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IUC ACADEMY NOTES

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

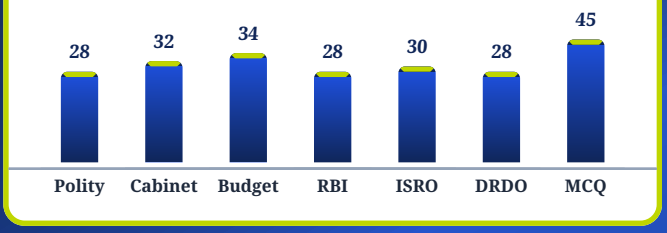
WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS — NOVEMBER-2026 (POLITY, ECONOMY, SCIENCE & DEFENCE)

Comprehensive 2026 PIB Analysis, Union Cabinet Approvals, Union Budget 2026-27, RBI Monetary Policy, ISRO Space Missions, DRDO Defence Trials & Solved Practice Questions for All-India Competitive Exams

Topic-Wise Exam Weightage Distribution (%)



Previous Years' Question Trend Analysis



Target Competitive, Entrance & Departmental Examinations

UPSC CSE • State PCS • SSC CGL/CHSL/GD/MTS • Railway NTPC/ALP • IBPS/SBI/RBI • NDA/CDS/CAPF • Police

Core Syllabus Pillars & Exam Question Weightage (%)

- National Policies, Cabinet Decisions & PIB Releases (26%)
- Economy, Union Budget 2026-27 & RBI Monetary Policy (22%)
- ISRO Space Missions & Satellite Launches 2026 (20%)
- DRDO Defence Systems & Indigenous Military Tech (18%)
- Environment, Innovation & Digital Governance 2026 (14%)

Complete Theory
NCERT & Official Sources

Visual Flowcharts
Comparative Matrices

Memory Tricks
Exam Trap Alerts

75+ Solved MCQs
Rapid Revision Points

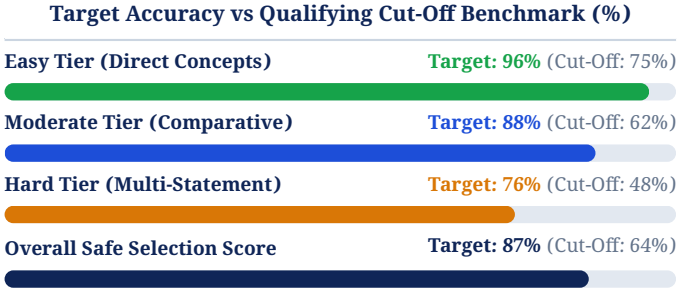
Preface, Exam Weightage Dashboard & Study Strategy — WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS — NOVEMBER-2026 (POLITY, ECONOMY, SCIENCE & DEFENCE)

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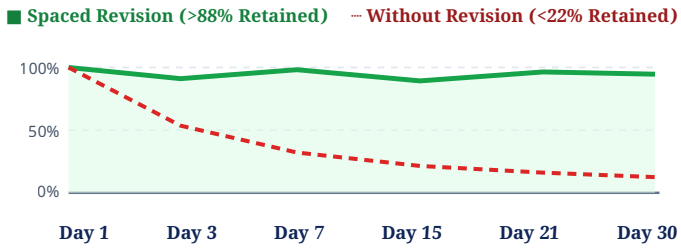
Dear Aspirants,

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**.

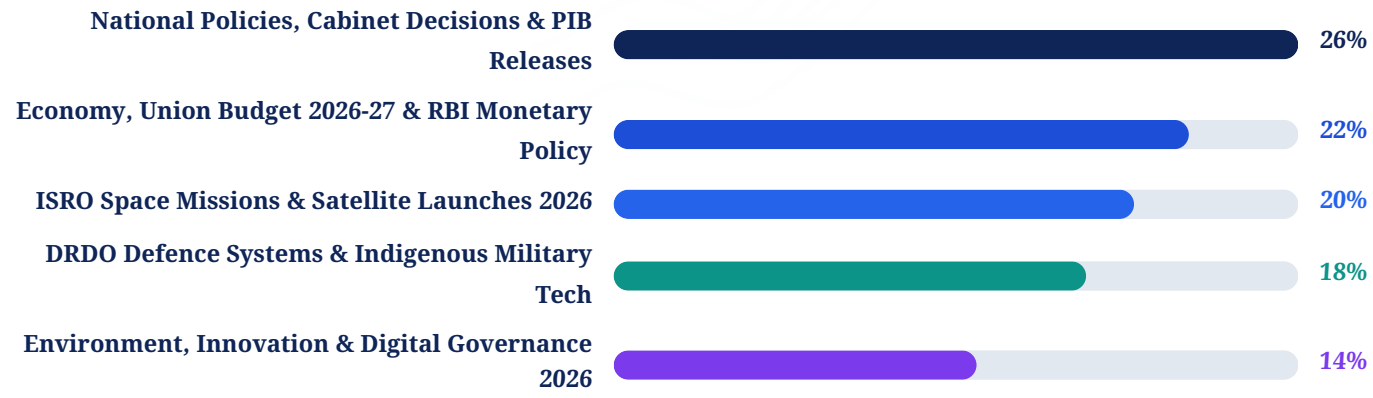
Target Accuracy vs Qualifying Cut-Off Benchmark (%)



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/)
- भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (RBI) (https://www.rbi.org.in/)
- IUC अकादमी आधिकारिक पोर्टल (https://www.iucacademy.com)

Detailed Table of Contents & Chapter Architecture

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS — NOVEMBER-2026 (POLITY, ECONOMY, SCIENCE & DEFENCE) • Complete Chapters, Comparative Matrices, Solved MCQs & Rapid Revision

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- 1.1 Analytical Synthesis: Flagship Union Cabinet Approvals & Welfare Initiatives 2026
- 1.3 Official Union Cabinet Approvals & National Governance Data Table (2026)
- 1.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration
- 1.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

2. Chapter 2: Union Budget 2026, Fiscal Consolidation, Capital Expenditure & Direct Tax Reforms

- 2.1 Analytical Synthesis: Union Budget 2026 Allocations, Deficits & 16th Finance Commission
- 2.3 Official Union Budget 2026 Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators Table
- 2.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration
- 2.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

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- 3.3 Official RBI Monetary Policy & External Sector Indicators Table (2026)
- 3.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration
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• 7.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration
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• 8.1 Analytical Synthesis: ₹62,370.02 Cr Rabi NBS, ₹3.15L Cr PM-KISAN, Viksit Gram Swaraj & UPS 2026
• 8.3 Comprehensive Agrarian, Rural Governance & Social Security Table (2026)
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9. Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)

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

11. Rapid-Fire Revision Points

Chapter 1: Union Cabinet Decisions, Flagship National Policies & Administrative Governance 2026

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 1: Union Cabinet Decisions, Flagship National Policies & Administrative Governance 2026

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Analytical Synthesis: Flagship Union Cabinet Approvals & Welfare Initiatives 2026	Official Union Cabinet Approvals & National Governance Data Table (2026)	Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

1.1 Analytical Synthesis: Flagship Union Cabinet Approvals & Welfare Initiatives 2026

• **Why in News?:** Throughout 2026, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved landmark policy decisions spanning grassroots credit expansion, Rabi fertilizer subsidies, rural local self-governance, farmer income support, and administrative efficiency, as officially documented by the Press Information Bureau (PIB).

• **Continuation of Stand-Up India Scheme Approved (November 11, 2026):** On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Stand-Up India Scheme** with a financial provision of **₹4,111 crore** to promote grassroots entrepreneurship among Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), and Women entrepreneurs through composite loans for greenfield ventures (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Rates for Rabi Season 2026 (November 11, 2026):** On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the Nutrient Based Subsidy rates for the Rabi 2026 season on **28 grades of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers** (including DAP and NPKS grades) with a tentative budgetary requirement of **₹62,370.02 crore**, which is ₹24,417.73 crore higher than the preceding Rabi season requirement (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana Approved (October 28, 2026):** On October 28, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme titled **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana** to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions, digital village governance, and sustainable rural infrastructure (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Continuation of PM-KISAN Scheme (July 31, 2026):** On July 31, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)** scheme from 2026 onwards with a total financial outlay of **₹3.15 lakh crore**, ensuring direct income support of ₹6,000 per year to eligible farmer families (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Special Campaign 6.0 Administrative Benchmarks (November 2026):** Coordinated by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) in October and November 2026, **Special Campaign 6.0** freed **17.42 lakh sq. ft.** of office space in the Department of Defence Production alone while institutionalizing scientific e-waste disposal and pendency liquidation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Senior Citizen Welfare in Cantonment Areas & 'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp' Summit (November 2026):** The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) and the Ministry of Defence launched a joint welfare

partnership for senior citizens across military cantonment areas and convened the departmental summit **'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp'** in New Delhi in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Static GK & Constitutional Linkage:** Under **Article 40** of the Constitution of India (Directive Principles of State Policy), the State is directed to organize village panchayats, while **Article 46** mandates promotion of the educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and other weaker sections (IUC Academy).

1.2 Union Cabinet Policy Execution & Welfare Saturation Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Union Cabinet Approves Outlays & Statutory Parameters for 2026 Flagship Schemes

STEP 2
Nodal Ministries & Scheduled Commercial Banks Identify Eligible Beneficiaries

STEP 3
Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) & Credit Guarantee Funds Execute Disbursals

STEP 4
Greenfield Ventures, Affordable Fertilizers & Strengthened Gram Swaraj

1.3 Official Union Cabinet Approvals & National Governance Data Table *(2026)*

• **Agrarian & Clean Energy Fiscal Support:** Beyond agrarian subsidies, the Union Cabinet approved a **₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** scheme for offshore wind energy projects to accelerate India's clean energy transition (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Public Outreach & Trade Showcases:** At the **45th India International Trade Fair (IITF 2026)** held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi in November 2026, central ministries showcased flagship agrarian and social empowerment initiatives (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

S.No.	Cabinet Decision / National Initiative (2026)	Nodal Ministry / Department	Official Outlay & Statutory Provisions (2026)	Official Source
1	Continuation of Stand-Up India Scheme (Nov 11, 2026)	Ministry of Finance (Dept. of Financial Services)	₹4,111 crore provision; ₹10 lakh to ₹1 crore loans for SC, ST & Women greenfield units	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
2	Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Rates for Rabi 2026 (Nov 11, 2026)	Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers	₹62,370.02 crore outlay (+₹24,417.73 cr over prior Rabi); covers 28 grades of P&K fertilizers	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
3	Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (Oct 28, 2026)	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	Centrally Sponsored Scheme empowering Gram Panchayats and e-GramSwaraj governance	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
4	Continuation of PM-KISAN Scheme (July 31, 2026)	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare	₹3.15 lakh crore total outlay; ₹6,000 annual DBT support in three equal instalments	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
5	Offshore Wind Energy VGF Scheme (2026)	Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)	₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding for offshore wind installations off Gujarat & Tamil Nadu	Press Information Bureau (PIB)

S.No.	Cabinet Decision / National Initiative (2026)	Nodal Ministry / Department	Official Outlay & Statutory Provisions (2026)	Official Source
6	Special Campaign 6.0 Outcomes (November 2026)	DARPG & Dept. of Defence Production (MoD)	17.42 lakh sq. ft. office space freed in DDP; scientific e-waste disposal & file clearance	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
7	Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) Operational Review (2026)	Ministry of Finance (Dept. of Expenditure)	50% assured pension of last 12 months' average basic pay for 25+ years of service; ₹10,000 minimum	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
8	Cantonment Senior Citizen Welfare Initiative (Nov 2026)	MoSJE & Ministry of Defence	Inter-ministerial convergence for healthcare and social security in military cantonments	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
9	45th India International Trade Fair (IITF 2026)	Ministry of Commerce & Industry (ITPO)	Hosted at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi featuring Agriculture & Social Justice pavilions	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
10	Tribal Language Translation of Official Releases (2026)	Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (PIB)	Dissemination of Prime Minister speeches and PIB releases in indigenous tribal languages	Press Information Bureau (PIB)

1.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration

• **Articles 74 & 75 (Collective Responsibility of Council of Ministers):** Under Article 74(1), the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister aids and advises the President, and under Article 75(3), it is collectively responsible to the House of the People (Lok Sabha) (IUC Academy).

