakti (Phase I Sulur & Phase II Jodhpur):** Hosted by the Indian Air Force, Tarang Shakti brought together air assets from over a dozen friendly foreign countries, showcasing India's indigenous LCA Tejas, LCH Prachand, ALH Dhruv, and Astra BVR missiles (**Press Information Bureau**).

• **Bilateral Tri-Service Matrix with France, USA & Japan:** With France, India conducts *Shakti* (Army), *Varuna* (Navy), and *Garuda* (Air Force); with the USA, India conducts *Yudh Abhyas* (Army), *Vajra Prahar* (Special Forces), *Cope India* (Air Force), *Sangam* (MARCOS–Navy SEALs), and *Tiger Triumph* (Tri-service HADR); with Japan, India conducts *Dharma Guardian* (Army), *Veer Guardian* (Air Force), *SHINYUU Maitri* (Air transport), and *JIMEX* (Navy).

• **Record Indigenous Defence Exports (₹21,083+ Crore):** India's defence exports crossed ₹21,083 crore to over 85 countries, highlighted by the delivery of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile coastal defence batteries to the Philippines, Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers and Akash air defence systems to Armenia, and Dornier-228 aircraft to Guyana (**Press Information Bureau**).

India–EFTA TEPA Agreement, Chabahar Port *10*-Year Contract & IMEC Corridor

• **India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA):** Signed between India and the four EFTA states — Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein — TEPA is the first Free Trade Agreement in world history to incorporate a binding commitment of USD 100 billion FDI inflow into India (excluding FPI) and 1 million direct jobs over 15 years, backed by mutual rebalancing clauses if investment targets are not met (**Press Information Bureau**).

• **10-Year Contract for Shahid Beheshti Terminal at Chabahar Port (Iran):** India Ports Global Limited (IPGL) and the Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) of Iran signed a 10-year long-term contract (with USD 120 million equipment investment by India and a USD 250 million credit window) to operate the Shahid Beheshti terminal at Chabahar Port on the Gulf of Oman, bypassing Pakistan to connect India with Afghanistan, Central Asia, and the 7,200-km International North–South Transport Corridor (INSTC) (**Ministry of External Affairs**).

• **India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) & MAITRI Interface:** Comprising an Eastern Maritime Corridor (India to the Arabian Gulf) and a Northern Rail-Road Corridor (UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel to European ports like Piraeus), IMEC advanced in 2026 with the launch of the 'MAITRI' (Master Application for International Trade and Regulatory Interface) virtual trade corridor between India and the UAE.

Statutory, Institutional & Exam-Oriented Synthesis Points

• **Analytical Point 1 (Tarang Shakti):** Multilateral (USA, France, Germany, UK, Australia, Japan, UAE, etc.) (Air Force (Hosted by Indian Air Force)) — Phase I: Sulur (TN) & Phase II: Jodhpur (Rajasthan); largest multilateral air exercise ever hosted by India. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 2 (Malabar & MILAN):** Malabar: QUAD (India, USA, Japan, Australia) | MILAN: 50+ Friendly Navies (Naval Exercises) — Visakhapatnam & Bay of Bengal; anti-submarine warfare, maritime domain awareness & Indo-Pacific security. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 3 (Yudh Abhyas, Vajra Prahar & Tiger Triumph):** India & United States (USA) (Army, Special Forces & Tri-Service HADR) — Mahajan Field Firing Ranges (Rajasthan) & Eastern Seaboard; high-altitude warfare & amphibious relief. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 4 (Shakti, Varuna & Garuda):** India & France (Shakti (Army), Varuna (Navy) & Garuda (Air Force)) — Umroi (Meghalaya), Mediterranean Sea & France; joint interoperability of Rafale & Su-30 MKI fleets. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 5 (Dharma Guardian, Veer Guardian & JIMEX):** India & Japan (Dharma Guardian (Army), Veer Guardian (Air) & JIMEX (Navy)) — Mahajan (Rajasthan) & Yokosuka (Japan); urban counter-insurgency and maritime security. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 6 (INDRA & KAZIND):** INDRA: India–Russia | KAZIND: India–Kazakhstan (Tri-Service / Army & Air Force) — Auli (Uttarakhand) & Russia; counter-terrorism operations under UN mandate. Verified Reference: **Ministry of External Affairs**.

• **Analytical Point 7 (Surya Kiran, Sampriti & Mitra Shakti):** Surya Kiran: Nepal | Sampriti: Bangladesh | Mitra Shakti: Sri Lanka (Army Exercises) — Jungle warfare, mountain counter-insurgency, and disaster relief with immediate neighbours. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 8 (Dustlik, Khanjar, Sada Tanseeq & Cyclone):** Dustlik: Uzbekistan | Khanjar: Kyrgyzstan | Sada Tanseeq: Saudi Arabia | Cyclone: Egypt (Army & Special Forces Exercises) — Desert warfare and special forces tactical drills across Central Asia and West Asia. Verified Reference: **Ministry of External Affairs**.

Did You Know?
Located in Iran's Sistan-Baluchestan province on the Gulf of Oman (outside the Strait of Hormuz), Chabahar is Iran's only deep-water oceanic port and lies just 72 nautical miles (about 170 km) west of Pakistan's Gwadar Port.

Exam Trap Alert
Exam questions frequently ask whether the four EFTA member countries belong to the European Union (EU): remember that the four EFTA nations — Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein — are NOT members of the European Union!

★ Memory Trick
Mnemonic for EFTA & Bilateral Exercises — 'EFTA 4 Nations = S-N-I-L (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein — $100B / 1M jobs); France Exercises = Shakti (Army), Varuna (Navy), Garuda (Air); Japan Exercises = Dharma Guardian (Army), JIMEX (Navy), Veer Guardian (Air)'.

Verified Official Portal Citations: Press Information Bureau | Union Budget Portal | NITI Aayog | Ministry of External Affairs | Reserve Bank of India | ISRO Official Portal | IUC Academy Official Portal

Chapter 7 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Exercise Tarang Shakti (Phase I Sulur & Phase II Jodhpur)**	Hosted by the Indian Air Force, Tarang Shakti brought together air assets from over a dozen friendly foreign countries, showcasing India's indigenous LCA Tejas, LCH Prachand, ALH Dhruv, and Astra BVR missiles (Press Information Bureau).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Directory of India's Joint Military Exercises (Army, Navy, Air Force) & Strategic Partners	**Bilateral Tri-Service Matrix with France, USA & Japan**	With France, India conducts *Shakti* (Army), *Varuna* (Navy), and *Garuda* (Air Force); with the USA, India conducts *Yudh Abhyas* (Army), *Vajra Prahar* (Special Forces), *Cope India* (Air Force), *Sangam* (MARCOS–Navy SEALs), and *Tiger Triumph* (Tri-service HADR); with Japan, India conducts *Dharma Guardian* (Army), *Veer Guardian* (Air Force), *SHINYUU Maitri* (Air transport), and *JIMEX* (Navy).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Record Indigenous Defence Exports (₹21,083+ Crore)**	India's defence exports crossed ₹21,083 crore to over 85 countries, highlighted by the delivery of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile coastal defence batteries to the Philippines, Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers and Akash air defence systems to Armenia, and Dornier-228 aircraft to Guyana (Press Information Bureau).
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)**	Signed between India and the four EFTA states — Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein — TEPA is the first Free Trade Agreement in world history to incorporate a binding commitment of USD 100 billion FDI inflow into India (excluding FPI) and 1 million direct jobs over 15 years, backed by mutual rebalancing clauses if investment targets are not met (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Directory of India's Joint Military Exercises (Army, Navy, Air Force) & Strategic Partners	**10-Year Contract for Shahid Beheshti Terminal at Chabahar Port (Iran)**	India Ports Global Limited (IPGL) and the Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) of Iran signed a 10-year long-term contract (with USD 120 million equipment investment by India and a USD 250 million credit window) to operate the Shahid Beheshti terminal at Chabahar Port on the Gulf of Oman, bypassing Pakistan to connect India with Afghanistan, Central Asia, and the 7,200-km International North–South Transport Corridor (INSTC) (Ministry of External Affairs).
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) & MAITRI Interface**	Comprising an Eastern Maritime Corridor (India to the Arabian Gulf) and a Northern Rail-Road Corridor (UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel to European ports like Piraeus), IMEC advanced in 2026 with the launch of the 'MAITRI' (Master Application for International Trade and Regulatory Interface) virtual trade corridor between India and the UAE.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 1 (Tarang Shakti)**	Multilateral (USA, France, Germany, UK, Australia, Japan, UAE, etc.) (Air Force (Hosted by Indian Air Force)) — Phase I: Sulur (TN) & Phase II: Jodhpur (Rajasthan); largest multilateral air exercise ever hosted by India. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Directory of India's Joint Military Exercises (Army, Navy, Air Force) & Strategic Partners	**Analytical Point 2 (Malabar & MILAN)**	Malabar: QUAD (India, USA, Japan, Australia) | MILAN: 50+ Friendly Navies (Naval Exercises) — Visakhapatnam & Bay of Bengal; anti-submarine warfare, maritime domain awareness & Indo-Pacific security. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 3 (Yudh Abhyas, Vajra Prahar & Tiger Triumph)**	India & United States (USA) (Army, Special Forces & Tri-Service HADR) — Mahajan Field Firing Ranges (Rajasthan) & Eastern Seaboard; high-altitude warfare & amphibious relief. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 4 (Shakti, Varuna & Garuda)**	India & France (Shakti (Army), Varuna (Navy) & Garuda (Air Force)) — Umroi (Meghalaya), Mediterranean Sea & France; joint interoperability of Rafale & Su-30 MKI fleets. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Directory of India's Joint Military Exercises (Army, Navy, Air Force) & Strategic Partners	**Analytical Point 5 (Dharma Guardian, Veer Guardian & JIMEX)**	India & Japan (Dharma Guardian (Army), Veer Guardian (Air) & JIMEX (Navy)) — Mahajan (Rajasthan) & Yokosuka (Japan); urban counter-insurgency and maritime security. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 6 (INDRA & KAZIND)**	INDRA: India–Russia | KAZIND: India–Kazakhstan (Tri-Service / Army & Air Force) — Auli (Uttarakhand) & Russia; counter-terrorism operations under UN mandate. Verified Reference: **Ministry of External Affairs**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 7 (Surya Kiran, Sampriti & Mitra Shakti)**	Surya Kiran: Nepal | Sampriti: Bangladesh | Mitra Shakti: Sri Lanka (Army Exercises) — Jungle warfare, mountain counter-insurgency, and disaster relief with immediate neighbours. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Directory of India's Joint Military Exercises (Army, Navy, Air Force) & Strategic Partners	**Analytical Point 8 (Dustlik, Khanjar, Sada Tanseeq & Cyclone)**	Dustlik: Uzbekistan | Khanjar: Kyrgyzstan | Sada Tanseeq: Saudi Arabia | Cyclone: Egypt (Army & Special Forces Exercises) — Desert warfare and special forces tactical drills across Central Asia and West Asia. Verified Reference: **Ministry of External Affairs**.