• **Mechanism of Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS):** Under the NBS regime administered by the Department of Fertilizers, a fixed rate of subsidy (in ₹ per kg) is announced on nutrients—**Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P), Potash (K), and Sulphur (S)**—contained in 28 notified grades of P&K fertilizers (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Controlling Stake Rule in Stand-Up India:** For non-individual greenfield ventures applying under the Stand-Up India Scheme, at least **51% of the shareholding and controlling stake** must be held by either an SC/ST or a Woman entrepreneur (IUC Academy).

• **All-India Examination Relevance:** UPSC Civil Services, State PCS, SSC CGL, Banking, and NABARD examinations directly test exact cabinet outlays, nodal ministries, and beneficiary eligibility norms (IUC Academy).

Did You Know?: Under the **₹62,370.02 crore** Rabi 2026 Nutrient Based Subsidy approved by the Union Cabinet on November 11, 2026, farmers receive subsidized access to **28 grades of P&K fertilizers**, including Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and complex NPKS fertilizers (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Exam Trap Alert: Do not confuse **Startup India** (administered by **DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry**) with **Stand-Up India** (administered by the **Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance**); Stand-Up India finances **only greenfield (first-time)** ventures (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

★ **Memory Trick:** Memorize the four flagship 2026 Cabinet outlays in ascending order: **"Stand-Up India: ₹4,111 Cr — Offshore Wind VGF: ₹7,453 Cr — Rabi NBS Fertilizer: ₹62,370.02 Cr — PM-KISAN: ₹3.15 Lakh Cr"** (IUC Academy).

1.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

- **UPSC Civil Services & State PCS (Prelims & Mains GS-II/III) Weightage:** 35% (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
- **SSC (CGL/CHSL/MTS/CPO/GD) & Railway (NTPC/ALP/RPF) Weightage:** 30% (IUC Academy)
- **Banking, NABARD & Regulatory Bodies Weightage:** 20% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI))
- **Defence (NDA/CDS/CAPF) & Police Examinations Weightage:** 15% (India Budget Portal)

Chapter *1* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: Flagship Union Cabinet Approvals & Welfare Initiatives *2026*	**Why in News?**	Throughout 2026, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved landmark policy decisions spanning grassroots credit expansion, Rabi fertilizer subsidies, rural local self-governance, farmer income support, and administrative efficiency, as officially documented by the Press Information Bureau (PIB).
Union Cabinet Policy Execution & Welfare Saturation Flowchart	**Continuation of Stand-Up India Scheme Approved (November 11, 2026)**	On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Stand-Up India Scheme** with a financial provision of **₹4,111 crore** to promote grassroots entrepreneurship among Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), and Women entrepreneurs through composite loans for greenfield ventures (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Official Union Cabinet Approvals & National Governance Data Table (2026)	**Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Rates for Rabi Season 2026 (November 11, 2026)**	On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the Nutrient Based Subsidy rates for the Rabi 2026 season on **28 grades of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers** (including DAP and NPKS grades) with a tentative budgetary requirement of **₹62,370.02 crore**, which is ₹24,417.73 crore higher than the preceding Rabi season requirement (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana Approved (October 28, 2026)**	On October 28, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme titled **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana** to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions, digital village governance, and sustainable rural infrastructure (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Continuation of PM-KISAN Scheme (July 31, 2026)**	On July 31, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)** scheme from 2026 onwards with a total financial outlay of **₹3.15 lakh crore**, ensuring direct income support of ₹6,000 per year to eligible farmer families (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Analytical Synthesis: Flagship Union Cabinet Approvals & Welfare Initiatives 2026	**Special Campaign 6.0 Administrative Benchmarks (November 2026)**	Coordinated by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) in October and November 2026, **Special Campaign 6.0** freed **17.42 lakh sq. ft.** of office space in the Department of Defence Production alone while institutionalizing scientific e-waste disposal and pendency liquidation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Union Cabinet Policy Execution & Welfare Saturation Flowchart	**Senior Citizen Welfare in Cantonment Areas & 'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp' Summit (November 2026)**	The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) and the Ministry of Defence launched a joint welfare partnership for senior citizens across military cantonment areas and convened the departmental summit **'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp'** in New Delhi in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Official Union Cabinet Approvals & National Governance Data Table (2026)	**Static GK & Constitutional Linkage**	Under **Article 40** of the Constitution of India (Directive Principles of State Policy), the State is directed to organize village panchayats, while **Article 46** mandates promotion of the educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and other weaker sections (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Agrarian & Clean Energy Fiscal Support**	Beyond agrarian subsidies, the Union Cabinet approved a **₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** scheme for offshore wind energy projects to accelerate India's clean energy transition (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Public Outreach & Trade Showcases**	At the **45th India International Trade Fair (IITF 2026)** held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi in November 2026, central ministries showcased flagship agrarian and social empowerment initiatives (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Analytical Synthesis: Flagship Union Cabinet Approvals & Welfare Initiatives 2026	**Articles 74 & 75 (Collective Responsibility of Council of Ministers)**	Under Article 74(1), the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister aids and advises the President, and under Article 75(3), it is collectively responsible to the House of the People (Lok Sabha) (IUC Academy).
Union Cabinet Policy Execution & Welfare Saturation Flowchart	**Mechanism of Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)**	Under the NBS regime administered by the Department of Fertilizers, a fixed rate of subsidy (in ₹ per kg) is announced on nutrients—**Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P), Potash (K), and Sulphur (S)**—contained in 28 notified grades of P&K fertilizers (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Official Union Cabinet Approvals & National Governance Data Table (2026)	**Controlling Stake Rule in Stand-Up India**	For non-individual greenfield ventures applying under the Stand-Up India Scheme, at least **51% of the shareholding and controlling stake** must be held by either an SC/ST or a Woman entrepreneur (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**All-India Examination Relevance**	UPSC Civil Services, State PCS, SSC CGL, Banking, and NABARD examinations directly test exact cabinet outlays, nodal ministries, and beneficiary eligibility norms (IUC Academy).

Chapter 1 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

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

Statement-I (Why in News?): Throughout 2026, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved landmark policy decisions spanning grassroots credit expansion, Rabi fertilizer subsidies, rural local self-governance, farmer income support, and administrative efficiency, as officially documented by the Press Information Bureau (PIB).

Statement-II (Continuation of Stand-Up India Scheme Approved (November 11, 2026)): On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Stand-Up India Scheme** with a financial provision of **₹4,111 crore** to promote grassroots entrepreneurship among Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), and Women entrepreneurs through composite loans for greenfield ventures (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Rates for Rabi Season 2026 (November 11, 2026)): On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the Nutrient Based Subsidy rates for the Rabi 2026 season on **28 grades of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers** (including DAP and NPKS grades) with a tentative budgetary requirement of **₹62,370.02 crore**, which is ₹24,417.73 crore higher than the preceding Rabi season requirement (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana Approved (October 28, 2026)): On October 28, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme titled **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana** to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions, digital village governance, and sustainable rural infrastructure (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Continuation of PM-KISAN Scheme (July 31, 2026)): On July 31, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)** scheme from 2026 onwards with a total financial outlay of **₹3.15 lakh crore**, ensuring direct income support of ₹6,000 per year to eligible farmer families (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Special Campaign 6.0 Administrative Benchmarks (November 2026)): Coordinated by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) in October and November 2026, **Special Campaign 6.0** freed **17.42 lakh sq. ft.** of office space in the Department of Defence Production alone while institutionalizing scientific e-waste disposal and pendency liquidation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Senior Citizen Welfare in Cantonment Areas & 'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp' Summit (November 2026)): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) and the Ministry of Defence launched a joint welfare partnership for senior citizens across military cantonment areas and convened the departmental summit **'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp'** in New Delhi in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Static GK & Constitutional Linkage): Under **Article 40** of the Constitution of India (Directive Principles of State Policy), the State is directed to organize village panchayats, while **Article 46** mandates promotion of the educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and other weaker sections (IUC Academy).

✓ **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 (Agrarian & Clean Energy Fiscal Support): Beyond agrarian subsidies, the Union Cabinet approved a **₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** scheme for offshore wind energy projects to accelerate India's clean energy transition (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Public Outreach & Trade Showcases): At the **45th India International Trade Fair (IITF 2026)** held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi in November 2026, central ministries showcased flagship agrarian and social empowerment initiatives (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Articles 74 & 75 (Collective Responsibility of Council of Ministers)): Under Article 74(1), the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister aids and advises the President, and under Article 75(3), it is collectively responsible to the House of the People (Lok Sabha) (IUC Academy).

Statement-II (Mechanism of Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)): Under the NBS regime administered by the Department of Fertilizers, a fixed rate of subsidy (in ₹ per kg) is announced on nutrients—**Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P), Potash (K), and Sulphur (S)**—contained in 28 notified grades of P&K fertilizers (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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*, Fiscal Consolidation, Capital Expenditure & Direct Tax Reforms

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 2: Union Budget 2026, Fiscal Consolidation, Capital Expenditure & Direct Tax Reforms

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Analytical Synthesis: Union Budget 2026 Allocations, Deficits & 16th Finance Commission	**Official Union Budget 2026 Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators Table**	**Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration**	**Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix**

2.1 Analytical Synthesis*:* Union Budget *2026* Allocations, Deficits & *16*th Finance Commission

• **Why in News?:** Presented on February 1, 2026 by Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, the **Union Budget *2026*** anchored India's macroeconomic policy on **₹12.2 lakh crore** in public capital expenditure alongside a reduced fiscal deficit target of **4.3 percent of GDP** (India Budget Portal).

• **Total Expenditure Estimated at ₹53,47,315 Crore (₹53.47 Lakh Crore):** In the *2026* Budget Estimates, the Central Government's total expenditure is projected at **₹53,47,315 crore** (13.6% of GDP), which is **7.7 percent higher** than the preceding revised estimate of ₹49.65 lakh crore (India Budget Portal).

• **Public Capital Expenditure Raised to ₹12.2 Lakh Crore:** Continuing its capex-led growth strategy, Union Budget 2026 raised public capital expenditure to **₹12.2 lakh crore** (up from ~₹11 lakh crore in the preceding revised estimate) and allocated **₹2.0 lakh crore** under **SASCI** (Special Assistance as Loan to States for Capital Expenditure) (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Fiscal Deficit at 4.3% of GDP & Revenue Deficit at 1.5% of GDP:** The fiscal deficit in the 2026 Budget Estimates is targeted at **4.3 percent of GDP** (down from 4.4% in the preceding revised estimate), while the revenue deficit is targeted at **1.5 percent of GDP** (India Budget Portal).

• **Central Government Debt-to-GDP Ratio at 55.6% & Medium-Term Anchor:** The debt-to-GDP ratio is estimated at **55.6 percent of GDP** in the 2026 Budget Estimates (down from 56.1% in the preceding revised estimate), following a fiscal consolidation glide path toward **50 percent of GDP by 2031** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Sixteenth Finance Commission (SFC) Retains 41% Vertical Devolution:** Union Budget 2026 marks the first year of the award period of the **Sixteenth Finance Commission**, which recommended retaining the States' share in the divisible pool of central taxes at **41 percent** (India Budget Portal).

• **New Income Tax Act Enforcement (April 2026) & Marine Fish Catch Duty Exemption:** The simplified **New Income Tax Act** took effect across India from **April 2026**; furthermore, Union Budget 2026 exempted fish catch by Indian fishing vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or high seas from customs duty and treated landings at foreign ports as exports of goods (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Static GK & Constitutional Linkage:** Under **Article 112** of the Constitution of India, the President causes the **Annual Financial Statement** (Union Budget) to be laid before both Houses of Parliament, while **Article 280** governs the quinquennial constitution of the Finance Commission (IUC Academy).

2.2 Union Budget *2026* Fiscal Consolidation & Capex Multiplier Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Union Budget 2026 Projects Total Expenditure at Rs 53,47,315 Crore & 10% Nominal GDP Growth

STEP 2
Public Capex Raised to Rs 12.2 Lakh Crore & SASCI State Capex Loans Set at Rs 2.0 Lakh Crore

STEP 3
Non-Debt Receipts Reach Rs 36,51,547 Crore with Net Centre Tax Receipts at Rs 28.67 Lakh Crore

STEP 4
Fiscal Deficit Narrows to 4.3% of GDP & Debt-to-GDP Ratio Declines to 55.6%

2.3 Official Union Budget *2026* Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators Table

• **Non-Debt Receipts & Market Borrowings:** Receipts other than borrowings in the 2026 Budget Estimates stand at **₹36,51,547 crore** (~₹36.5 lakh crore, up 7.2%), while gross market borrowings are estimated at **₹17.2 lakh crore** and net market borrowings from dated securities at **₹11.7 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Interest Payment Ratios:** Interest payments in Union Budget 2026 account for **26 percent of total expenditure** and **40 percent of revenue receipts** (India Budget Portal).

Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator	Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline	Union Budget 2026 Official Figure	Macroeconomic & Statutory Significance	Official Source
Total Expenditure	₹49.65 lakh crore	₹53,47,315 crore (₹53.47 lakh crore)	13.6% of GDP; 7.7% increase over preceding revised estimate	India Budget Portal

Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator	Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline	Union Budget 2026 Official Figure	Macroeconomic & Statutory Significance	Official Source
Public Capital Expenditure	~₹11.00 lakh crore	₹12.20 lakh crore	High-multiplier infrastructure investment driving Viksit Bharat growth	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Non-Debt Total Receipts	₹34.00 lakh crore	₹36,51,547 crore (₹36.5 lakh crore)	7.2% growth over preceding revised estimate	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Total Revenue Receipts	~₹34.00 lakh crore	₹35.33 lakh crore	Comprises Net Centre Tax Revenue (₹28.67L cr) + Non-Tax Revenue (₹6.66L cr)	India Budget Portal
Centre's Net Tax Receipts	₹26.70 lakh crore	₹28.67 lakh crore (₹28.7 lakh crore)	Tax revenue projected to grow by 8%; indirect taxes at ₹17.07 lakh crore	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Non-Tax Revenue & Non-Debt Capital Receipts	RBI/PSU dividends & loan recoveries	₹6.66 lakh crore & ₹1.18 lakh crore	Excludes debt-creating market borrowings	India Budget Portal
Fiscal Deficit & Revenue Deficit	4.4% of GDP & 1.5% of GDP	4.3% of GDP & 1.5% of GDP	Anchors fiscal consolidation below the 4.5% FRBM threshold	India Budget Portal
Central Govt Debt-to-GDP Ratio	56.1% of GDP	55.6% of GDP	Follows medium-term consolidation anchor of 50% of GDP by 2031	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Gross & Net Market Borrowings	Dated Government Securities	₹17.2 lakh cr (Gross) & ₹11.7 lakh cr (Net)	Primary instrument for financing the 4.3% fiscal deficit	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
SASCI Loans & 16th FC Devolution	41% vertical devolution	₹2.0 lakh cr SASCI & 41% tax share	First year of the Sixteenth Finance Commission award period	India Budget Portal

2.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration

• **Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Framework:** Under the FRBM Act, the Union Government places the Medium-Term Fiscal Policy Statement, Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement, and Macroeconomic Framework Statement before Parliament alongside the Annual Financial Statement (India Budget Portal).

• **Nominal GDP Growth Assumption in 2026:** Union Budget 2026 estimates a **nominal GDP growth rate of 10 percent** (combining real GDP growth plus inflation) and an **8 percent increase** in tax revenues (India Budget Portal).

• **Capital vs. Revenue Expenditure Multiplier:** Public capital expenditure (**₹12.2 lakh crore** in 2026) creates durable physical assets (highways, railways, ports, power grids) and generates a long-term fiscal multiplier exceeding 2.45, unlike revenue expenditure (IUC Academy).

• **All-India Examination Relevance:** Exact figures from Union Budget 2026—₹53,47,315 crore expenditure, ₹36,51,547 crore non-debt receipts, ₹12.2 lakh crore capex, 4.3% fiscal deficit, and 55.6% debt-to-GDP ratio—are prime questions for UPSC, PCS, SSC, and Banking exams (IUC Academy).

Did You Know?: In Union Budget 2026, interest payments account for **26% of total expenditure** and **40% of revenue receipts**, which is precisely why reducing the Central Debt-to-GDP ratio from **55.6% in 2026** toward **50% by 2031** is the central fiscal anchor to free resources for developmental spending (India Budget Portal).

Exam Trap Alert: Non-Debt Receipts (₹36,51,547 crore in Union Budget 2026) equal **Total Revenue Receipts (₹35.33 lakh crore) + Non-Debt Capital Receipts (₹1.18 lakh crore)**; they **exclude** net market borrowings (₹11.7 lakh crore) because borrowings are debt-creating capital receipts (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

★ **Memory Trick:** Memorize the core Union Budget 2026 equation: **"₹53.47L Cr Expenditure — ₹36.51L Cr Non-Debt Receipts — ₹12.2L Cr Capex — 4.3% Fiscal Deficit — 1.5% Revenue Deficit — 55.6% Debt-to-GDP"** (IUC Academy).

2.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

- **UPSC Civil Services & State PCS (Prelims & Mains GS-III) Weightage:** 35% (India Budget Portal)
- **SSC (CGL/CHSL/MTS/CPO/GD) & Railway Examinations Weightage:** 25% (IUC Academy)
- **Banking, RBI Grade-B & Financial Sector Examinations Weightage:** 25% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI))
- **Defence, CAPF & Departmental Examinations Weightage:** 15% (Press Information Bureau (PIB))

Chapter *2* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: Union Budget 2026 Allocations, Deficits & 16th Finance Commission	**Why in News?**	Presented on February 1, 2026 by Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, the **Union Budget 2026** anchored India's macroeconomic policy on **₹12.2 lakh crore** in public capital expenditure alongside a reduced fiscal deficit target of **4.3 percent of GDP** (India Budget Portal).
Union Budget 2026 Fiscal Consolidation & Capex Multiplier Flowchart	**Total Expenditure Estimated at ₹53,47,315 Crore (₹53.47 Lakh Crore)**	In the 2026 Budget Estimates, the Central Government's total expenditure is projected at **₹53,47,315 crore** (13.6% of GDP), which is 7.7 **percent higher** than the preceding revised estimate of ₹49.65 lakh crore (India Budget Portal).
Official Union Budget 2026 Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators Table	**Public Capital Expenditure Raised to ₹12.2 Lakh Crore**	Continuing its capex-led growth strategy, Union Budget 2026 raised public capital expenditure to **₹12.2 lakh crore** (up from ~₹11 lakh crore in the preceding revised estimate) and allocated **₹2.0 lakh crore** under **SASCI** (Special Assistance as Loan to States for Capital Expenditure) (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Fiscal Deficit at 4.3% of GDP & Revenue Deficit at 1.5% of GDP**	The fiscal deficit in the 2026 Budget Estimates is targeted at **4.3 percent of GDP** (down from 4.4% in the preceding revised estimate), while the revenue deficit is targeted at **1.5 percent of GDP** (India Budget Portal).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Central Government Debt-to-GDP Ratio at 55.6% & Medium-Term Anchor**	The debt-to-GDP ratio is estimated at **55.6 percent of GDP** in the 2026 Budget Estimates (down from 56.1% in the preceding revised estimate), following a fiscal consolidation glide path toward **50 percent of GDP by 2031** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Analytical Synthesis: Union Budget 2026 Allocations, Deficits & 16th Finance Commission	**Sixteenth Finance Commission (SFC) Retains 41% Vertical Devolution**	Union Budget 2026 marks the first year of the award period of the **Sixteenth Finance Commission**, which recommended retaining the States' share in the divisible pool of central taxes at **41 percent** (India Budget Portal).
Union Budget 2026 Fiscal Consolidation & Capex Multiplier Flowchart	**New Income Tax Act Enforcement (April 2026) & Marine Fish Catch Duty Exemption**	The simplified **New Income Tax Act** took effect across India from **April 2026**; furthermore, Union Budget 2026 exempted fish catch by Indian fishing vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or high seas from customs duty and treated landings at foreign ports as exports of goods (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Official Union Budget 2026 Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators Table	**Static GK & Constitutional Linkage**	Under **Article 112** of the Constitution of India, the President causes the **Annual Financial Statement** (Union Budget) to be laid before both Houses of Parliament, while **Article 280** governs the quinquennial constitution of the Finance Commission (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Non-Debt Receipts & Market Borrowings**	Receipts other than borrowings in the 2026 Budget Estimates stand at **₹36,51,547 crore** (~₹36.5 lakh crore, up 7.2%), while gross market borrowings are estimated at **₹17.2 lakh crore** and net market borrowings from dated securities at **₹11.7 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Interest Payment Ratios**	Interest payments in Union Budget 2026 account for **26 percent of total expenditure** and **40 percent of revenue receipts** (India Budget Portal).
Analytical Synthesis: Union Budget 2026 Allocations, Deficits & 16th Finance Commission	**Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Framework**	Under the FRBM Act, the Union Government places the Medium-Term Fiscal Policy Statement, Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement, and Macroeconomic Framework Statement before Parliament alongside the Annual Financial Statement (India Budget Portal).
Union Budget 2026 Fiscal Consolidation & Capex Multiplier Flowchart	**Nominal GDP Growth Assumption in 2026**	Union Budget 2026 estimates a **nominal GDP growth rate of 10 percent** (combining real GDP growth plus inflation) and an **8 percent increase** in tax revenues (India Budget Portal).
Official Union Budget 2026 Fiscal & Macroeconomic Indicators Table	**Capital vs. Revenue Expenditure Multiplier**	Public capital expenditure (**₹12.2 lakh crore** in 2026) creates durable physical assets (highways, railways, ports, power grids) and generates a long-term fiscal multiplier exceeding 2.45, unlike revenue expenditure (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**All-India Examination Relevance**	Exact figures from Union Budget 2026—₹53,47,315 crore expenditure, ₹36,51,547 crore non-debt receipts, ₹12.2 lakh crore capex, 4.3% fiscal deficit, and 55.6% debt-to-GDP ratio—are prime questions for UPSC, PCS, SSC, and Banking exams (IUC Academy).