Chapter 7 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Exercise Tarang Shakti (Phase I Sulur & Phase II Jodhpur)): Hosted by the Indian Air Force, Tarang Shakti brought together air assets from over a dozen friendly foreign countries, showcasing India's indigenous LCA Tejas, LCH Prachand, ALH Dhruv, and Astra BVR missiles (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Bilateral Tri-Service Matrix with France, USA & Japan): With France, India conducts *Shakti* (Army), *Varuna* (Navy), and *Garuda* (Air Force); with the USA, India conducts *Yudh Abhyas* (Army), *Vajra Prahar* (Special Forces), *Cope India* (Air Force), *Sangam* (MARCOS–Navy SEALs), and *Tiger Triumph* (Tri-service HADR); with Japan, India conducts *Dharma Guardian* (Army), *Veer Guardian* (Air Force), *SHINYUU Maitri* (Air transport), and *JIMEX* (Navy).

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Record Indigenous Defence Exports (₹21,083+ Crore)): India's defence exports crossed ₹21,083 crore to over 85 countries, highlighted by the delivery of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile coastal defence batteries to the Philippines, Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launchers and Akash air defence systems to Armenia, and Dornier-228 aircraft to Guyana (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)): Signed between India and the four EFTA states — Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein — TEPA is the first Free Trade Agreement in world history to incorporate a binding commitment of USD 100 billion FDI inflow into India (excluding FPI) and 1 million direct jobs over 15 years, backed by mutual rebalancing clauses if investment targets are not met (Press Information Bureau).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (10-Year Contract for Shahid Beheshti Terminal at Chabahar Port (Iran)): India Ports Global Limited (IPGL) and the Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) of Iran signed a 10-year long-term contract (with USD 120 million equipment investment by India and a USD 250 million credit window) to operate the Shahid Beheshti terminal at Chabahar Port on the Gulf of Oman, bypassing Pakistan to connect India with Afghanistan, Central Asia, and the 7,200-km International North–South Transport Corridor (INSTC) (Ministry of External Affairs).

Statement-II (India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) & MAITRI Interface): Comprising an Eastern Maritime Corridor (India to the Arabian Gulf) and a Northern Rail-Road Corridor (UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel to European ports like Piraeus), IMEC advanced in 2026 with the launch of the 'MAITRI' (Master Application for International Trade and Regulatory Interface) virtual trade corridor between India and the UAE.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 1 (Tarang Shakti)): Multilateral (USA, France, Germany, UK, Australia, Japan, UAE, etc.) (Air Force (Hosted by Indian Air Force)) — Phase I: Sulur (TN) & Phase II: Jodhpur (Rajasthan); largest multilateral air exercise ever hosted by India. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 2 (Malabar & MILAN)): Malabar: QUAD (India, USA, Japan, Australia) | MILAN: 50+ Friendly Navies (Naval Exercises) — Visakhapatnam & Bay of Bengal; anti-submarine warfare, maritime domain awareness & Indo-Pacific security. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 3 (Yudh Abhyas, Vajra Prahar & Tiger Triumph)): India & United States (USA) (Army, Special Forces & Tri-Service HADR) — Mahajan Field Firing Ranges (Rajasthan) & Eastern Seaboard; high-altitude warfare & amphibious relief. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 4 (Shakti, Varuna & Garuda)): India & France (Shakti (Army), Varuna (Navy) & Garuda (Air Force)) — Umroi (Meghalaya), Mediterranean Sea & France; joint interoperability of Rafale & Su-30 MKI fleets. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 7 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 5 (Dharma Guardian, Veer Guardian & JIMEX)): India & Japan (Dharma Guardian (Army), Veer Guardian (Air) & JIMEX (Navy)) — Mahajan (Rajasthan) & Yokosuka (Japan); urban counter-insurgency and maritime security. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 6 (INDRA & KAZIND)): INDRA: India–Russia | KAZIND: India–Kazakhstan (Tri-Service / Army & Air Force) — Auli (Uttarakhand) & Russia; counter-terrorism operations under UN mandate. Verified Reference: **Ministry of External Affairs**.

✔ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter *8:* Constitutional Office-Holders, Parliamentary Committees, World Chess & Paralympics Synthesis *2026*

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 8: Constitutional Office-Holders, Parliamentary Committees, World Chess & Paralympics Synthesis *2026*

Key Study Pillar 1
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Directory of Constitutional Authorities, Defence/Space Chiefs & Historic Sporting Records (2026)

Key Study Pillar 2
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Scope & Competitive Exam Relevance: High-scoring consolidated reference for UPSC Prelims, State PCS, SSC CGL/CHSL/MTS, Railway NTPC/RPF, Banking, and Police examinations.

Across all competitive examinations, questions on constitutional authorities, heads of defence and scientific organizations, parliamentary committee chairpersons, and world sporting champions carry direct factual weightage (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**). This concluding synthesis consolidates India's current constitutional and statutory leadership alongside full-year sporting milestones.

In global chess, 18-year-old Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh (Dommaraju Gukesh) defeated defending champion Ding Liren of China (7.5–6.5) in Singapore to become the 18th World Chess Champion and the youngest undisputed World Chess Champion in history, breaking Garry Kasparov's 1985 record (**Press Information Bureau**). Earlier, India won historic double team gold medals (Open and Women's sections) at the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad in Budapest (Hungary) and achieved its best-ever tally of 29 medals (7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze) at the Paris Paralympics, followed by 85 medals at the 20th Asian Games 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya.

4-Node Conceptual Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Stage 1: Constitutional Authorities — President, VP, PM, Speaker of 18th Lok Sabha & 15th CAG

STEP 2
Stage 2: Statutory Commissions & Strategic Heads — 16th Finance Commission, 23rd Law Commission, CDS, ISRO & DRDO

STEP 3
Stage 3: Global Chess Dominance — D. Gukesh (Youngest World Champion) & Budapest Olympiad Double Gold

STEP 4
Stage 4: Multi-Sport Triumphs — Paris Paralympics (29 Medals), Asian Games 2026 (85 Medals) & Men's T20WC 2026

Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Directory of Constitutional Authorities, Defence/Space Chiefs & Historic Sporting Records *(2026)*

Office / Institution / Sporting Milestone	Incumbent / Champion (2026 Reference)	Constitutional Article / Venue	Key Exam-Specific Fact	Official Source		
President (15th) & Prime Minister of India	Smt. Droupadi Murmu (President)	Shri Narendra Modi (Prime Minister)	Article 52 (President) & Articles 74–75 (PM & Council of Ministers)	Smt. Droupadi Murmu is India's first tribal President and second woman President	**Press Information Bureau**	
Speaker of 18th Lok Sabha & PAC Chair	Shri Om Birla (Speaker)	Shri K. C. Venugopal (Chair, Public Accounts Committee)	Article 93 (Speaker)	PAC has 22 members (15 Lok Sabha + 7 Rajya Sabha)	Estimates Committee (30 members, all from Lok Sabha) is chaired by Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal	**Press Information Bureau**
Comptroller and Auditor General (15th CAG)	Shri K. Sanjay Murthy	Articles 148–151 of the Constitution	Guardian of the Public Purse; tenure of 6 years or up to age 65 years, whichever is earlier	**Press Information Bureau**		
16th Finance Commission & 23rd Law Commission	Dr. Arvind Panagariya (16th FC)	Justice Dinesh Maheshwari (23rd Law Commission)	Article 280 (Finance Commission for 2026–2031 period)	23rd Law Commission constituted for a 3-year term (1 Sept 2024 to 31 Aug 2027)	**Press Information Bureau**	
Defence & Space Leadership (2026)	Gen. Anil Chauhan (CDS)	Dr. V. Narayanan (Chairman, ISRO)	Dr. Samir V. Kamat (Chairman, DRDO)	Dept of Military Affairs, Dept of Space & Dept of Defence R&D	Army Chief: Gen. Upendra Dwivedi; Navy Chief: Adm. Dinesh K. Tripathi; Air Chief: ACM A. P. Singh	**Press Information Bureau**
Youngest World Chess Champion & 45th Olympiad	D. Gukesh (18th World Champion)	India Wins Open & Women's Gold at Budapest	Singapore (World Championship) & Budapest, Hungary (45th Chess Olympiad)	D. Gukesh (age 18) broke Garry Kasparov's 1985 record; 2nd Indian World Champion after Viswanathan Anand	**Press Information Bureau**	

Office / Institution / Sporting Milestone	Incumbent / Champion (2026 Reference)	Constitutional Article / Venue	Key Exam-Specific Fact	Official Source
Paris Paralympics & Paris Olympics	Paralympics: 29 Medals (7G, 9S, 13B — Rank 18)	Olympics: 6 Medals (1S, 5B)	Avani Lekhara (1st Indian woman with 2 Paralympic Golds); Harvinder Singh (1st Archery Gold)	Manu Bhaker became 1st athlete of independent India to win 2 medals in a single Olympic Games	Press Information Bureau
20th Asian Games 2026 & Men's T20WC 2026	Asian Games (Aichi-Nagoya): 85 Medals (21G, 27S, 37B)	Men's T20WC 2026: India Champion	Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (Sept–Oct 2026) & Ahmedabad, India (March 2026)	India finished 4th at Asian Games 2026 and beat New Zealand (scoring 255/5) in the Men's T20WC 2026 Final	IUC Academy Portal

In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown

Constitutional Authorities, Parliamentary Committees & Strategic Heads *(2026)*

• **15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) — Shri K. Sanjay Murthy:** Appointed by the President under Article 148 of the Constitution, Shri K. Sanjay Murthy succeeded Shri Girish Chandra Murmu as the 15th CAG of India (Press Information Bureau).

• **Financial Committees of Parliament (18th Lok Sabha):** The Public Accounts Committee (PAC — 22 members: 15 Lok Sabha + 7 Rajya Sabha) is chaired by K. C. Venugopal; the Estimates Committee (largest committee with 30 members, drawn exclusively from the Lok Sabha) is chaired by Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal; and the Committee on Public Undertakings (COPU — 22 members: 15 LS + 7 RS) is chaired by Baijayant Panda.

• **Scientific & Armed Forces Leadership:** Dr. V. Narayanan serves as Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space; Dr. Samir V. Kamat serves as Chairman of DRDO; Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty serves as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission; General Anil Chauhan serves as Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), alongside Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, and Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh (ISRO Official Portal).

Synthesis of World Chess, Paris Paralympics, Asian Games *2026* & T*20* World Cup *2026*

• **D. Gukesh Crowned 18th & Youngest World Chess Champion:** At age 18, Grandmaster D. Gukesh defeated China's Ding Liren 7.5–6.5 in the 14-game FIDE World Championship match in Singapore, surpassing Garry Kasparov (who won at age 22 in 1985) and becoming the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand to win the classical world title (Press Information Bureau).

• **Double Gold at 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad (Budapest):** India became only the third nation in Olympiad history (after the Soviet Union and China) to win both the Open section (Hamilton-Russell Cup: Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi, Vidit Gujrathi, Pentala Harikrishna) and the Women's section (Vera Menchik

Cup: Harika Dronavalli, Vaishali Rameshbabu, Divya Deshmukh, Vantika Agrawal, Tania Sachdev) in the same edition, also clinching the Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy.