Chapter 2 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

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

Statement-I (Why in News?): Presented on February 1, 2026 by Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, the **Union Budget 2026** anchored India's macroeconomic policy on **₹12.2 lakh crore** in public capital expenditure alongside a reduced fiscal deficit target of **4.3 percent of GDP** (India Budget Portal).

Statement-II (Total Expenditure Estimated at ₹53,47,315 Crore (₹53.47 Lakh Crore)): In the 2026 Budget Estimates, the Central Government's total expenditure is projected at **₹53,47,315 crore** (13.6% of GDP), which is 7.7 **percent higher** than the preceding revised estimate of ₹49.65 lakh crore (India 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 (Public Capital Expenditure Raised to ₹12.2 Lakh Crore): Continuing its capex-led growth strategy, Union Budget 2026 raised public capital expenditure to **₹12.2 lakh crore** (up from ~₹11 lakh crore in the preceding revised estimate) and allocated **₹2.0 lakh crore** under **SASCI** (Special Assistance as Loan to States for Capital Expenditure) (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Fiscal Deficit at 4.3% of GDP & Revenue Deficit at 1.5% of GDP): The fiscal deficit in the 2026 Budget Estimates is targeted at **4.3 percent of GDP** (down from 4.4% in the preceding revised estimate), while the revenue deficit is targeted at **1.5 percent of GDP** (India 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 (Central Government Debt-to-GDP Ratio at 55.6% & Medium-Term Anchor): The debt-to-GDP ratio is estimated at **55.6 percent of GDP** in the 2026 Budget Estimates (down from 56.1% in the preceding revised estimate), following a fiscal consolidation glide path toward **50 percent of GDP by 2031** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Sixteenth Finance Commission (SFC) Retains 41% Vertical Devolution): Union Budget 2026 marks the first year of the award period of the **Sixteenth Finance Commission**, which recommended retaining the States' share in the divisible pool of central taxes at **41 percent** (India 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 #4 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (New Income Tax Act Enforcement (April 2026) & Marine Fish Catch Duty Exemption): The simplified **New Income Tax Act** took effect across India from **April 2026**; furthermore, Union Budget 2026 exempted fish catch by Indian fishing vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or high seas from customs duty and treated landings at foreign ports as exports of goods (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Static GK & Constitutional Linkage): Under **Article 112** of the Constitution of India, the President causes the **Annual Financial Statement** (Union Budget) to be laid before both Houses of Parliament, while **Article 280** governs the quinquennial constitution of the Finance Commission (IUC Academy).

✓ **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 (Non-Debt Receipts & Market Borrowings): Receipts other than borrowings in the 2026 Budget Estimates stand at **₹36,51,547 crore** (~₹36.5 lakh crore, up 7.2%), while gross market borrowings are estimated at **₹17.2 lakh crore** and net market borrowings from dated securities at **₹11.7 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Interest Payment Ratios): Interest payments in Union Budget 2026 account for **26 percent of total expenditure** and **40 percent of revenue receipts** (India 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 #6 — Both Statements Verified Correct

Statement-I (Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Framework): Under the FRBM Act, the Union Government places the Medium-Term Fiscal Policy Statement, Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement, and Macroeconomic Framework Statement before Parliament alongside the Annual Financial Statement (India Budget Portal).

Statement-II (Nominal GDP Growth Assumption in 2026): Union Budget 2026 estimates a **nominal GDP growth rate of 10 percent** (combining real GDP growth plus inflation) and an **8 percent increase** in tax revenues (India Budget Portal).

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

Chapter 3: RBI Monetary Policy 2026, Repo Rate Hike to 5.50%, Banking & External Sector Resilience

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 3: RBI Monetary Policy 2026, Repo Rate Hike to 5.50%, Banking & External Sector Resilience

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Analytical Synthesis: RBI MPC October 2026 Decision, LAF Corridor & US$ 734.6B Forex Reserves	Official RBI Monetary Policy & External Sector Indicators Table (2026)	Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

3.1 Analytical Synthesis: RBI MPC October 2026 Decision, LAF Corridor & US$ 734.6B Forex Reserves

• **Why in News?:** On **October 7, 2026**, the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), chaired by **RBI Governor Shri Sanjay Malhotra**, unanimously raised the policy **Repo Rate by 25 basis points from 5.25% to 5.50%** and shifted the monetary policy stance to **calibrated tightening** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **Updated LAF Policy Corridor Rates (October 7, 2026 Resolution):** Following the 25 bps rate hike on October 7, 2026, the **Policy Repo Rate stands at 5.50%**, the **Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate stands at 5.25%**, and both the **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate stand at 5.75%**; earlier, in its June and August 2026 reviews (62nd MPC meeting), the MPC had held the repo rate steady at 5.25% with a neutral stance (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **Core Inflation Projected at 4.4% & MPC Statutory Publications (October 2026):** The RBI released its bi-annual *Monetary Policy Report* (*MPR*) on October 7, 2026 and the statutory *MPC Minutes* on October 21, 2026, projecting **core inflation at 4.4 percent** within the statutory 2% and 6% tolerance band (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **India's Foreign Exchange Reserves at US$ 734.6 Billion (October 2026):** As on October 2, 2026, India's foreign exchange reserves stood at a robust **US$ 734.6 billion**, providing strong external sector insulation against global geopolitical volatility (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **India Ranks 3rd Globally in Announced Greenfield FDI Projects (2026):** Gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows to India expanded by **20.6 percent** in 2026, and India ranked **3rd globally** in announced greenfield FDI projects with **US$ 41.3 billion** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **Surge in Non-Resident Deposits (US$ 119.2B) & External Commercial Borrowings (2026):** Official RBI external sector data for 2026 shows net inflows under non-resident deposits rising to **US$ 119.2 billion**, while gross External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) disbursements rose to **US 23.9 billion** (net inflow of **US 7.3 billion**) (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **October 2026 RBI Bulletin Stock–Bond Correlation Study (DCC-GARCH Model):** Published on October 23, 2026, the RBI Bulletin used a Dynamic Conditional Correlation (DCC-GARCH) model to demonstrate an implied inflation turning point of **1.6 percent** for stock–bond correlation in advanced economies, whereas in emerging markets the correlation averages **+0.6**, never turns negative, and is driven solely by global equity volatility (**VIX**) as confirmed by a formal **Wald test** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **Static GK & Statutory Linkage:** Constituted under **Section 45ZB of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934**, the 6-member Monetary Policy Committee (3 internal RBI members headed by the Governor + 3 external members appointed by the Central Government) is mandated to maintain CPI-Combined inflation at **4% with a tolerance band of ±2% (2% to 6%)** (IUC Academy).

3.2 RBI Monetary Policy Transmission & External Sector Stability Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4
Governor Sanjay Malhotra-Led MPC Raises Policy Repo Rate by 25 bps to 5.50% on Oct 7, 2026	LAF Corridor Operates with SDF Floor at 5.25% and MSF/Bank Rate Ceiling at 5.75%	Calibrated Tightening Stance Anchors Core Inflation Projection at 4.4%	US 734.6B Forex Reserves & US 41.3B Greenfield FDI (3rd Global Rank) Fortify External Balance

3.3 Official RBI Monetary Policy & External Sector Indicators Table *(2026)*

• **Household Inflation Expectations & Rural Consumer Confidence (2026):** In RBI's September 2026 surveys, urban households' inflation expectations rose by **70 bps (3 months ahead)** and **60 bps (1 year ahead)**, while in the bi-monthly Rural Consumer Confidence Survey (RCCS), current inflation perception rose by **70 bps** and 1-year ahead expectation by **50 bps** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **Money Market Operations (November 2026):** In November 2026, RBI conducted 4-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auctions while the Weighted Average Call Rate (WACR)—the operating target of monetary policy—traded 14 bps below the policy repo rate (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Monetary / External Indicator	Official Figure / Rate (2026)	Policy Context & Statutory Details	Issuing Authority / Publication	Official Source
Policy Repo Rate (Oct 7, 2026)	5.50 percent	Unanimously hiked by 25 bps from 5.25% (held at 5.25% in June & Aug 2026)	RBI Monetary Policy Committee (Chaired by Sanjay Malhotra)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate	5.25 percent	Uncollateralized floor of the LAF corridor (25 bps below Repo Rate)	RBI Monetary Policy Resolution (October 2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) & Bank Rate	5.75 percent	Penal ceiling of the LAF corridor (25 bps above Repo Rate)	RBI Monetary Policy Resolution (October 2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Monetary Policy Stance (Oct 2026)	Calibrated Tightening	Shifted from Neutral stance; 2 members favoured retaining Neutral stance	RBI MPC Statement (October 7, 2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Core Inflation Projection (2026)	4.4 percent	Anchored within statutory 4% ± 2% flexible inflation targeting band	RBI Monetary Policy Report & Minutes (October 2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Foreign Exchange Reserves	US$ 734.6 billion	Recorded as on October 2, 2026; comprises FCA, Gold, SDRs & IMF RTP	RBI Weekly Statistical Supplement (October 2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Gross FDI Growth & Greenfield Rank	+20.6% Growth; 3rd Rank Globally	US$ 41.3 billion in announced greenfield FDI projects in 2026	RBI External Sector Assessment (October 2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Net Non-Resident Deposit Inflows	US$ 119.2 billion	Strong diaspora deposit inflows bolstering domestic banking liquidity	RBI External Sector Press Release (2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Gross & Net ECB Disbursements	US 23.9B (Gross) & US 7.3B (Net)	External Commercial Borrowings supporting Indian corporate capex	RBI External Sector Press Release (2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
DCC-GARCH Stock–Bond Correlation	1.6% (Advanced); +0.6 (Emerging)	VIX is the sole significant driver in emerging markets (Wald test)	RBI Monthly Bulletin (October 23, 2026)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

3.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration

• **Collateral-Free Nature of SDF (Section 17 of RBI Act):** Introduced in April 2022 pursuant to the 2018 amendment to Section 17 of the RBI Act, 1934, the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) allows RBI to absorb excess liquidity from commercial banks **without providing government securities as collateral** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **Impact of Repo Rate Hike on Floating-Rate Borrowers:** When the MPC raises the repo rate by 25 bps to 5.50%, banks reset external benchmark-linked lending rates (EBLR), increasing equated monthly instalments (EMIs) or loan tenures for housing, vehicle, and MSME borrowers (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **Four Official Components of Forex Reserves:** India's US$ 734.6 billion foreign exchange reserves consist of (1) Foreign Currency Assets (FCA — largest component), (2) Gold reserves held by RBI, (3) Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) with the IMF, and (4) Reserve Tranche Position (RTP) in the IMF (IUC Academy).

• **All-India Examination Relevance:** Banking (IBPS/SBI/RBI Grade-B), UPSC CSE, State PCS, and SSC exams heavily test the exact October 7, 2026 repo rate (5.50%), RBI Governor's name (Shri Sanjay Malhotra), and India's 3rd global rank in greenfield FDI (IUC Academy).

Did You Know?: In the October 7, 2026 Monetary Policy Committee resolution chaired by RBI Governor **Sanjay Malhotra**, the decision to hike the repo rate by 25 basis points to **5.50%** was **unanimous** across all 6 members, though two members preferred retaining a neutral stance rather than shifting to calibrated tightening (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Exam Trap Alert: Standing Deposit Facility (SDF — 5.25%) does **not** require RBI to pledge Government Securities (collateral) to banks, whereas **Reverse Repo / Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR)** operations involve collateralized transfer of Government Securities (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the October 2026 RBI Policy Corridor via the symmetric 25-bps ladder: **"5.25% (SDF Floor) — 5.50% (Policy Repo Rate) — 5.75% (MSF & Bank Rate Ceiling) — Governor: Sanjay Malhotra"** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

3.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

• **Banking, RBI Grade-B & Financial Awareness Examinations Weightage:** 40% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI))

• **UPSC Civil Services & State PCS (Prelims & Mains GS-III) Weightage:** 30% (India Budget Portal)

• **SSC & Railway Recruitment Board Examinations Weightage:** 20% (IUC Academy)

• **Defence, Police & Departmental Examinations Weightage:** 10% (Press Information Bureau (PIB))

Chapter *3* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: RBI MPC October 2026 Decision, LAF Corridor & US$ 734.6B Forex Reserves	**Why in News?**	On **October 7, 2026**, the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), chaired by **RBI Governor Shri Sanjay Malhotra**, unanimously raised the policy **Repo Rate by 25 basis points from 5.25% to 5.50%** and shifted the monetary policy stance to **calibrated tightening** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
RBI Monetary Policy Transmission & External Sector Stability Flowchart	**Updated LAF Policy Corridor Rates (October 7, 2026 Resolution)**	Following the 25 bps rate hike on October 7, 2026, the **Policy Repo Rate stands at 5.50%**, the **Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate stands at 5.25%**, and both the **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate stand at 5.75%**; earlier, in its June and August 2026 reviews (62nd MPC meeting), the MPC had held the repo rate steady at 5.25% with a neutral stance (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Official RBI Monetary Policy & External Sector Indicators Table (2026)	**Core Inflation Projected at 4.4% & MPC Statutory Publications (October 2026)**	The RBI released its bi-annual *Monetary Policy Report (MPR)* on October 7, 2026 and the statutory *MPC Minutes* on October 21, 2026, projecting **core inflation at 4.4 percent** within the statutory 2% and 6% tolerance band (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**India's Foreign Exchange Reserves at US$ 734.6 Billion (October 2026)**	As on October 2, 2026, India's foreign exchange reserves stood at a robust **US$ 734.6 billion**, providing strong external sector insulation against global geopolitical volatility (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**India Ranks 3rd Globally in Announced Greenfield FDI Projects (2026)**	Gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows to India expanded by **20.6 percent** in 2026, and India ranked **3rd globally** in announced greenfield FDI projects with **US$ 41.3 billion** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
Analytical Synthesis: RBI MPC October 2026 Decision, LAF Corridor & US$ 734.6B Forex Reserves	**Surge in Non-Resident Deposits (US$ 119.2B) & External Commercial Borrowings (2026)**	Official RBI external sector data for 2026 shows net inflows under non-resident deposits rising to **US$ 119.2 billion**, while gross External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) disbursements rose to **US 23.9 billion** (net inflow of **US 7.3 billion**) (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
RBI Monetary Policy Transmission & External Sector Stability Flowchart	**October 2026 RBI Bulletin Stock–Bond Correlation Study (DCC-GARCH Model)**	Published on October 23, 2026, the RBI Bulletin used a Dynamic Conditional Correlation (DCC-GARCH) model to demonstrate an implied inflation turning point of **1.6 percent** for stock–bond correlation in advanced economies, whereas in emerging markets the correlation averages **+0.6**, never turns negative, and is driven solely by global equity volatility (**VIX**) as confirmed by a formal **Wald test** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
Official RBI Monetary Policy & External Sector Indicators Table (2026)	**Static GK & Statutory Linkage**	Constituted under **Section 45ZB of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934**, the 6-member Monetary Policy Committee (3 internal RBI members headed by the Governor + 3 external members appointed by the Central Government) is mandated to maintain CPI-Combined inflation at **4% with a tolerance band of ±2% (2% to 6%)** (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Household Inflation Expectations & Rural Consumer Confidence (2026)**	In RBI's September 2026 surveys, urban households' inflation expectations rose by **70 bps (3 months ahead)** and **60 bps (1 year ahead)**, while in the bi-monthly Rural Consumer Confidence Survey (RCCS), current inflation perception rose by **70 bps** and 1-year ahead expectation by **50 bps** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Money Market Operations (November 2026)**	In November 2026, RBI conducted 4-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auctions while the Weighted Average Call Rate (WACR)—the operating target of monetary policy—traded 14 bps below the policy repo rate (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
Analytical Synthesis: RBI MPC October 2026 Decision, LAF Corridor & US$ 734.6B Forex Reserves	**Collateral-Free Nature of SDF (Section 17 of RBI Act)**	Introduced in April 2022 pursuant to the 2018 amendment to Section 17 of the RBI Act, 1934, the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) allows RBI to absorb excess liquidity from commercial banks **without providing government securities as collateral** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
RBI Monetary Policy Transmission & External Sector Stability Flowchart	**Impact of Repo Rate Hike on Floating-Rate Borrowers**	When the MPC raises the repo rate by 25 bps to 5.50%, banks reset external benchmark-linked lending rates (EBLR), increasing equated monthly instalments (EMIs) or loan tenures for housing, vehicle, and MSME borrowers (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
Official RBI Monetary Policy & External Sector Indicators Table (2026)	**Four Official Components of Forex Reserves**	India's US$ 734.6 billion foreign exchange reserves consist of (1) Foreign Currency Assets (FCA — largest component), (2) Gold reserves held by RBI, (3) Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) with the IMF, and (4) Reserve Tranche Position (RTP) in the IMF (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**All-India Examination Relevance**	Banking (IBPS/SBI/RBI Grade-B), UPSC CSE, State PCS, and SSC exams heavily test the exact October 7, 2026 repo rate (5.50%), RBI Governor's name (Shri Sanjay Malhotra), and India's 3rd global rank in greenfield FDI (IUC Academy).

Chapter 3 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

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

Statement-I (Why in News?): On **October 7, 2026**, the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), chaired by **RBI Governor Shri Sanjay Malhotra**, unanimously raised the policy **Repo Rate by 25 basis points from 5.25% to 5.50%** and shifted the monetary policy stance to **calibrated tightening** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Statement-II (Updated LAF Policy Corridor Rates (October 7, 2026 Resolution)): Following the 25 bps rate hike on October 7, 2026, the **Policy Repo Rate stands at 5.50%**, the **Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate stands at 5.25%**, and both the **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate stand at 5.75%**; earlier, in its June and August 2026 reviews (62nd MPC meeting), the MPC had held the repo rate steady at 5.25% with a neutral stance (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

✓ **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 (Core Inflation Projected at 4.4% & MPC Statutory Publications (October 2026)): The RBI released its bi-annual *Monetary Policy Report* (*MPR*) on October 7, 2026 and the statutory *MPC Minutes* on October 21, 2026, projecting **core inflation at 4.4 percent** within the statutory 2% and 6% tolerance band (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Statement-II (India's Foreign Exchange Reserves at US$ 734.6 Billion (October 2026)): As on October 2, 2026, India's foreign exchange reserves stood at a robust **US$ 734.6 billion**, providing strong external sector insulation against global geopolitical volatility (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

✓ **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 (India Ranks 3rd Globally in Announced Greenfield FDI Projects (2026)): Gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows to India expanded by **20.6 percent** in 2026, and India ranked **3rd globally** in announced greenfield FDI projects with **US$ 41.3 billion** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Statement-II (Surge in Non-Resident Deposits (US$ 119.2B) & External Commercial Borrowings (2026)): Official RBI external sector data for 2026 shows net inflows under non-resident deposits rising to **US$ 119.2 billion**, while gross External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) disbursements rose to **US 23.9 billion** (net inflow of **US 7.3 billion**) (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

✓ **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 (October 2026 RBI Bulletin Stock–Bond Correlation Study (DCC-GARCH Model)): Published on October 23, 2026, the RBI Bulletin used a Dynamic Conditional Correlation (DCC-GARCH) model to demonstrate an implied inflation turning point of **1.6 percent** for stock–bond correlation in advanced economies, whereas in emerging markets the correlation averages **+0.6**, never turns negative, and is driven solely by global equity volatility (**VIX**) as confirmed by a formal **Wald test** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Statement-II (Static GK & Statutory Linkage): Constituted under **Section 45ZB of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934**, the 6-member Monetary Policy Committee (3 internal RBI members headed by the Governor + 3 external members appointed by the Central Government) is mandated to maintain CPI-Combined inflation at **4% with a tolerance band of ±2% (2% to 6%)** (IUC Academy).