• **Paris Paralympics (29 Medals) to Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games 2026 (85 Medals):** At the Paris Paralympics, India won 7 Gold (Avani Lekhara in shooting, Nitesh Kumar in para-badminton, Sumit Antil in javelin F64, Harvinder Singh in archery, Dharambir Nain in club throw F51, Praveen Kumar in high jump T64, and Navdeep Singh in javelin F41), 9 Silver, and 13 Bronze (29 total, 18th rank), followed in September–October 2026 by 85 medals (21 Gold, 27 Silver, 37 Bronze — 4th rank) at the 20th Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (**Press Information Bureau**).

Statutory, Institutional & Exam-Oriented Synthesis Points

• **Analytical Point 1 (President (15th) & Prime Minister of India):** Smt. Droupadi Murmu (President) | Shri Narendra Modi (Prime Minister) (Article 52 (President) & Articles 74–75 (PM & Council of Ministers)) — Smt. Droupadi Murmu is India's first tribal President and second woman President. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 2 (Speaker of 18th Lok Sabha & PAC Chair):** Shri Om Birla (Speaker) | Shri K. C. Venugopal (Chair, Public Accounts Committee) (Article 93 (Speaker) | PAC has 22 members (15 Lok Sabha + 7 Rajya Sabha)) — Estimates Committee (30 members, all from Lok Sabha) is chaired by Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 3 (Comptroller and Auditor General (15th CAG)):** Shri K. Sanjay Murthy (Articles 148–151 of the Constitution) — Guardian of the Public Purse; tenure of 6 years or up to age 65 years, whichever is earlier. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 4 (16th Finance Commission & 23rd Law Commission):** Dr. Arvind Panagariya (16th FC) | Justice Dinesh Maheshwari (23rd Law Commission) (Article 280 (Finance Commission for 2026–2031 period)) — 23rd Law Commission constituted for a 3-year term (1 Sept 2024 to 31 Aug 2027). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 5 (Defence & Space Leadership (2026)):** Gen. Anil Chauhan (CDS) | Dr. V. Narayanan (Chairman, ISRO) | Dr. Samir V. Kamat (Chairman, DRDO) (Dept of Military Affairs, Dept of Space & Dept of Defence R&D) — Army Chief: Gen. Upendra Dwivedi; Navy Chief: Adm. Dinesh K. Tripathi; Air Chief: ACM A. P. Singh. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 6 (Youngest World Chess Champion & 45th Olympiad):** D. Gukesh (18th World Champion) | India Wins Open & Women's Gold at Budapest (Singapore (World Championship) & Budapest, Hungary (45th Chess Olympiad)) — D. Gukesh (age 18) broke Garry Kasparov's 1985 record; 2nd Indian World Champion after Viswanathan Anand. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 7 (Paris Paralympics & Paris Olympics):** Paralympics: 29 Medals (7G, 9S, 13B — Rank 18) | Olympics: 6 Medals (1S, 5B) (Avani Lekhara (1st Indian woman with 2 Paralympic Golds); Harvinder Singh (1st Archery Gold)) — Manu Bhaker became 1st athlete of independent India to win 2 medals in a single Olympic Games. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

• **Analytical Point 8 (20th Asian Games 2026 & Men's T20WC 2026):** Asian Games (Aichi-Nagoya): 85 Medals (21G, 27S, 37B) | Men's T20WC 2026: India Champion (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (Sept–Oct 2026) & Ahmedabad,

India (March 2026)) — India finished 4th at Asian Games 2026 and beat New Zealand (scoring 255/5) in the Men's T20WC 2026 Final. Verified Reference: IUC Academy Portal.

Did You Know?
At the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad in Budapest, in addition to winning both team gold medals, four Indian players won individual board gold medals: D. Gukesh (Board 1 Open), Arjun Erigaisi (Board 3 Open), Divya Deshmukh (Board 3 Women), and Vantika Agrawal (Board 4 Women).

Exam Trap Alert
Exam questions frequently test the membership composition of the three Parliamentary Financial Committees: while the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and Committee on Public Undertakings (COPU) have 22 members each (15 Lok Sabha + 7 Rajya Sabha), the 'Estimates Committee' has 30 members drawn EXCLUSIVELY from the Lok Sabha (zero from Rajya Sabha)!

★ Memory Trick
Mnemonic for India's Major Medal Tallies — 'Paris Olympics = 6 Medals (0G-1S-5B); Paris Paralympics = 29 Medals (7G-9S-13B); 45th Chess Olympiad Budapest = 2 Team Golds + 4 Board Golds; 20th Asian Games 2026 Aichi-Nagoya = 85 Medals (21G-27S-37B)'.

Verified Official Portal Citations: Press Information Bureau | Union Budget Portal | NITI Aayog | Ministry of External Affairs | Reserve Bank of India | ISRO Official Portal | IUC Academy Official Portal

Chapter *8* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) — Shri K. Sanjay Murthy**	Appointed by the President under Article 148 of the Constitution, Shri K. Sanjay Murthy succeeded Shri Girish Chandra Murmu as the 15th CAG of India (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Directory of Constitutional Authorities, Defence/Space Chiefs & Historic Sporting Records (2026)	**Financial Committees of Parliament (18th Lok Sabha)**	The Public Accounts Committee (PAC — 22 members: 15 Lok Sabha + 7 Rajya Sabha) is chaired by K. C. Venugopal; the Estimates Committee (largest committee with 30 members, drawn exclusively from the Lok Sabha) is chaired by Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal; and the Committee on Public Undertakings (COPU — 22 members: 15 LS + 7 RS) is chaired by Baijayant Panda.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Scientific & Armed Forces Leadership**	Dr. V. Narayanan serves as Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space; Dr. Samir V. Kamat serves as Chairman of DRDO; Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty serves as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission; General Anil Chauhan serves as Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), alongside Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, and Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh (ISRO Official Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**D. Gukesh Crowned 18th & Youngest World Chess Champion**	At age 18, Grandmaster D. Gukesh defeated China's Ding Liren 7.5–6.5 in the 14-game FIDE World Championship match in Singapore, surpassing Garry Kasparov (who won at age 22 in 1985) and becoming the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand to win the classical world title (Press Information Bureau).
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Directory of Constitutional Authorities, Defence/Space Chiefs & Historic Sporting Records (2026)	**Double Gold at 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad (Budapest)**	India became only the third nation in Olympiad history (after the Soviet Union and China) to win both the Open section (Hamilton-Russell Cup: Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi, Vidit Gujrathi, Pentala Harikrishna) and the Women's section (Vera Menchik Cup: Harika Dronavalli, Vaishali Rameshbabu, Divya Deshmukh, Vantika Agrawal, Tania Sachdev) in the same edition, also clinching the Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Paris Paralympics (29 Medals) to Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games 2026 (85 Medals)**	At the Paris Paralympics, India won 7 Gold (Avani Lekhara in shooting, Nitesh Kumar in para-badminton, Sumit Antil in javelin F64, Harvinder Singh in archery, Dharambir Nain in club throw F51, Praveen Kumar in high jump T64, and Navdeep Singh in javelin F41), 9 Silver, and 13 Bronze (29 total, 18th rank), followed in September–October 2026 by 85 medals (21 Gold, 27 Silver, 37 Bronze — 4th rank) at the 20th Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (Press Information Bureau).
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 1 (President (15th) & Prime Minister of India)**	Smt. Droupadi Murmu (President) | Shri Narendra Modi (Prime Minister) (Article 52 (President) & Articles 74–75 (PM & Council of Ministers)) — Smt. Droupadi Murmu is India's first tribal President and second woman President. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Directory of Constitutional Authorities, Defence/Space Chiefs & Historic Sporting Records (2026)	**Analytical Point 2 (Speaker of 18th Lok Sabha & PAC Chair)**	Shri Om Birla (Speaker) | Shri K. C. Venugopal (Chair, Public Accounts Committee) (Article 93 (Speaker) | PAC has 22 members (15 Lok Sabha + 7 Rajya Sabha)) — Estimates Committee (30 members, all from Lok Sabha) is chaired by Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 3 (Comptroller and Auditor General (15th CAG))**	Shri K. Sanjay Murthy (Articles 148–151 of the Constitution) — Guardian of the Public Purse; tenure of 6 years or up to age 65 years, whichever is earlier. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 4 (16th Finance Commission & 23rd Law Commission)**	Dr. Arvind Panagariya (16th FC) | Justice Dinesh Maheshwari (23rd Law Commission) (Article 280 (Finance Commission for 2026–2031 period)) — 23rd Law Commission constituted for a 3-year term (1 Sept 2024 to 31 Aug 2027). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Directory of Constitutional Authorities, Defence/Space Chiefs & Historic Sporting Records (2026)	**Analytical Point 5 (Defence & Space Leadership (2026))**	Gen. Anil Chauhan (CDS) | Dr. V. Narayanan (Chairman, ISRO) | Dr. Samir V. Kamat (Chairman, DRDO) (Dept of Military Affairs, Dept of Space & Dept of Defence R&D) — Army Chief: Gen. Upendra Dwivedi; Navy Chief: Adm. Dinesh K. Tripathi; Air Chief: ACM A. P. Singh. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
In-Depth Analytical & Statutory Breakdown	**Analytical Point 6 (Youngest World Chess Champion & 45th Olympiad)**	D. Gukesh (18th World Champion) | India Wins Open & Women's Gold at Budapest (Singapore (World Championship) & Budapest, Hungary (45th Chess Olympiad)) — D. Gukesh (age 18) broke Garry Kasparov's 1985 record; 2nd Indian World Champion after Viswanathan Anand. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Node Conceptual Flowchart	**Analytical Point 7 (Paris Paralympics & Paris Olympics)**	Paralympics: 29 Medals (7G, 9S, 13B — Rank 18) | Olympics: 6 Medals (1S, 5B) (Avani Lekhara (1st Indian woman with 2 Paralympic Golds); Harvinder Singh (1st Archery Gold)) — Manu Bhaker became 1st athlete of independent India to win 2 medals in a single Olympic Games. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.
Detailed Comparative & Factual Reference Table: Master Directory of Constitutional Authorities, Defence/Space Chiefs & Historic Sporting Records (2026)	**Analytical Point 8 (20th Asian Games 2026 & Men's T20WC 2026)**	Asian Games (Aichi-Nagoya): 85 Medals (21G, 27S, 37B) | Men's T20WC 2026: India Champion (Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (Sept–Oct 2026) & Ahmedabad, India (March 2026)) — India finished 4th at Asian Games 2026 and beat New Zealand (scoring 255/5) in the Men's T20WC 2026 Final. Verified Reference: **IUC Academy Portal**.

Chapter *8* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #1 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) — Shri K. Sanjay Murthy): Appointed by the President under Article 148 of the Constitution, Shri K. Sanjay Murthy succeeded Shri Girish Chandra Murmu as the 15th CAG of India (Press Information Bureau).

Statement-II (Financial Committees of Parliament (18th Lok Sabha)): The Public Accounts Committee (PAC — 22 members: 15 Lok Sabha + 7 Rajya Sabha) is chaired by K. C. Venugopal; the Estimates Committee (largest committee with 30 members, drawn exclusively from the Lok Sabha) is chaired by Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal; and the Committee on Public Undertakings (COPU — 22 members: 15 LS + 7 RS) is chaired by Baijayant Panda.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #2 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Scientific & Armed Forces Leadership): Dr. V. Narayanan serves as Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space; Dr. Samir V. Kamat serves as Chairman of DRDO; Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty serves as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission; General Anil Chauhan serves as Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), alongside Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, and Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh (ISRO Official Portal).