✓ **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 (Household Inflation Expectations & Rural Consumer Confidence (2026)): In RBI's September 2026 surveys, urban households' inflation expectations rose by **70 bps (3 months ahead)** and **60 bps (1 year ahead)**, while in the bi-monthly Rural Consumer Confidence Survey (RCCS), current inflation perception rose by **70 bps** and 1-year ahead expectation by **50 bps** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Statement-II (Money Market Operations (November 2026)): In November 2026, RBI conducted 4-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auctions while the Weighted Average Call Rate (WACR)—the operating target of monetary policy—traded 14 bps below the policy repo rate (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

✓ **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 (Collateral-Free Nature of SDF (Section 17 of RBI Act)): Introduced in April 2022 pursuant to the 2018 amendment to Section 17 of the RBI Act, 1934, the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) allows RBI to absorb excess liquidity from commercial banks **without providing government securities as collateral** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Statement-II (Impact of Repo Rate Hike on Floating-Rate Borrowers): When the MPC raises the repo rate by 25 bps to 5.50%, banks reset external benchmark-linked lending rates (EBLR), increasing equated monthly instalments (EMIs) or loan tenures for housing, vehicle, and MSME borrowers (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

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

Chapter 4: Industrial Policy, Price Indices (WPI & PPI 2026), Renewable Energy & Asset Monetization

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 4: Industrial Policy, Price Indices (WPI & PPI 2026), Renewable Energy & Asset Monetization

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Analytical Synthesis: Wholesale & Producer Price Indices, BRESE 2026 & GST Expansion	**Official Industrial, Price Index & Renewable Energy Data Table (2026)**	**Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration**	**Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix**

4.1 Analytical Synthesis*:* Wholesale & Producer Price Indices, BRESE *2026* & GST Expansion

• **Why in News?:** In November 2026, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry released the provisional **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)**, **Output Producer Price Index (Output PPI)**, and **Trial Input PPI** for October 2026, while New Delhi hosted the **Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026** in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026 & Offshore Wind VGF:** Held in New Delhi in November 2026, BRESE 2026 reviewed India's non-fossil energy expansion alongside the Union Cabinet's **₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** approval for offshore wind energy projects (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Registered GST Taxpayer Base Crosses 1.64 Crore in 2026:** Official Ministry of Finance data released in 2026 confirmed that India's registered Goods and Services Tax (GST) taxpayer base expanded from 66.5 lakh at inception to **1.64 crore in 2026**, reflecting deep formalization of the economy (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Provisional October 2026 WPI, Final August 2026 WPI & Producer Price Indices:** The Office of the Economic Adviser (DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry) published the provisional October 2026 WPI alongside the final August 2026 WPI and experimental Output and Input Producer Price Indices to align domestic price statistics with global standards (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC) E-Auctions (November 2026):** Operating under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance), the **National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)** conducted e-auctions of surplus residential and institutional assets (including Kilpauk, Chennai) in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Integrated Textile Schemes & Weaver Support (2026):** Pursuant to Union Budget 2026, the government integrated textile sector schemes to provide targeted credit, technology upgradation, and market linkage for handloom weavers and artisans (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **India–Thailand Bilateral Trade & Economic Review (October 2026):** In late October 2026, India and Thailand conducted a comprehensive review of bilateral trade, supply-chain connectivity, and industrial cooperation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Static GK & Constitutional Linkage:** The **101st Constitutional Amendment Act** introduced the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and inserted **Article 279A**, empowering the President to constitute the **GST Council** chaired by the Union Finance Minister (IUC Academy).

4.2 Price Index Compilation, Tax Formalization & Clean Energy Investment Flowchart

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Office of Economic Adviser (DPIIT) Compiles WPI (697 Items) & Output/Input PPI for Oct 2026

STEP 2
GST Taxpayer Base Reaches 1.64 Crore & NLMC Monetizes Surplus Public Land Assets

STEP 3
Union Cabinet Allocates Rs 7,453 Crore VGF for Offshore Wind Energy Installations

STEP 4
Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE 2026) Accelerates Clean Energy Transition

4.3 Official Industrial, Price Index & Renewable Energy Data Table *(2026)*

• **WPI vs. CPI Structural Weights:** India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI, 697 commodities) excludes services and assigns the highest weight to **Manufactured Products (64.23%)**, whereas Consumer Price Index Combined (CPI-C) includes services and assigns the highest weight to **Food and Beverages (45.86%)** (IUC Academy).

• **Producer Price Index (PPI) Advantage:** Unlike WPI (which includes indirect taxes and trade/transport margins), the Producer Price Index measures the average change in prices received by domestic producers for their output or paid for intermediate inputs (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)	Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body	Key Official Metric / Benchmark (2026)	Structural & Economic Significance	Official Source
Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE 2026)	Ministry of New & Renewable Energy	Held in November 2026 in New Delhi	National platform for solar, wind, storage & green hydrogen investment	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Offshore Wind Energy VGF Scheme (2026)	Union Cabinet / MNRE	₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding	Catalyzes offshore wind turbine deployment along Indian coastline	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Registered GST Taxpayer Base (2026)	Ministry of Finance (CBIC & GSTN)	1.64 crore active taxpayers in 2026	More than doubled from 66.5 lakh registered taxpayers at launch	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Wholesale Price Index (WPI — Oct 2026)	Office of Economic Adviser (DPIIT, MoCI)	697 commodities; Manufactured weight: 64.23%	Primary Articles weight: 22.62%; Fuel & Power weight: 13.15%	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Output PPI & Trial Input PPI (Oct 2026)	DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry	Released in November 2026 alongside Final Aug 2026 WPI	Tracks producer-level price dynamics net of distribution margins	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Consumer Price Index Combined (CPI-C)	National Statistical Office (MoSPI)	Food & Beverages weight: 45.86%	Statutory nominal anchor for RBI Monetary Policy Committee	IUC Academy
National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)	Dept. of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance)	November 2026 residential property e-auctions	100% Government-owned SPV monetizing non-core CPSE land assets	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Integrated Textile Schemes (Budget 2026)	Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Finance	Targeted support for handloom weavers & artisans	Strengthens domestic fiber-to-fashion value chain	India Budget Portal

4.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration

• **Historical Industrial Policy Resolutions:** Independent India's **First Industrial Policy Resolution** was presented on **April 6, 1948** by Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee (establishing a mixed economy), while the **Second Industrial Policy Resolution of April 30, 1956** (categorizing industries into Schedules A, B, and C) is called the **'Economic Constitution of India'** (IUC Academy).

• **Voting Architecture of the GST Council (Article 279A):** Every decision of the GST Council requires a majority of not less than **three-fourths (75%)** of the weighted votes of the members present and voting, where the Central Government holds **one-third (33.33%)** weightage and all State Governments together hold **two-thirds (66.67%)** weightage (IUC Academy).

• **Global Trade Volume Moderation in 2026:** According to the IMF World Economic Outlook update cited by RBI in October 2026, global goods and services trade volume growth moderated to **3.5 percent in 2026** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

• **All-India Examination Relevance:** Questions differentiating the issuing bodies and component weights of WPI vs. CPI, the ₹7,453 crore Offshore Wind VGF, and BRESE 2026 frequently appear in UPSC, PCS, SSC, and Banking exams (IUC Academy).

Did You Know?: Out of the **697 commodities** in India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI) basket, **555 items** belong to Manufactured Products (64.23% weight), **117 items** belong to Primary Articles (22.62% weight), and **16 items** belong to Fuel and Power (13.15% weight) (IUC Academy).

Exam Trap Alert: WPI is compiled and released by the **Office of the Economic Adviser (DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry)**, whereas **CPI Combined** and the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** are compiled and released by the **National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the three WPI component weights via: **"Manufactured: 64.23% (555 items) — Primary Articles: 22.62% (117 items) — Fuel & Power: 13.15% (16 items) = Total 697 Commodities"** (IUC Academy).

4.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

• **UPSC Civil Services & State PCS Examinations Weightage:** 35% (Press Information Bureau (PIB))

• **SSC & Railway Recruitment Board Examinations Weightage:** 30% (IUC Academy)

• **Banking & Economic Statistics Examinations Weightage:** 20% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI))

• **Defence, Police & Departmental Examinations Weightage:** 15% (India Budget Portal)

Chapter *4* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: Wholesale & Producer Price Indices, BRESE 2026 & GST Expansion	Why in News?	In November 2026, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry released the provisional **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)**, **Output Producer Price Index (Output PPI)**, and **Trial Input PPI** for October 2026, while New Delhi hosted the **Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026** in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Price Index Compilation, Tax Formalization & Clean Energy Investment Flowchart	**Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026 & Offshore Wind VGF**	Held in New Delhi in November 2026, BRESE 2026 reviewed India's non-fossil energy expansion alongside the Union Cabinet's **₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** approval for offshore wind energy projects (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Official Industrial, Price Index & Renewable Energy Data Table (2026)	**Registered GST Taxpayer Base Crosses 1.64 Crore in 2026**	Official Ministry of Finance data released in 2026 confirmed that India's registered Goods and Services Tax (GST) taxpayer base expanded from 66.5 lakh at inception to **1.64 crore in 2026**, reflecting deep formalization of the economy (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Provisional October 2026 WPI, Final August 2026 WPI & Producer Price Indices**	The Office of the Economic Adviser (DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry) published the provisional October 2026 WPI alongside the final August 2026 WPI and experimental Output and Input Producer Price Indices to align domestic price statistics with global standards (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC) E-Auctions (November 2026)**	Operating under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance), the **National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)** conducted e-auctions of surplus residential and institutional assets (including Kilpauk, Chennai) in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Analytical Synthesis: Wholesale & Producer Price Indices, BRESE 2026 & GST Expansion	**Integrated Textile Schemes & Weaver Support (2026)**	Pursuant to Union Budget 2026, the government integrated textile sector schemes to provide targeted credit, technology upgradation, and market linkage for handloom weavers and artisans (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Price Index Compilation, Tax Formalization & Clean Energy Investment Flowchart	**India–Thailand Bilateral Trade & Economic Review (October 2026)**	In late October 2026, India and Thailand conducted a comprehensive review of bilateral trade, supply-chain connectivity, and industrial cooperation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Official Industrial, Price Index & Renewable Energy Data Table (2026)	**Static GK & Constitutional Linkage**	The **101st Constitutional Amendment Act** introduced the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and inserted **Article 279A**, empowering the President to constitute the **GST Council** chaired by the Union Finance Minister (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**WPI vs. CPI Structural Weights**	India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI, 697 commodities) excludes services and assigns the highest weight to **Manufactured Products (64.23%)**, whereas Consumer Price Index Combined (CPI-C) includes services and assigns the highest weight to **Food and Beverages (45.86%)** (IUC Academy).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Producer Price Index (PPI) Advantage**	Unlike WPI (which includes indirect taxes and trade/transport margins), the Producer Price Index measures the average change in prices received by domestic producers for their output or paid for intermediate inputs (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: Wholesale & Producer Price Indices, BRESE 2026 & GST Expansion	**Historical Industrial Policy Resolutions**	Independent India's **First Industrial Policy Resolution** was presented on **April 6, 1948** by Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee (establishing a mixed economy), while the **Second Industrial Policy Resolution of April 30, 1956** (categorizing industries into Schedules A, B, and C) is called the **'Economic Constitution of India'** (IUC Academy).
Price Index Compilation, Tax Formalization & Clean Energy Investment Flowchart	**Voting Architecture of the GST Council (Article 279A)**	Every decision of the GST Council requires a majority of not less than **three-fourths (75%)** of the weighted votes of the members present and voting, where the Central Government holds **one-third (33.33%)** weightage and all State Governments together hold **two-thirds (66.67%)** weightage (IUC Academy).
Official Industrial, Price Index & Renewable Energy Data Table (2026)	**Global Trade Volume Moderation in 2026**	According to the IMF World Economic Outlook update cited by RBI in October 2026, global goods and services trade volume growth moderated to **3.5 percent in 2026** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**All-India Examination Relevance**	Questions differentiating the issuing bodies and component weights of WPI vs. CPI, the ₹7,453 crore Offshore Wind VGF, and BRESE 2026 frequently appear in UPSC, PCS, SSC, and Banking exams (IUC Academy).