Statement-II (D. Gukesh Crowned 18th & Youngest World Chess Champion): At age 18, Grandmaster D. Gukesh defeated China's Ding Liren 7.5–6.5 in the 14-game FIDE World Championship match in Singapore, surpassing Garry Kasparov (who won at age 22 in 1985) and becoming the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand to win the classical world title (Press Information Bureau).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #3 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Double Gold at 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad (Budapest)): India became only the third nation in Olympiad history (after the Soviet Union and China) to win both the Open section (Hamilton-Russell Cup: Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi, Vidit Gujrathi, Pentala Harikrishna) and the Women's section (Vera Menchik Cup: Harika Dronavalli, Vaishali Rameshbabu, Divya Deshmukh, Vantika Agrawal, Tania Sachdev) in the same edition, also clinching the Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy.

Statement-II (Paris Paralympics (29 Medals) to Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games 2026 (85 Medals)): At the Paris Paralympics, India won 7 Gold (Avani Lekhara in shooting, Nitesh Kumar in para-badminton, Sumit Antil in javelin F64, Harvinder Singh in archery, Dharambir Nain in club throw F51, Praveen Kumar in high jump T64, and Navdeep Singh in javelin F41), 9 Silver, and 13 Bronze (29 total, 18th rank), followed in September–October 2026 by 85 medals (21 Gold, 27 Silver, 37 Bronze — 4th rank) at the 20th Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (Press Information Bureau).

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 1 (President (15th) & Prime Minister of India)): Smt. Droupadi Murmu (President) | Shri Narendra Modi (Prime Minister) (Article 52 (President) & Articles 74–75 (PM & Council of Ministers)) — Smt. Droupadi Murmu is India's first tribal President and second woman President. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 2 (Speaker of 18th Lok Sabha & PAC Chair)): Shri Om Birla (Speaker) | Shri K. C. Venugopal (Chair, Public Accounts Committee) (Article 93 (Speaker) | PAC has 22 members (15 Lok Sabha + 7 Rajya Sabha)) — Estimates Committee (30 members, all from Lok Sabha) is chaired by Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #5 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 3 (Comptroller and Auditor General (15th CAG))): Shri K. Sanjay Murthy (Articles 148–151 of the Constitution) — Guardian of the Public Purse; tenure of 6 years or up to age 65 years, whichever is earlier. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 4 (16th Finance Commission & 23rd Law Commission)): Dr. Arvind Panagariya (16th FC) | Justice Dinesh Maheshwari (23rd Law Commission) (Article 280 (Finance Commission for 2026–2031 period)) — 23rd Law Commission constituted for a 3-year term (1 Sept 2024 to 31 Aug 2027). Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Chapter 8 Statement-Verification Drill #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Analytical Point 5 (Defence & Space Leadership (2026))): Gen. Anil Chauhan (CDS) | Dr. V. Narayanan (Chairman, ISRO) | Dr. Samir V. Kamat (Chairman, DRDO) (Dept of Military Affairs, Dept of Space & Dept of Defence R&D) — Army Chief: Gen. Upendra Dwivedi; Navy Chief: Adm. Dinesh K. Tripathi; Air Chief: ACM A. P. Singh. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

Statement-II (Analytical Point 6 (Youngest World Chess Champion & 45th Olympiad)): D. Gukesh (18th World Champion) | India Wins Open & Women's Gold at Budapest (Singapore (World Championship) & Budapest, Hungary (45th Chess Olympiad)) — D. Gukesh (age 18) broke Garry Kasparov's 1985 record; 2nd Indian World Champion after Viswanathan Anand. Verified Reference: **Press Information Bureau**.

✓ **Exam Verification Key: Both Statement-I and Statement-II are factually accurate as per पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy.**

Annual Current Affairs *2026* — *45* Solved *4*-Option MCQs with Detailed Explanations

Practice Question #1 — Solved Exam MCQ

Question 1. What is the total estimated expenditure in Budget Estimates (BE) 2026–27 presented in the Union Budget on 1 February 2026?
(A) ₹49,60,000 crore
(B) ₹51,20,500 crore
(C) ₹53,47,315 crore (approx. ₹53.5 lakh crore)
(D) ₹56,10,000 crore
Correct Answer: Option (C)
Detailed Explanation: In Union Budget 2026–27, the government's total expenditure is estimated at ₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore), which is 7.7% higher than RE 2025–26. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #2 — Solved Exam MCQ

Question 2. What is the targeted Fiscal Deficit as a percentage of GDP in Budget Estimates (BE) 2026–27?
(A) 4.9% of GDP
(B) 4.5% of GDP
(C) 4.4% of GDP
(D) 4.3% of GDP
Correct Answer: Option (D)
Detailed Explanation: Union Budget 2026–27 targets a fiscal deficit of 4.3% of GDP in BE 2026–27, lower than the Revised Estimate of 4.4% of GDP in 2025–26. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #3 — Solved Exam MCQ

Question 3. According to Union Budget 2026–27, what are the estimated Central Government Debt-to-GDP ratio and Revenue Deficit for BE 2026–27?
(A) 58.2% and 2.0%
(B) 55.6% and 1.5%
(C) 52.0% and 1.2%
(D) 56.1% and 1.8%
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: In BE 2026–27, the Debt-to-GDP ratio is estimated at 55.6% (down from 56.1% in RE 2025–26) and the Revenue Deficit is targeted at 1.5% of GDP. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #4 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 4. What are the estimated Non-Debt Receipts and the Centre's Net Tax Receipts in Union Budget 2026–27 (BE 2026–27)?
(A) ₹36,51,547 crore and ₹28.7 lakh crore
(B) ₹34,00,000 crore and ₹26.7 lakh crore
(C) ₹40,10,000 crore and ₹31.5 lakh crore
(D) ₹32,50,000 crore and ₹25.0 lakh crore
Correct Answer: Option (A)
Detailed Explanation: In BE 2026–27, non-debt receipts are estimated at ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore, up 7.2%) and the Centre's net tax receipts at ₹28.7 lakh crore. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #5 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 5. What is the level of Public Capital Expenditure (Capex) and the assumed Nominal GDP growth rate in Union Budget 2026–27?
(A) ₹10.0 lakh crore and 8.5%
(B) ₹11.11 lakh crore and 9.5%
(C) Over ₹12.2 lakh crore and 10.0%
(D) ₹14.5 lakh crore and 11.5%
Correct Answer: Option (C)
Detailed Explanation: Public capex in BE 2026–27 rises to over ₹12.2 lakh crore (up from ~₹11 lakh crore in RE 2025–26), with nominal GDP growth estimated at 10.0%. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #6 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 6. What are the estimated Gross Market Borrowings and Net Market Borrowings from dated securities in Union Budget 2026–27?
(A) ₹15.0 lakh crore and ₹10.2 lakh crore
(B) ₹17.2 lakh crore and ₹11.7 lakh crore
(C) ₹14.0 lakh crore and ₹11.8 lakh crore
(D) ₹18.5 lakh crore and ₹13.0 lakh crore
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: To finance the fiscal deficit in 2026–27, gross market borrowings are estimated at ₹17.2 lakh crore and net market borrowings at ₹11.7 lakh crore. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #7 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 7. Which first-ever global wildlife conservation summit did Union Budget 2026–27 announce that India will host?
(A) First Global Asian Elephant Summit
(B) First Global Big Cat Summit
(C) Global Mangrove Alliance Summit
(D) Global One-Horned Rhino Summit
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Key features of Union Budget 2026–27 announced that India will host the first-ever 'Global Big Cat Summit' under the International Big Cat Alliance. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #8 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 8. What is India's targeted nuclear power capacity by 2047 under the 'Nuclear Energy Mission for Viksit Bharat' (backed by ₹20,000 crore for Small Modular Reactors)?
(A) 50 GW
(B) 75 GW
(C) 100 GW
(D) 150 GW
Correct Answer: Option (C)
Detailed Explanation: The Nuclear Energy Mission targets at least 100 GW of nuclear energy capacity by 2047 and sets up ₹20,000 crore R&D for Bharat Small Reactors (BSRs). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #9 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 9. How many sections and chapters are contained in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which replaced the Indian Penal Code (IPC, 1860)?
(A) 511 Sections and 23 Chapters
(B) 358 Sections and 20 Chapters
(C) 531 Sections and 39 Chapters
(D) 170 Sections and 12 Chapters
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) streamlines the penal code from 511 sections (in IPC) to 358 sections across 20 chapters. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #10 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 10. Under which section of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) is forensic crime-scene investigation mandatory for all offences punishable with 7 years or more of imprisonment?
(A) Section 144
(B) Section 176(3)
(C) Section 302
(D) Section 479
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Section 176(3) of the BNSS mandates that a forensic expert must visit the crime scene to collect forensic evidence for offences punishable with ≥7 years imprisonment. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #11 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 11. Which sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) specifically define 'Organized Crime', 'Terrorist Act', and 'Acts endangering sovereignty, unity and integrity of India'?
(A) Sections 101, 105, and 120
(B) Sections 111, 113, and 152
(C) Sections 124, 144, and 170
(D) Sections 302, 304, and 376
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: In the BNS, Section 111 defines Organized Crime, Section 113 defines Terrorist Act, and Section 152 penalizes acts endangering India's sovereignty, unity, and integrity. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #12 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 12. Which new constitutional articles were inserted by the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act (Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam) to provide 33% reservation for women?
(A) Articles 330A, 332A, and 334A (plus 239AA amendment)
(B) Articles 331A, 333A, and 335A
(C) Articles 243D, 243T, and 326A
(D) Articles 338A, 340A, and 342A
Correct Answer: Option (A)
Detailed Explanation: The 106th Amendment inserts Article 330A (Lok Sabha), Article 332A (State Assemblies), and Article 334A (implementation after Census/delimitation & 15-year period), alongside amending Article 239AA (Delhi Assembly). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #13 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 13. In its landmark 8:1 ruling upholding the power of States to tax mineral rights and mineral-bearing lands, the 9-Judge Supreme Court Bench interpreted which entries of the State List?
(A) Union List Entry 54 only
(B) Entries 49 and 50 of List II (State List) in the Seventh Schedule
(C) Concurrent List Entry 20
(D) Article 368
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: The 9-Judge Bench held that royalty is not a tax and that States derive sovereign power to tax mineral rights and mineral-bearing land under Entries 49 and 50 of the State List. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #14 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 14. Who is the Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission constituted under Article 280 of the Constitution for the award period 2026–2031?
(A) Shri N. K. Singh
(B) Dr. Arvind Panagariya
(C) Dr. Y. V. Reddy
(D) Dr. Vijay Kelkar
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Former NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Dr. Arvind Panagariya chairs the 16th Finance Commission covering the five-year period beginning 1 April 2026 (2026–31). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #15 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 15. Which launch vehicle deployed ISRO's Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX — SDX01 Chaser and SDX02 Target satellites), making India the 4th nation to achieve orbital docking?
(A) LVM3-M4
(B) PSLV-C60
(C) GSLV-F15
(D) SSLV-D3
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: PSLV-C60 launched the twin SpaDeX satellites, which successfully docked using the indigenous Bharatiya Docking System (BDS). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #16 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 16. Which navigation satellite was deployed by GSLV-F15 to mark ISRO's historic 100th launch from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota?
(A) NVS-01
(B) NVS-02
(C) GSAT-20
(D) INSAT-3DS
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: GSLV-F15 placed the second-generation NavIC satellite 'NVS-02' into orbit, commemorating the 100th launch from Sriharikota. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #17 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 17. Which dual radar frequency bands are combined aboard the joint NASA–ISRO Earth observation satellite 'NISAR'?
(A) C-band and X-band
(B) L-band (24 cm, NASA) and S-band (12 cm, ISRO)
(C) Ku-band and Ka-band
(D) VHF and UHF bands
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: NISAR is the first satellite in history to carry dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar on a single platform: NASA's L-band (24 cm) and ISRO's S-band (12 cm). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #18 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 18. Under the ₹6,003.65 crore National Quantum Mission (NQM), which premier institution hosts the Thematic Hub (T-Hub) for 'Quantum Computing'?
(A) IIT Madras
(B) Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru
(C) IIT Bombay
(D) IIT Delhi
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Under NQM, IISc Bengaluru hosts Quantum Computing, IIT Madras hosts Quantum Communication, IIT Bombay hosts Quantum Sensing, and IIT Delhi hosts Quantum Materials. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #19 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 19. According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) by FSI Dehradun, what percentage of India's total geographical area is under combined Forest and Tree Cover?
(A) 24.62%
(B) 25.17% (21.76% Forest Cover + 3.41% Tree Cover)
(C) 23.50%
(D) 26.10%
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: India's total Forest and Tree Cover stands at 8,27,357 sq km, accounting for 25.17% of the geographical area (21.76% Forest Cover and 3.41% Tree Cover). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #20 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 20. Per the India State of Forest Report, which states rank first in total forest cover by 'Area' and by 'Percentage of geographical area' respectively?
(A) Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya
(B) Madhya Pradesh (Area) and Mizoram (85.34% Percentage)
(C) Chhattisgarh and Nagaland
(D) Odisha and Kerala
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover by area, while Mizoram leads in forest cover as a percentage of total geographical area (85.34%). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #21 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 21. Following the notification of Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla (56th, Chhattisgarh), which sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh was notified as India's 57th Tiger Reserve?
(A) Nauradehi Sanctuary
(B) Ratapani Tiger Reserve (Raisen district, MP)
(C) Rani Durgavati Sanctuary
(D) Madhav Tiger Reserve
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Ratapani in Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh was notified as India's 57th (and Madhya Pradesh's 8th) Tiger Reserve. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #22 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 22. Which Indian state holds the highest number of Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance among India's 85+ Ramsar sites?
(A) Uttar Pradesh
(B) Tamil Nadu
(C) Gujarat
(D) Odisha
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Tamil Nadu ranks first in India with the highest number of Ramsar sites, followed by Uttar Pradesh in second place. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #23 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 23. Which royal mound-burial system of the Ahom Dynasty in Assam was inscribed as India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site (and Northeast India's first cultural site)?
(A) Kamakhya Temple Complex
(B) Charaideo Moidams
(C) Majuli River Island
(D) Rang Ghar Pavilion
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: The 'Moidams — the Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty' at Charaideo, Assam was inscribed as India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #24 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 24. Which two of the 7 big cats conserved under the India-headquartered International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) are NOT found naturally in the wild in India?
(A) Snow Leopard and Cheetah
(B) Jaguar and Puma
(C) Tiger and Lion
(D) Leopard and Snow Leopard
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Of the 7 IBCA big cats (Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, Puma), the Jaguar and Puma are native to the Americas and do not occur in India. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #25 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 25. What is India's annual green hydrogen production target by 2030 under the ₹19,744 crore National Green Hydrogen Mission?
(A) 2 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT)
(B) 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT)
(C) 10 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT)
(D) 15 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT)
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: The National Green Hydrogen Mission targets 5 MMT per annum of green hydrogen capacity and 125 GW of associated renewable energy by 2030. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #26 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 26. How many households are targeted under 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana' (₹75,021 crore outlay) to receive rooftop solar installations and up to 300 units of free electricity monthly?
(A) 50 lakh households
(B) 1 crore households
(C) 2 crore households
(D) 5 crore households
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: PM Surya Ghar targets 1 crore households with central subsidies up to ₹78,000 (for 3 kW systems) and up to 300 units of free electricity per month. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #27 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 27. In NITI Aayog's latest SDG India Index, what is India's composite national score and which two states jointly ranked 1st?
(A) Score 66; Kerala and Tamil Nadu
(B) Score 71; Uttarakhand and Kerala (79 points each)
(C) Score 75; Himachal Pradesh and Goa
(D) Score 71; Gujarat and Maharashtra
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: India's composite SDG India Index score reached 71, with Uttarakhand and Kerala jointly topping the state rankings at 79 points each. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #28 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 28. What is India's rank among 133 economies in the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) Global Innovation Index?
(A) 46th Rank
(B) 40th Rank
(C) 39th Rank
(D) 35th Rank
Correct Answer: Option (C)
Detailed Explanation: India climbed to 39th rank out of 133 economies in WIPO's Global Innovation Index and ranked 1st in Central & Southern Asia. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #29 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 29. In which tier was India placed in the UN International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) Global Cybersecurity Index after scoring 98.49 out of 100?
(A) Tier-3 (Establishing)
(B) Tier-2 (Advancing)
(C) Tier-1 (Role-modelling)
(D) Tier-4 (Evolving)
Correct Answer: Option (C)
Detailed Explanation: With a score of 98.49/100, India achieved top 'Tier-1 (Role-modelling)' status in the ITU Global Cybersecurity Index. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #30 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 30. Following the conferment of the Bharat Ratna on Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao, and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, what is the all-time total of Bharat Ratna recipients?
(A) 48 recipients
(B) 50 recipients
(C) 53 recipients
(D) 55 recipients
Correct Answer: Option (C)
Detailed Explanation: Since its institution on 2 January 1954, the Bharat Ratna has now been conferred upon 53 individuals in total. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #31 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 31. Which two veteran actors were honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award at the 70th and 72nd National Film Award announcements?
(A) Amitabh Bachchan & Rajinikanth
(B) Mithun Chakraborty & Anant Nag
(C) Kamal Haasan & Mohanlal
(D) Naseeruddin Shah & Anupam Kher
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Mithun Chakraborty and veteran Kannada/Indian actor Anant Nag were honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #32 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 32. Who were jointly awarded the 58th Jnanpith Award for their outstanding contributions to Sanskrit and Urdu literature respectively?
(A) Damodar Mauzo & Nilmani Phookan
(B) Jagadguru Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit) & Gulzar (Urdu)
(C) Amitav Ghosh & Pratibha Ray
(D) Satya Vrat Shastri & Shahryar
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: The 58th Jnanpith Award was conferred upon Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya and Urdu poet-lyricist Gulzar. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #33 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 33. Which novel by British author Samantha Harvey, set aboard the International Space Station over 24 hours, won the Booker Prize?
(A) Kairos
(B) Orbital
(C) Prophet Song
(D) The Promise
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Samantha Harvey won the Booker Prize for her space-pastoral novel 'Orbital'. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #34 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 34. What is the name of the largest multilateral international air exercise ever hosted by the Indian Air Force (conducted in two phases at Sulur and Jodhpur)?
(A) Garuda Shakti
(B) Tarang Shakti
(C) Gagan Shakti
(D) Vayu Prahar
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: The Indian Air Force hosted its first large-scale multilateral air exercise 'Tarang Shakti' at Sulur (Tamil Nadu) and Jodhpur (Rajasthan). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #35 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 35. Which four non-EU European nations constitute the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) that signed the USD 100 billion TEPA trade pact with India?
(A) UK, France, Germany & Italy
(B) Switzerland, Norway, Iceland & Liechtenstein
(C) Sweden, Finland, Denmark & Austria
(D) Spain, Portugal, Poland & Netherlands
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: The four EFTA states are Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein, which committed USD 100 billion FDI and 1 million jobs over 15 years under TEPA. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #36 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 36. India Ports Global Limited (IPGL) signed a 10-year long-term operational contract for the Shahid Beheshti Terminal at Chabahar Port located in which country?
(A) Oman
(B) Iran (Sistan-Baluchestan province on the Gulf of Oman)
(C) United Arab Emirates
(D) Saudi Arabia
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: India and Iran signed a 10-year operational contract for the Shahid Beheshti terminal at Chabahar Port on the Gulf of Oman. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #37 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 37. Who serves as the 15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India appointed under Article 148 of the Constitution?
(A) Shri Girish Chandra Murmu
(B) Shri K. Sanjay Murthy
(C) Shri Rajiv Mehrishi
(D) Shri Shashi Kant Sharma
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Shri K. Sanjay Murthy assumed office as the 15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #38 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 38. Who are the Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha and the Chairperson of the 22-member Public Accounts Committee (PAC) respectively?
(A) Shri Om Birla and Shri K. C. Venugopal
(B) Shri Rajnath Singh and Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury
(C) Shri Om Birla and Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal
(D) Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab and Shri Baijayant Panda
Correct Answer: Option (A)
Detailed Explanation: Shri Om Birla is the Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha, and Shri K. C. Venugopal chairs the Public Accounts Committee (while Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal chairs the 30-member Estimates Committee). (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #39 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 39. Who is the current Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Secretary, Department of Space?
(A) Dr. S. Somanath
(B) Dr. V. Narayanan
(C) Dr. K. Sivan
(D) Dr. Samir V. Kamat
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Renowned cryogenic rocket propulsion scientist Dr. V. Narayanan serves as Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #40 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 40. Who defeated China's Ding Liren (7.5–6.5) in Singapore to become the 18th World Chess Champion and the youngest undisputed World Chess Champion in history at age 18?
(A) R. Praggnanandhaa
(B) Arjun Erigaisi
(C) D. Gukesh (Dommaraju Gukesh)
(D) Vidit Gujrathi
Correct Answer: Option (C)
Detailed Explanation: 18-year-old Grandmaster D. Gukesh from Chennai became the youngest World Chess Champion in history, breaking Garry Kasparov's 1985 record. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #41 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 41. Where was the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad held, where India scripted history by winning team Gold medals in both the Open and Women's sections?
(A) Chennai, India
(B) Budapest, Hungary
(C) Baku, Azerbaijan
(D) Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: At the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary, India swept team Gold in both the Open and Women's sections along with the Gaprindashvili Trophy. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #42 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 42. What was India's record-breaking final medal tally at the Paris Paralympic Games?
(A) 19 medals (5 Gold, 8 Silver, 6 Bronze)
(B) 29 medals (7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze)
(C) 25 medals (6 Gold, 9 Silver, 10 Bronze)
(D) 32 medals (8 Gold, 10 Silver, 14 Bronze)
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: India achieved its best-ever Paralympic performance in Paris with 29 medals (7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze), finishing 18th overall. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #43 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 43. Who became the first Indian woman to win two Paralympic Gold medals by defending her 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 title at the Paris Paralympics?
(A) Manisha Ramadass
(B) Avani Lekhara
(C) Preethi Pal
(D) Sheetal Devi
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: Rifle shooter Avani Lekhara won Gold at both the Tokyo and Paris Paralympics, becoming the first Indian woman with two Paralympic gold medals. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #44 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 44. Union Budget 2026–27 announced the establishment of a dedicated commodity board in Bihar for processing, value addition, and farmer training of which crop?
(A) Shahi Litchi Board
(B) Makhana Board
(C) Katarni Rice Board
(D) Magahi Paan Board
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: A dedicated 'Makhana Board' in Bihar was established to support foxnut (makhana) farmers, FPOs, processing, and global exports. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Practice Question #45 Solved Exam MCQ

Question 45. What is the correct trio of bilateral Army, Navy, and Air Force joint military exercises conducted between India and France?
(A) Yudh Abhyas, Malabar, Cope India
(B) Shakti (Army), Varuna (Navy), and Garuda (Air Force)
(C) Dharma Guardian, JIMEX, Veer Guardian
(D) Indra, Konkan, Ajeya Warrior
Correct Answer: Option (B)
Detailed Explanation: India and France conduct 'Shakti' (Army), 'Varuna' (Navy), and 'Garuda' (Air Force) bilateral military exercises. (**Press Information Bureau** and **IUC Academy Official Portal**).

Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions *46* to *85*)

Practice Question #46 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q46. With reference to Statute / Constitutional Provision and Replaced Law / Articles Amended, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)"?

(A) Indian Penal Code (IPC, 1860 — 511 Sections)
(B) Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC, 1973 — 484 Sections)
(C) Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (167 Sections)
(D) Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)** (Statute / Constitutional Provision), the verified Replaced Law / Articles Amended is **Indian Penal Code (IPC, 1860 — 511 Sections)**. Furthermore, 358 Sections & 20 Chapters. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #47 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q47. With reference to Statute / Constitutional Provision and Replaced Law / Articles Amended, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)"?

(A) Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (167 Sections)
(B) Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC, 1973 — 484 Sections)
(C) Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill)
(D) Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)** (Statute / Constitutional Provision), the verified Replaced Law / Articles Amended is **Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC, 1973 — 484 Sections)**. Furthermore, 531 Sections & 39 Chapters. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #48 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q48. With reference to Statute / Constitutional Provision and Replaced Law / Articles Amended, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)"?

(A) Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill)

(B) Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C)

(C) Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (167 Sections)

(D) Ministry of Home Affairs & NCRB / NIC

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)** (Statute / Constitutional Provision), the verified Replaced Law / Articles Amended is **Indian Evidence Act, 1872 (167 Sections)**. Furthermore, 170 Sections & 12 Chapters. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #49 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q49. With reference to Statute / Constitutional Provision and Replaced Law / Articles Amended, which of the following is accurately matched with "106th Constitutional Amendment Act"?

(A) Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C)

(B) Ministry of Home Affairs & NCRB / NIC

(C) 9-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court

(D) Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **106th Constitutional Amendment Act** (Statute / Constitutional Provision), the verified Replaced Law / Articles Amended is **Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (128th Amendment Bill)**. Furthermore, Inserts Articles 239AA(2)(ba), 330A, 332A & 334A. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #50 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q50. With reference to Statute / Constitutional Provision and Replaced Law / Articles Amended, which of the following is accurately matched with "105th Constitutional Amendment Act"?

(A) Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C)

(B) Ministry of Home Affairs & NCRB / NIC

(C) 9-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court

(D) 7-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **105th Constitutional Amendment Act** (Statute / Constitutional Provision), the verified Replaced Law / Articles Amended is **Amends Articles 338B, 342A & 366(26C)**. Furthermore, Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #51 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q51. With reference to Statute / Constitutional Provision and Replaced Law / Articles Amended, which of the following is accurately matched with "e-Sakshya & Nyaya Shruti Platforms (2026)"?

(A) 9-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court

(B) Ministry of Home Affairs & NCRB / NIC

(C) 7-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court

(D) ₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **e-Sakshya & Nyaya Shruti Platforms (2026)** (Statute / Constitutional Provision), the verified Replaced Law / Articles Amended is **Ministry of Home Affairs & NCRB / NIC**. Furthermore, All-India ICJS 2.0 Digital Policing. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #52 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q52. With reference to Statute / Constitutional Provision and Replaced Law / Articles Amended, which of the following is accurately matched with "Mineral Rights Taxation Verdict"?

(A) 7-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court
(B) ₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore)
(C) 9-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court
(D) ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Mineral Rights Taxation Verdict** (Statute / Constitutional Provision), the verified Replaced Law / Articles Amended is **9-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court**. Furthermore, Article 246 & Seventh Schedule (State List Entries 49 & 50). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #53 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q53. With reference to Statute / Constitutional Provision and Replaced Law / Articles Amended, which of the following is accurately matched with "SC/ST Sub-Classification Verdict"?

(A) ₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore)
(B) ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore)
(C) ₹28.7 lakh crore
(D) 7-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **SC/ST Sub-Classification Verdict** (Statute / Constitutional Provision), the verified Replaced Law / Articles Amended is **7-Judge Constitution Bench of Supreme Court**. Furthermore, Articles 14, 15(4), 16(4) & 341. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #54 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q54. With reference to Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric and Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE), which of the following is accurately matched with "Total Expenditure"?

(A) ₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore)
(B) ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore)
(C) ₹28.7 lakh crore
(D) Over ₹12.2 lakh crore

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Total Expenditure** (Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric), the verified Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE) is **₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore)**. Furthermore, ₹49.6 lakh crore. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #55 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q55. With reference to Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric and Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE), which of the following is accurately matched with "Non-Debt Receipts"?

(A) ₹28.7 lakh crore
(B) ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore)
(C) Over ₹12.2 lakh crore
(D) 4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Non-Debt Receipts** (Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric), the verified Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE) is **₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore)**. Furthermore, ₹34.0 lakh crore. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #56 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q56. With reference to Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric and Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE), which of the following is accurately matched with "Centre's Net Tax Receipts"?

(A) Over ₹12.2 lakh crore
(B) 4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(C) ₹28.7 lakh crore
(D) 1.5% of GDP (BE 2026–27)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Centre's Net Tax Receipts** (Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric), the verified Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE) is **₹28.7 lakh crore**. Furthermore, ₹26.7 lakh crore. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #57 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q57. With reference to Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric and Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE), which of the following is accurately matched with "Public Capital Expenditure (Capex)"?

(A) 4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(B) 1.5% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(C) 55.6% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(D) Over ₹12.2 lakh crore

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Public Capital Expenditure (Capex)** (Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric), the verified Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE) is **Over ₹12.2 lakh crore**. Furthermore, Approx. ₹11.0 lakh crore. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #58 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q58. With reference to Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric and Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE), which of the following is accurately matched with "Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP)"?

(A) 4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(B) 1.5% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(C) 55.6% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(D) Gross: ₹17.2L Cr

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP)** (Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric), the verified Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE) is **4.3% of GDP (BE 2026–27)**. Furthermore, 4.4% of GDP (RE 2025–26). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #59 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q59. With reference to Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric and Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE), which of the following is accurately matched with "Revenue Deficit (% of GDP)"?

(A) 55.6% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(B) 1.5% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(C) Gross: ₹17.2L Cr
(D) ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Revenue Deficit (% of GDP)** (Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric), the verified Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE) is **1.5% of GDP (BE 2026–27)**. Furthermore, 1.5% of GDP (RE 2025–26). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #60 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q60. With reference to Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric and Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE), which of the following is accurately matched with "Central Govt Debt-to-GDP Ratio"?

(A) Gross: ₹17.2L Cr
(B) ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre)
(C) 55.6% of GDP (BE 2026–27)
(D) ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Central Govt Debt-to-GDP Ratio** (Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric), the verified Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE) is **55.6% of GDP (BE 2026–27)**. Furthermore, 56.1% of GDP (RE 2025–26). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #61 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q61. With reference to Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric and Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE), which of the following is accurately matched with "Market Borrowings & Nominal GDP"?

(A) ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre)
(B) ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target)
(C) ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage)
(D) Gross: ₹17.2L Cr

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Market Borrowings & Nominal GDP** (Budgetary Head / Fiscal Metric), the verified Budget Estimates 2026–27 (BE) is **Gross: ₹17.2L Cr**. Furthermore, Net: ₹11.7L Cr (Nominal GDP growth: 10%). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #62 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q62. With reference to Mission / Scientific Initiative and Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle, which of the following is accurately matched with "NGLV ('Soorya') LME-1100 Engine"?

(A) ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre)
(B) ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target)
(C) ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage)
(D) NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **NGLV ('Soorya') LME-1100 Engine** (Mission / Scientific Initiative), the verified Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle is **ISRO (Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre)**. Furthermore, First full ignition test on 9 October 2026; 110-tonne thrust LOX-Methane Gas Generator Cycle. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #63 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q63. With reference to Mission / Scientific Initiative and Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle, which of the following is accurately matched with "SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment)"?

(A) ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage)
(B) ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target)
(C) NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II)
(D) ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **SpaDeX (Space Docking Experiment)** (Mission / Scientific Initiative), the verified Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle is **ISRO (PSLV-C60 — SDX01 Chaser & SDX02 Target)**. Furthermore, Two 220-kg satellites docked using indigenous Bharatiya Docking System (BDS) & power transfer. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #64 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q64. With reference to Mission / Scientific Initiative and Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle, which of the following is accurately matched with "100th Launch from Sriharikota (NVS-02)"?

(A) NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II)
(B) ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point)
(C) ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage)
(D) Department of Science & Technology (DST)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **100th Launch from Sriharikota (NVS-02)** (Mission / Scientific Initiative), the verified Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle is **ISRO (GSLV-F15 with indigenous cryogenic stage)**. Furthermore, Deployed NVS-02 (2nd generation NavIC satellite) with L1, L5, S-band payloads & Rubidium atomic clock. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #65 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q65. With reference to Mission / Scientific Initiative and Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle, which of the following is accurately matched with "NISAR Earth Observation Satellite"?

(A) ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point)
(B) Department of Science & Technology (DST)
(C) DST (Governing Board chaired by Prime Minister)
(D) NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **NISAR Earth Observation Satellite** (Mission / Scientific Initiative), the verified Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle is **NASA & ISRO Joint Mission (GSLV Mk-II)**. Furthermore, World's first dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (NASA L-band 24 cm + ISRO S-band 12 cm). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #66 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q66. With reference to Mission / Scientific Initiative and Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle, which of the following is accurately matched with "Aditya-L1 Solar Observatory"?

(A) ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point)
(B) Department of Science & Technology (DST)
(C) DST (Governing Board chaired by Prime Minister)
(D) Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Aditya-L1 Solar Observatory** (Mission / Scientific Initiative), the verified Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle is **ISRO (Halo Orbit across Sun–Earth L1 Point)**. Furthermore, 7 payloads (including VELC & SUIT) observing 2026 Solar Maximum flares & Coronal Mass Ejections. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #67 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q67. With reference to Mission / Scientific Initiative and Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle, which of the following is accurately matched with "National Quantum Mission (NQM)"?