Chapter 4 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

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

Statement-I (Why in News?): In November 2026, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry released the provisional **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)**, **Output Producer Price Index (Output PPI)**, and **Trial Input PPI** for October 2026, while New Delhi hosted the **Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026** in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026 & Offshore Wind VGF): Held in New Delhi in November 2026, BRESE 2026 reviewed India's non-fossil energy expansion alongside the Union Cabinet's **₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** approval for offshore wind energy projects (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Registered GST Taxpayer Base Crosses 1.64 Crore in 2026): Official Ministry of Finance data released in 2026 confirmed that India's registered Goods and Services Tax (GST) taxpayer base expanded from 66.5 lakh at inception to **1.64 crore in 2026**, reflecting deep formalization of the economy (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Provisional October 2026 WPI, Final August 2026 WPI & Producer Price Indices): The Office of the Economic Adviser (DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry) published the provisional October 2026 WPI alongside the final August 2026 WPI and experimental Output and Input Producer Price Indices to align domestic price statistics with global standards (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC) E-Auctions (November 2026)): Operating under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance), the **National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)** conducted e-auctions of surplus residential and institutional assets (including Kilpauk, Chennai) in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Integrated Textile Schemes & Weaver Support (2026)): Pursuant to Union Budget 2026, the government integrated textile sector schemes to provide targeted credit, technology upgradation, and market linkage for handloom weavers and artisans (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (India–Thailand Bilateral Trade & Economic Review (October 2026)): In late October 2026, India and Thailand conducted a comprehensive review of bilateral trade, supply-chain connectivity, and industrial cooperation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Static GK & Constitutional Linkage): The **101st Constitutional Amendment Act** introduced the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and inserted **Article 279A**, empowering the President to constitute the **GST Council** chaired by the Union Finance Minister (IUC Academy).

✓ **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 (WPI vs. CPI Structural Weights): India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI, 697 commodities) excludes services and assigns the highest weight to **Manufactured Products (64.23%)**, whereas Consumer Price Index Combined (CPI-C) includes services and assigns the highest weight to **Food and Beverages (45.86%)** (IUC Academy).

Statement-II (Producer Price Index (PPI) Advantage): Unlike WPI (which includes indirect taxes and trade/transport margins), the Producer Price Index measures the average change in prices received by domestic producers for their output or paid for intermediate inputs (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Historical Industrial Policy Resolutions): Independent India's **First Industrial Policy Resolution** was presented on **April 6, 1948** by Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee (establishing a mixed economy), while the **Second Industrial Policy Resolution of April 30, 1956** (categorizing industries into Schedules A, B, and C) is called the **'Economic Constitution of India'** (IUC Academy).

Statement-II (Voting Architecture of the GST Council (Article 279A)): Every decision of the GST Council requires a majority of not less than **three-fourths (75%)** of the weighted votes of the members present and voting, where the Central Government holds **one-third (33.33%)** weightage and all State Governments together hold **two-thirds (66.67%)** weightage (IUC Academy).

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

Chapter 5: ISRO Space Missions 2026 — Gaganyaan, GSLV-F18/NVS-03, LVM3-M7 & NGLV 'Soorya'

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 5: ISRO Space Missions 2026 — Gaganyaan, GSLV-F18/NVS-03, LVM3-M7 & NGLV 'Soorya'

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Analytical Synthesis: 27 Scheduled Space Missions, CE20 Engine Test & Reusable NGLV 2026	Official ISRO Missions, Launch Vehicles & Space Systems Table (2026)	Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

5.1 Analytical Synthesis: 27 Scheduled Space Missions, CE20 Engine Test & Reusable NGLV 2026

• **Why in News?:** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scheduled **27 space missions** for execution in financial year 2026, highlighted by preparations for the first uncrewed **Gaganyaan** flight, the **GSLV-F18 / NVS-03** navigation mission in October 2026, the **LVM3-M7 CE20 cryogenic engine** flight acceptance hot test on September 9, 2026, and the April 2026 tender for **reusable rocket landing leg hardware** under the Next Generation Launch Vehicle (**NGLV 'Soorya'**) programme (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

• **GSLV-F18 / NVS-03 Navigation Satellite Mission (October 2026):** In October 2026, ISRO advanced the **GSLV-F18** mission—the **20th flight** of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle—carrying the second-generation navigation satellite **NVS-03** to augment the NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) fleet (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

• **LVM3-M7 CE20 Cryogenic Engine Hot Test at 22-Tonne Thrust (September 9, 2026):** On September 9, 2026, ISRO successfully conducted the flight acceptance hot test of the indigenous **CE20 cryogenic engine** designated for the seventh operational LVM3 mission (**LVM3-M7**), testing the engine at an uprated **22-tonne thrust level** (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

• **Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV 'Soorya') & Reusable Landing Legs (April 2026):** Approved with a total outlay of **₹8,240 crore** (covering administration, facilities, and three developmental flights **D1, D2, and D3**), ISRO issued a tender in **April 2026** for the fabrication of **landing leg hardware** for its reusable rocket programme (**NGLV**, internally named **'Soorya'**), alongside constructing a **Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota** (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

• **Gaganyaan Human Spaceflight Programme & Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla (2026):** Under ISRO Chairman and Secretary, Department of Space **Dr. V. Narayanan**, ISRO readied the first uncrewed Gaganyaan flight (**G1**) and integrated operational human spaceflight lessons from ISRO Gaganyatri **Shubhanshu Shukla's** International Space Station mission (Axiom-4) and 7-day post-splashdown medical rehabilitation protocol (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

• **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) & Crewed Lunar Landing Roadmap:** The reusable heavy-lift NGLV 'Soorya' and Human-Rated LVM3 (HLVM3) form the technological backbone for establishing and operating the indigenous **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)** and achieving an Indian crewed lunar landing by 2040 (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

• **Space Biotechnology & Microgravity Experiments (2026):** In collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), ISRO advanced microgravity biological payloads examining human physiology, radiation shielding, and closed-loop life support systems (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Static GK & Institutional Linkage:** Established on **August 15, 1969** under the visionary leadership of **Dr. Vikram Sarabhai**, ISRO is headquartered at **Antariksh Bhavan, Bengaluru**, while its primary orbital launchport is the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC SHAR)** at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh (IUC Academy).

5.2 ISRO Launch Vehicle Evolution & Human Spaceflight Roadmap Flowchart *(2026)*

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Sept 9, 2026 Hot Test of CE20 Cryogenic Engine at 22-Tonne Thrust for LVM3-M7

STEP 2
GSLV-F18 (20th GSLV Flight) / NVS-03 Mission & 27 Scheduled Missions in FY 2026

STEP 3
Uncrewed & Crewed Gaganyaan Flights (400 km LEO, 3-Day Mission) via HLVM3

STEP 4
Rs 8,240 Cr Reusable NGLV 'Soorya' (D1, D2 & D3 Flights) & Third Launch Pad Power BAS

5.3 Official ISRO Missions, Launch Vehicles & Space Systems Table *(2026)*

• **Generation-Wise Launch Vehicle Fleet:** ISRO operates the 4-stage **PSLV** (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle), 3-stage **GSLV** (with indigenous cryogenic upper stage), 3-stage heavy-lift **LVM3** (formerly GSLV Mk-III), and 3-stage solid **SSLV** (Small Satellite Launch Vehicle), and is now building the reusable **NGLV ('Soorya')** (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

• **Second-Generation NavIC Satellites:** The NVS series (including **NVS-03** on **GSLV-F18**) incorporates indigenous Rubidium atomic clocks and transmits navigation signals in the L1, L5, and S frequency bands (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)	Technical Configuration & Payload	2026 Milestone / Date	Lead ISRO Centre / Facility	Official Source
ISRO Annual Mission Manifest 2026	27 space missions scheduled for execution in FY 2026	Announced in May 2026 including uncrewed Gaganyaan prep	ISRO Headquarters, Antariksh Bhavan, Bengaluru	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
GSLV-F18 / NVS-03 Mission	20th flight of GSLV; carries NVS-03 navigation satellite	October 2026 orbital campaign	Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC SHAR), Sriharikota	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
LVM3-M7 CE20 Cryogenic Engine Test	Flight acceptance hot test at 22-tonne thrust level	Successfully conducted on September 9, 2026	ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)	Technical Configuration & Payload	2026 Milestone / Date	Lead ISRO Centre / Facility	Official Source
Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV 'Soorya')	₹8,240 crore outlay; 3 developmental flights (D1, D2 & D3)	April 2026 tender issued for reusable landing leg hardware	Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
Gaganyaan Human Spaceflight Programme	3-day crewed mission to 400 km Low Earth Orbit aboard HLVM3	2026 uncrewed flight readiness & crew module integration	Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC), Bengaluru	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
Axiom-4 ISS Mission Post-Flight Integration	Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla's ISS flight & 7-day rehab protocol	2026 operational integration with NASA Johnson Space Center	ISRO & Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC)	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota	Dedicated heavy-lift pad configured for NGLV 'Soorya' rockets	2026 civil and launch infrastructure execution	Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC SHAR), Andhra Pradesh	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)	Indigenous orbital space station & 2040 crewed lunar landing goal	2026 architecture refinement powered by NGLV & LVM3	Department of Space (DoS), Government of India	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

5.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration

• **Three-Stage Architecture of LVM3:** India's heaviest operational rocket, **LVM3**, comprises two **S200** solid strap-on stages, an **L110** liquid-fuelled core stage (powered by twin Vikas engines), and a **C25** cryogenic upper stage powered by the indigenous **CE20** engine (tested at 22-tonne thrust on September 9, 2026) (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

• **LOX-Methane / Semi-Cryogenic Propulsion in NGLV 'Soorya':** Unlike traditional expendable rockets, NGLV 'Soorya' is designed with a reusable first stage equipped with **landing legs** for vertical recovery and clean, cost-effective propulsion (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

• **Governance of the Department of Space:** The Space Commission and the Department of Space (DoS) function directly under the **Prime Minister of India**, with **Dr. V. Narayanan** serving as Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

• **All-India Examination Relevance:** UPSC Prelims, CDS, NDA, CAPF, SSC, and State PCS exams frequently test the vehicle-payload pairing (**GSLV-F18 / NVS-03**), the internal name and budget of **NGLV ('Soorya', ₹8,240 crore)**, and the thrust of the **CE20 engine (22 tonnes)** (IUC Academy).

Did You Know?: In **April 2026**, ISRO issued an official fabrication tender for **landing leg hardware** for its **₹8,240 crore Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV 'Soorya')**, confirming that India's heavy-lift rocket will perform vertical first-stage landings similar to reusable orbital launch vehicles (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Exam Trap Alert: PSLV is a **4-stage** launch vehicle (Solid–Liquid–Solid–Liquid), whereas both **GSLV** and **LVM3** are **3-stage** launch vehicles (Solid–Liquid–Cryogenic); never mark LVM3 as a 4-stage rocket in prelims statement questions (IUC Academy).