(A) DST (Governing Board chaired by Prime Minister)
(B) Department of Science & Technology (DST)
(C) Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)
(D) 8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **National Quantum Mission (NQM)** (Mission / Scientific Initiative), the verified Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle is **Department of Science & Technology (DST)**. Furthermore, ₹6,003.65 crore outlay; targets 50–1,000 physical qubit intermediate-scale quantum computers. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #68 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q68. With reference to Mission / Scientific Initiative and Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle, which of the following is accurately matched with "Anusandhan National Research Foundation"?

(A) Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)
(B) 8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area)
(C) DST (Governing Board chaired by Prime Minister)
(D) 57+ Notified Tiger Reserves

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Anusandhan National Research Foundation** (Mission / Scientific Initiative), the verified Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle is **DST (Governing Board chaired by Prime Minister)**. Furthermore, ₹50,000 crore corpus over 5 years (₹14,000 Cr Govt + ₹36,000 Cr industry/philanthropy). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #69 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q69. With reference to Mission / Scientific Initiative and Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle, which of the following is accurately matched with "India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)"?

(A) 8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area)
(B) 57+ Notified Tiger Reserves
(C) 85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia)
(D) Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)** (Mission / Scientific Initiative), the verified Nodal Agency / Launch Vehicle is **Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)**. Furthermore, ₹76,000 crore incentive outlay. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #70 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q70. With reference to Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission and Verified Figure / Status (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Total Forest & Tree Cover (ISFR)"?

(A) 8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area)
(B) 57+ Notified Tiger Reserves
(C) 85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia)
(D) 43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Total Forest & Tree Cover (ISFR)** (Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission), the verified Verified Figure / Status (2026) is **8,27,357 sq km (25.17% of geographical area)**. Furthermore, Forest Cover: 7,15,342.61 sq km (21.76%). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #71 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q71. With reference to Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission and Verified Figure / Status (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Tiger Reserves in India"?

(A) 85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia)
(B) 57+ Notified Tiger Reserves
(C) 43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed)
(D) ₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Tiger Reserves in India** (Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission), the verified Verified Figure / Status (2026) is **57+ Notified Tiger Reserves**. Furthermore, 56th: Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla (Chhattisgarh). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #72 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q72. With reference to Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission and Verified Figure / Status (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Ramsar Wetlands in India"?

(A) 43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed)
(B) ₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE)
(C) 85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia)
(D) ₹75,021 crore outlay

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Ramsar Wetlands in India** (Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission), the verified Verified Figure / Status (2026) is **85+ Ramsar Sites (Highest in Asia)**. Furthermore, Most sites: Tamil Nadu (1st) > Uttar Pradesh (2nd). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #73 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q73. With reference to Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission and Verified Figure / Status (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "UNESCO World Heritage Sites (India)"?

(A) ₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE)
(B) ₹75,021 crore outlay
(C) HQ: New Delhi, India (Treaty-based intergovernmental body)
(D) 43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **UNESCO World Heritage Sites (India)** (Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission), the verified Verified Figure / Status (2026) is **43 Sites (35 Cultural, 7 Natural, 1 Mixed)**. Furthermore, 43rd Site: Moidams — Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty (Charaideo, Assam). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #74 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q74. With reference to Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission and Verified Figure / Status (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "National Green Hydrogen Mission"?

(A) ₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE)
(B) ₹75,021 crore outlay
(C) HQ: New Delhi, India (Treaty-based intergovernmental body)
(D) Total Mangrove Cover: 4,991.68 sq km (0.15% of area)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **National Green Hydrogen Mission** (Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission), the verified Verified Figure / Status (2026) is **₹19,744 crore outlay (MNRE)**. Furthermore, Target: 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) annual production by 2030 + 125 GW renewable energy. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #75 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q75. With reference to Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission and Verified Figure / Status (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana"?

(A) HQ: New Delhi, India (Treaty-based intergovernmental body)
(B) ₹75,021 crore outlay
(C) Total Mangrove Cover: 4,991.68 sq km (0.15% of area)
(D) NITI Aayog (Government of India)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana** (Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission), the verified Verified Figure / Status (2026) is **₹75,021 crore outlay**. Furthermore, 1 crore households to receive rooftop solar and up to 300 units of free electricity monthly. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #76 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q76. With reference to Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission and Verified Figure / Status (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)"?

(A) Total Mangrove Cover: 4,991.68 sq km (0.15% of area)
(B) NITI Aayog (Government of India)
(C) HQ: New Delhi, India (Treaty-based intergovernmental body)
(D) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)** (Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission), the verified Verified Figure / Status (2026) is **HQ: New Delhi, India (Treaty-based intergovernmental body)**. Furthermore, Conserves 7 Big Cats: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar & Puma. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #77 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q77. With reference to Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission and Verified Figure / Status (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Mangrove Cover & MISHTI Scheme"?

(A) NITI Aayog (Government of India)
(B) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva)
(C) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
(D) Total Mangrove Cover: 4,991.68 sq km (0.15% of area)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Mangrove Cover & MISHTI Scheme** (Ecological Metric / Conservation Mission), the verified Verified Figure / Status (2026) is **Total Mangrove Cover: 4,991.68 sq km (0.15% of area)**. Furthermore, Top States: West Bengal (Sundarbans ~42%) > Gujarat > Andaman & Nicobar Islands. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #78 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q78. With reference to Index / Global Report and Publishing Institution, which of the following is accurately matched with "SDG India Index"?

(A) NITI Aayog (Government of India)
(B) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva)
(C) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
(D) International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **SDG India Index** (Index / Global Report), the verified Publishing Institution is **NITI Aayog (Government of India)**. Furthermore, Composite National Score: 71 / 100. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #79 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q79. With reference to Index / Global Report and Publishing Institution, which of the following is accurately matched with "Global Innovation Index (GII)"?

(A) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
(B) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva)
(C) International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN)
(D) Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Global Innovation Index (GII)** (Index / Global Report), the verified Publishing Institution is **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, Geneva)**. Furthermore, 39th Rank (out of 133 economies). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #80 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q80. With reference to Index / Global Report and Publishing Institution, which of the following is accurately matched with "World Intellectual Property Indicators"?

(A) International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN)
(B) Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.)
(C) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
(D) World Bank

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **World Intellectual Property Indicators** (Index / Global Report), the verified Publishing Institution is **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**. Furthermore, Patents: 6th. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #81 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q81. With reference to Index / Global Report and Publishing Institution, which of the following is accurately matched with "Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI)"?

(A) Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.)
(B) World Bank
(C) World Economic Forum (WEF)
(D) International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI)** (Index / Global Report), the verified Publishing Institution is **International Telecommunication Union (ITU — UN)**. Furthermore, Tier-1 ('Role-modelling') with 98.49 / 100 score. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #82 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q82. With reference to Index / Global Report and Publishing Institution, which of the following is accurately matched with "Network Readiness Index (NRI)"?

(A) Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.)
(B) World Bank
(C) World Economic Forum (WEF)
(D) NITI Aayog (with UNDP & OPHI technical inputs)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Network Readiness Index (NRI)** (Index / Global Report), the verified Publishing Institution is **Portulans Institute (Washington, D.C.)**. Furthermore, 49th Rank (climbed 11 spots into Top 50). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #83 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q83. With reference to Index / Global Report and Publishing Institution, which of the following is accurately matched with "Logistics Performance Index (LPI)"?

(A) World Economic Forum (WEF)
(B) World Bank
(C) NITI Aayog (with UNDP & OPHI technical inputs)
(D) Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao & Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Logistics Performance Index (LPI)** (Index / Global Report), the verified Publishing Institution is **World Bank**. Furthermore, 38th Rank (out of 139 countries). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #84 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q84. With reference to Index / Global Report and Publishing Institution, which of the following is accurately matched with "Travel & Tourism Development Index"?

(A) NITI Aayog (with UNDP & OPHI technical inputs)
(B) Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao & Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
(C) World Economic Forum (WEF)
(D) Dharmendra (Posthumous), Justice K.T. Thomas, Dr. N. Rajam, P. Narayanan & V.S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous)

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Travel & Tourism Development Index** (Index / Global Report), the verified Publishing Institution is **World Economic Forum (WEF)**. Furthermore, 39th Rank (1st in South Asia). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #85 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q85. With reference to Index / Global Report and Publishing Institution, which of the following is accurately matched with "National Multidimensional Poverty Index"?

(A) Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao & Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
(B) Dharmendra (Posthumous), Justice K.T. Thomas, Dr. N. Rajam, P. Narayanan & V.S. Achuthanandan (Posthumous)
(C) Vijay Amritraj (Padma Bhushan); Rohit Sharma, Harmanpreet Kaur, Savita Punia, Praveen Kumar (Padma Shri)
(D) NITI Aayog (with UNDP & OPHI technical inputs)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **National Multidimensional Poverty Index** (Index / Global Report), the verified Publishing Institution is **NITI Aayog (with UNDP & OPHI technical inputs)**. Furthermore, 24.82 crore Indians escaped multidimensional poverty. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Annual Current Affairs *2026* — *65* Rapid-Fire Revision Points — Current Affairs *2026* Compendium

1. **Point 1:** Presented on 1 February 2026 by Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Budget 2026–27 estimates total expenditure at ₹53,47,315 crore (~₹53.5 lakh crore). (**Official Reference**)

2. **Point 2:** In Union Budget 2026–27 (BE), non-debt receipts are estimated at ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore), up 7.2% over RE 2025–26. (**Official Reference**)

3. **Point 3:** The Centre's net tax receipts in Budget Estimates 2026–27 are estimated at ₹28.7 lakh crore (up from ₹26.7 lakh crore in RE 2025–26). (**Official Reference**)

4. **Point 4:** Public capital expenditure (Capex) in Union Budget 2026–27 rises to over ₹12.2 lakh crore (up from ~₹11.0 lakh crore in RE 2025–26). (**Official Reference**)

5. **Point 5:** The Fiscal Deficit in BE 2026–27 is targeted at 4.3% of GDP (down from 4.4% of GDP in RE 2025–26). (**Official Reference**)

6. **Point 6:** The Revenue Deficit in BE 2026–27 is targeted at 1.5% of GDP (matching the 1.5% RE of 2025–26). (**Official Reference**)

7. **Point 7:** The Central Government's Debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to decline to 55.6% in BE 2026–27 (from 56.1% in RE 2025–26), targeting 50±1% by 2030–31. (**Official Reference**)

8. **Point 8:** In BE 2026–27, gross market borrowings are estimated at ₹17.2 lakh crore and net market borrowings from dated securities at ₹11.7 lakh crore. (**Official Reference**)

9. **Point 9:** Union Budget 2026–27 assumes a nominal GDP growth rate of 10.0% for FY 2026–27. (**Official Reference**)

10. **Point 10:** Interest payments in BE 2026–27 account for 26% of total expenditure and 40% of revenue receipts. (**Official Reference**)

11. **Point 11:** Union Budget 2026–27 announced that India will host the first-ever 'Global Big Cat Summit' under the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA). (**Official Reference**)

12. **Point 12:** Union Budget 2026–27 exempted fish catch by Indian vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or high seas from customs duty. (**Official Reference**)

13. **Point 13:** The 'Nuclear Energy Mission for Viksit Bharat' (₹20,000 crore R&D for Bharat Small Reactors) targets 100 GW of nuclear power capacity by 2047. (**Official Reference**)

14. **Point 14:** A dedicated 'Makhana Board' has been established in Bihar to boost production, processing, value addition, and marketing of foxnuts. (**Official Reference**)

15. **Point 15:** 'PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana' covers 100 low-productivity agricultural districts to benefit 1.7 crore farmers. (**Official Reference**)

16. **Point 16:** The 16th Finance Commission (Chairman: Dr. Arvind Panagariya; Secretary: Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey) covers the five-year award period from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031. (**Official Reference**)

17. **Point 17:** The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) replaced the IPC (1860) and contains 358 sections across 20 chapters. (**Official Reference**)

18. **Point 18:** The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) replaced the CrPC (1973) and contains 531 sections across 39 chapters. (**Official Reference**)

19. **Point 19:** The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) replaced the Indian Evidence Act (1872) and contains 170 sections across 12 chapters. (**Official Reference**)

20. **Point 20:** In the BNS, Section 111 defines 'Organized Crime', Section 113 defines 'Terrorist Act', and Section 152 penalizes acts endangering India's sovereignty and integrity. (**Official Reference**)

21. **Point 21:** Section 176(3) of the BNSS makes forensic crime-scene investigation mandatory for all offences punishable with imprisonment of 7 years or more. (**Official Reference**)

22. **Point 22:** Sections 57 and 63 of the BSA accord 'primary evidence' status to electronic and digital records. (**Official Reference**)

23. **Point 23:** The 'e-Sakshya' mobile app (for crime-scene videography) and 'Nyaya Shruti' (for virtual court appearances) achieved nationwide integration in 2026. (**Official Reference**)

24. **Point 24:** The 106th Constitutional Amendment Act (Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam) inserts Articles 330A (Lok Sabha), 332A (State Assemblies), and 334A for 33% women's reservation. (**Official Reference**)

25. **Point 25:** The 105th Constitutional Amendment Act restored the power of States and UTs to maintain their own Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC/OBC) lists. (**Official Reference**)

26. **Point 26:** A 9-Judge Supreme Court Constitution Bench ruled (8:1) that States have legislative competence under State List Entries 49 and 50 to tax mineral-bearing lands. (**Official Reference**)

27. **Point 27:** A 7-Judge Supreme Court Constitution Bench ruled (6:1, overruling E.V. Chinnaiah) that States may sub-classify Scheduled Castes based on empirical data. (**Official Reference**)

28. **Point 28:** ISRO's 'SpaDeX' (PSLV-C60) docked two satellites (SDX01 and SDX02) using the Bharatiya Docking System, making India the 4th country globally with space docking tech. (**Official Reference**)

29. **Point 29:** GSLV-F15 deployed the 'NVS-02' navigation satellite, marking ISRO's historic 100th launch from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. (**Official Reference**)

30. **Point 30:** The joint NASA–ISRO 'NISAR' satellite is the world's first dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar satellite (combining NASA's 24 cm L-band and ISRO's 12 cm S-band). (**Official Reference**)

31. **Point 31:** ISRO's 'Aditya-L1' solar observatory operates in a halo orbit across the Sun–Earth Lagrange Point 1 (1.5 million km from Earth). (**Official Reference**)

32. **Point 32:** India celebrates 'National Space Day' annually on August 23 to mark Chandrayaan-3's soft landing at 'Statio Shiv Shakti' near the lunar south pole. (**Official Reference**)

33. **Point 33:** The ₹6,003.65 crore National Quantum Mission established 4 Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) at IISc Bengaluru, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay, and IIT Delhi. (**Official Reference**)

34. **Point 34:** The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) operates with a 5-year ₹50,000 crore corpus under a Governing Board chaired by the Prime Minister. (**Official Reference**)

35. **Point 35:** Under the India Semiconductor Mission, Tata Electronics is building India's first commercial wafer fab at Dholera (Gujarat) and an OSAT chip assembly plant at Morigaon (Assam). (**Official Reference**)

36. **Point 36:** Per the India State of Forest Report (ISFR), India's total Forest and Tree Cover is 8,27,357 sq km — 25.17% of geographical area (21.76% Forest + 3.41% Tree). (**Official Reference**)

37. **Point 37:** The top three states in forest cover by total area are Madhya Pradesh (1st), Arunachal Pradesh (2nd), and Chhattisgarh (3rd). (**Official Reference**)

38. **Point 38:** The top three states in forest cover by percentage of geographical area are Mizoram (85.34%), Arunachal Pradesh, and Meghalaya. (**Official Reference**)

39. **Point 39:** Chhattisgarh's 'Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla' (56th) and Madhya Pradesh's 'Ratapani' (57th) expanded India's Tiger Reserve network to 57+ reserves. (**Official Reference**)

40. **Point 40:** India has 85+ Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance (the highest in Asia), led by Tamil Nadu (1st) and Uttar Pradesh (2nd). (**Official Reference**)

41. **Point 41:** Assam's 'Charaideo Moidams' (mound-burial system of the Ahom Dynasty) was inscribed as India's 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site. (**Official Reference**)

42. **Point 42:** India's 43 UNESCO World Heritage Sites comprise 35 Cultural, 7 Natural, and 1 Mixed site (Khangchendzonga National Park, Sikkim). (**Official Reference**)

43. **Point 43:** Headquartered in New Delhi, the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) conserves 7 big cats: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, and Puma. (**Official Reference**)

44. **Point 44:** The National Green Hydrogen Mission (₹19,744 crore) targets 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) of annual green hydrogen production by 2030. (**Official Reference**)

45. **Point 45:** 'PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana' (₹75,021 crore) provides rooftop solar to 1 crore households with up to 300 units of free monthly electricity. (**Official Reference**)

46. **Point 46:** In NITI Aayog's SDG India Index, India's composite score rose to 71; Uttarakhand and Kerala jointly ranked 1st among states with 79 points each. (**Official Reference**)

47. **Point 47:** In the SDG India Index, Chandigarh topped Union Territories (77 points), while Uttar Pradesh (+8 points) was among the fastest-moving states. (**Official Reference**)

48. **Point 48:** India ranked 39th among 133 economies in WIPO's Global Innovation Index and 39th in the WEF Travel & Tourism Development Index. (**Official Reference**)

49. **Point 49:** India ranked 38th in the World Bank Logistics Performance Index (LPI) and 49th in the Portulans Network Readiness Index (NRI). (**Official Reference**)

50. **Point 50:** India achieved top 'Tier-1 (Role-modelling)' status with a score of 98.49/100 in the UN ITU Global Cybersecurity Index. (**Official Reference**)

51. **Point 51:** With the conferment of the Bharat Ratna on Karpoori Thakur, L.K. Advani, Chaudhary Charan Singh, P.V. Narasimha Rao, and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, total Bharat Ratna recipients reached 53. (**Official Reference**)

52. **Point 52:** The Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award was conferred upon Mithun Chakraborty and veteran Kannada actor Anant Nag. (**Official Reference**)

53. **Point 53:** The 58th Jnanpith Award was jointly conferred upon Sanskrit scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya and Urdu poet Gulzar. (**Official Reference**)

54. **Point 54:** British author Samantha Harvey won the Booker Prize for her space-station novel 'Orbital'. (**Official Reference**)

55. **Point 55:** The Indian Air Force hosted India's largest multilateral international air exercise 'Tarang Shakti' at Sulur (Tamil Nadu) and Jodhpur (Rajasthan). (**Official Reference**)

56. **Point 56:** India and France conduct three flagship bilateral exercises: 'Shakti' (Army), 'Varuna' (Navy), and 'Garuda' (Air Force). (**Official Reference**)

57. **Point 57:** India and Japan conduct 'Dharma Guardian' (Army), 'Veer Guardian' (Air Force), and 'JIMEX' (Navy) bilateral exercises. (**Official Reference**)

58. **Point 58:** The India–EFTA (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein) TEPA agreement includes a binding commitment of USD 100 billion FDI and 1 million jobs over 15 years. (**Official Reference**)

59. **Point 59:** India signed a 10-year contract via IPGL to operate the Shahid Beheshti terminal at Iran's Chabahar Port on the Gulf of Oman. (**Official Reference**)

60. **Point 60:** Shri K. Sanjay Murthy serves as the 15th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India under Article 148. (**Official Reference**)

61. **Point 61:** Dr. V. Narayanan is Chairman of ISRO, Dr. Samir V. Kamat is Chairman of DRDO, and General Anil Chauhan is India's Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). (**Official Reference**)

62. **Point 62:** At age 18, Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh defeated China's Ding Liren (7.5–6.5) in Singapore to become the youngest World Chess Champion in history. (**Official Reference**)

63. **Point 63:** At the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad in Budapest (Hungary), India won historic double Gold medals in both the Open and Women's team sections. (**Official Reference**)

64. **Point 64:** India won a record 29 medals (7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze) at the Paris Paralympics, where shooter Avani Lekhara became the first Indian woman to win two Paralympic golds. (**Official Reference**)

65. **Point 65:** In 2026, India won 85 medals (21 Gold, 27 Silver, 37 Bronze — 4th rank) at the 20th Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya (Japan) and won the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 in Ahmedabad. (**Official Reference**)

IUC Academy *1-3-7-21* Day Spaced-Revision & Self-Assessment Tracker (www.iucacademy.com)

Chapter / Study Section	Day 1 (First Read)	Day 3 (Active Recall)	Day 7 (MCQ Drill)	Day 21 (Exam Ready)
1. Chapter 1: National Polity, Constitutional Amendments, Three New Criminal Laws (BNS, BNSS, BSA) & Judicial Landmarks 2026	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
2. Chapter 2: Union Budget 2026–27, Fiscal Consolidation Roadmap & 16th Finance Commission — Macroeconomic Synthesis	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
3. Chapter 3: Science & Technology 2026 — Space Docking (SpaDeX), NISAR, 100th Sriharikota Launch & Quantum Mission	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
4. Chapter 4: Environment, Ecology, Forest Survey (25.17%), 57+ Tiger Reserves, 85+ Ramsar Wetlands & Clean Energy 2026	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
5. Chapter 5: NITI Aayog SDG India Index (Score 71) & India's Rankings in Major Global Indices 2026	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
6. Chapter 6: Bharat Ratna Conferments, Padma Awards 2026, Dadasaheb Phalke Honours & Major Literary Awards	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
7. Chapter 7: Joint Military Exercises 2026, Defence Exports, India–EFTA Trade Agreement (TEPA) & Strategic Corridors	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
8. Chapter 8: Constitutional Office-Holders, Parliamentary Committees, World Chess & Paralympics Synthesis 2026	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
9. Annual Current Affairs 2026 — 45 Solved 4-Option MCQs with Detailed Explanations	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
10. Extended Comparative & Analytical Practice Set (Questions 46–85)	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
11. Annual Current Affairs 2026 — 65 Rapid-Fire Revision Points — Current Affairs 2026 Compendium	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**