★ **Memory Trick:** Memorize ISRO's 2026 milestones via: **"27 Missions in FY26 — GSLV-F18 (20th Flight) / NVS-03 — Sept 9: 22-Tonne CE20 Engine (LVM3-M7) — April 2026: ₹8,240 Cr NGLV 'Soorya' Landing Legs"** (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

5.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

- **UPSC Civil Services & State PCS (Prelims & Mains GS-III) Weightage:** 35% (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO))
- **SSC & Railway Recruitment Board Examinations Weightage:** 30% (IUC Academy)
- **Defence Services (NDA/CDS/CAPF/AFCAT) Weightage:** 25% (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
- **Banking & General Awareness Examinations Weightage:** 10% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI))

Chapter *5* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: 27 Scheduled Space Missions, CE20 Engine Test & Reusable NGLV 2026	**Why in News?**	The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scheduled **27 space missions** for execution in financial year 2026, highlighted by preparations for the first uncrewed **Gaganyaan** flight, the **GSLV-F18 / NVS-03** navigation mission in October 2026, the **LVM3-M7 CE20 cryogenic engine** flight acceptance hot test on September 9, 2026, and the April 2026 tender for **reusable rocket landing leg hardware** under the Next Generation Launch Vehicle (**NGLV 'Soorya'**) programme (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
ISRO Launch Vehicle Evolution & Human Spaceflight Roadmap Flowchart (2026)	**GSLV-F18 / NVS-03 Navigation Satellite Mission (October 2026)**	In October 2026, ISRO advanced the **GSLV-F18** mission—the **20th flight** of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle—carrying the second-generation navigation satellite **NVS-03** to augment the NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) fleet (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
Official ISRO Missions, Launch Vehicles & Space Systems Table (2026)	**LVM3-M7 CE20 Cryogenic Engine Hot Test at 22-Tonne Thrust (September 9, 2026)**	On September 9, 2026, ISRO successfully conducted the flight acceptance hot test of the indigenous **CE20 cryogenic engine** designated for the seventh operational LVM3 mission (**LVM3-M7**), testing the engine at an uprated **22-tonne thrust level** (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV 'Soorya') & Reusable Landing Legs (April 2026)**	Approved with a total outlay of **₹8,240 crore** (covering administration, facilities, and three developmental flights **D1, D2, and D3**), ISRO issued a tender in **April 2026** for the fabrication of **landing leg hardware** for its reusable rocket programme (**NGLV**, internally named **'Soorya'**), alongside constructing a **Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota** (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	Gaganyaan Human Spaceflight Programme & Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla (2026)	Under ISRO Chairman and Secretary, Department of Space **Dr. V. Narayanan**, ISRO readied the first uncrewed Gaganyaan flight (**G1**) and integrated operational human spaceflight lessons from ISRO Gaganyatri **Shubhanshu Shukla's** International Space Station mission (Axiom-4) and 7-day post-splashdown medical rehabilitation protocol (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
Analytical Synthesis: 27 Scheduled Space Missions, CE20 Engine Test & Reusable NGLV 2026	Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) & Crewed Lunar Landing Roadmap	The reusable heavy-lift NGLV 'Soorya' and Human-Rated LVM3 (HLVM3) form the technological backbone for establishing and operating the indigenous **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)** and achieving an Indian crewed lunar landing by 2040 (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
ISRO Launch Vehicle Evolution & Human Spaceflight Roadmap Flowchart (2026)	Space Biotechnology & Microgravity Experiments (2026)	In collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), ISRO advanced microgravity biological payloads examining human physiology, radiation shielding, and closed-loop life support systems (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Official ISRO Missions, Launch Vehicles & Space Systems Table (2026)	Static GK & Institutional Linkage	Established on **August 15, 1969** under the visionary leadership of **Dr. Vikram Sarabhai**, ISRO is headquartered at **Antariksh Bhavan, Bengaluru**, while its primary orbital launchport is the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC SHAR)** at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	Generation-Wise Launch Vehicle Fleet	ISRO operates the 4-stage **PSLV** (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle), 3-stage **GSLV** (with indigenous cryogenic upper stage), 3-stage heavy-lift **LVM3** (formerly GSLV Mk-III), and 3-stage solid **SSLV** (Small Satellite Launch Vehicle), and is now building the reusable **NGLV ('Soorya')** (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	Second-Generation NavIC Satellites	The NVS series (including **NVS-03** on **GSLV-F18**) incorporates indigenous Rubidium atomic clocks and transmits navigation signals in the L1, L5, and S frequency bands (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
Analytical Synthesis: 27 Scheduled Space Missions, CE20 Engine Test & Reusable NGLV 2026	Three-Stage Architecture of LVM3	India's heaviest operational rocket, **LVM3**, comprises two **S200** solid strap-on stages, an **L110** liquid-fuelled core stage (powered by twin Vikas engines), and a **C25** cryogenic upper stage powered by the indigenous **CE20** engine (tested at 22-tonne thrust on September 9, 2026) (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
ISRO Launch Vehicle Evolution & Human Spaceflight Roadmap Flowchart (2026)	LOX-Methane / Semi-Cryogenic Propulsion in NGLV 'Soorya'	Unlike traditional expendable rockets, NGLV 'Soorya' is designed with a reusable first stage equipped with **landing legs** for vertical recovery and clean, cost-effective propulsion (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).
Official ISRO Missions, Launch Vehicles & Space Systems Table (2026)	Governance of the Department of Space	The Space Commission and the Department of Space (DoS) function directly under the **Prime Minister of India**, with **Dr. V. Narayanan** serving as Chairman of ISRO and Secretary, Department of Space (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**All-India Examination Relevance**	UPSC Prelims, CDS, NDA, CAPF, SSC, and State PCS exams frequently test the vehicle-payload pairing (**GSLV-F18 / NVS-03**), the internal name and budget of **NGLV ('Soorya', ₹8,240 crore)**, and the thrust of the **CE20 engine (22 tonnes)** (IUC Academy).

Chapter 5 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

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

Statement-I (Why in News?): The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scheduled **27 space missions** for execution in financial year 2026, highlighted by preparations for the first uncrewed **Gaganyaan** flight, the **GSLV-F18 / NVS-03** navigation mission in October 2026, the **LVM3-M7 CE20 cryogenic engine** flight acceptance hot test on September 9, 2026, and the April 2026 tender for **reusable rocket landing leg hardware** under the Next Generation Launch Vehicle (**NGLV 'Soorya'**) programme (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Statement-II (GSLV-F18 / NVS-03 Navigation Satellite Mission (October 2026)): In October 2026, ISRO advanced the **GSLV-F18** mission—the **20th flight** of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle—carrying the second-generation navigation satellite **NVS-03** to augment the NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) fleet (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

✓ **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 (LVM3-M7 CE20 Cryogenic Engine Hot Test at 22-Tonne Thrust (September 9, 2026)): On September 9, 2026, ISRO successfully conducted the flight acceptance hot test of the indigenous **CE20 cryogenic engine** designated for the seventh operational LVM3 mission (**LVM3-M7**), testing the engine at an uprated **22-tonne thrust level** (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Statement-II (Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV 'Soorya') & Reusable Landing Legs (April 2026)): Approved with a total outlay of **₹8,240 crore** (covering administration, facilities, and three developmental flights **D1, D2, and D3**), ISRO issued a tender in **April 2026** for the fabrication of **landing leg hardware** for its reusable rocket programme (**NGLV**, internally named **'Soorya'**), alongside constructing a **Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota** (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

✓ **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 (Gaganyaan Human Spaceflight Programme & Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla (2026)): Under ISRO Chairman and Secretary, Department of Space **Dr. V. Narayanan**, ISRO readied the first uncrewed Gaganyaan flight (**G1**) and integrated operational human spaceflight lessons from ISRO Gaganyatri **Shubhanshu Shukla's** International Space Station mission (Axiom-4) and 7-day post-splashdown medical rehabilitation protocol (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Statement-II (Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) & Crewed Lunar Landing Roadmap): The reusable heavy-lift NGLV 'Soorya' and Human-Rated LVM3 (HLVM3) form the technological backbone for establishing and operating the indigenous **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)** and achieving an Indian crewed lunar landing by 2040 (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

✓ **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 (Space Biotechnology & Microgravity Experiments (2026)): In collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), ISRO advanced microgravity biological payloads examining human physiology, radiation shielding, and closed-loop life support systems (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Static GK & Institutional Linkage): Established on **August 15, 1969** under the visionary leadership of **Dr. Vikram Sarabhai**, ISRO is headquartered at **Antariksh Bhavan, Bengaluru**, while its primary orbital launchport is the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC SHAR)** at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh (IUC Academy).

✓ **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 (Generation-Wise Launch Vehicle Fleet): ISRO operates the 4-stage **PSLV** (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle), 3-stage **GSLV** (with indigenous cryogenic upper stage), 3-stage heavy-lift **LVM3** (formerly GSLV Mk-III), and 3-stage solid **SSLV** (Small Satellite Launch Vehicle), and is now building the reusable **NGLV ('Soorya')** (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Statement-II (Second-Generation NavIC Satellites): The NVS series (including **NVS-03** on **GSLV-F18**) incorporates indigenous Rubidium atomic clocks and transmits navigation signals in the L1, L5, and S frequency bands (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

✓ **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 (Three-Stage Architecture of LVM3): India's heaviest operational rocket, **LVM3**, comprises two **S200** solid strap-on stages, an **L110** liquid-fuelled core stage (powered by twin Vikas engines), and a **C25** cryogenic upper stage powered by the indigenous **CE20** engine (tested at 22-tonne thrust on September 9, 2026) (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Statement-II (LOX-Methane / Semi-Cryogenic Propulsion in NGLV 'Soorya'): Unlike traditional expendable rockets, NGLV 'Soorya' is designed with a reusable first stage equipped with **landing legs** for vertical recovery and clean, cost-effective propulsion (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

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

Chapter *6:* DRDO *2026* Missile Flight Trials, Hypersonic Scramjet & Directed Energy Weapons

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 6: DRDO 2026 Missile Flight Trials, Hypersonic Scramjet & Directed Energy Weapons

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Analytical Synthesis: Pralay (Nov 5, 2026), Advanced Agni MIRV, Kusha, LRLACM, SHIELD & BEDHAK	**Complete Master Table of DRDO Missile & Directed Energy Trials in 2026**	**Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration**	**Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix**

6.1 Analytical Synthesis*:* Pralay *(*Nov *5, 2026),* Advanced Agni MIRV, Kusha, LRLACM, SHIELD & BEDHAK

• **Why in News?:** On **November 5, 2026**, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful user evaluation flight-test of the indigenous quasi-ballistic missile **'Pralay'** from ITR

Chandipur, capping an extraordinary 2026 testing calendar that included **Advanced Agni with MIRV**, **Project Kusha**, **LRLACM**, **RudraM-II**, **NASM-SR**, a **1,200-second Scramjet engine test**, and Directed Energy Weapon programmes **SHIELD** and **BEDHAK** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **User Evaluation Flight-Test of 'Pralay' Missile (November 5, 2026):** On November 5, 2026, DRDO successfully flight-tested the indigenous surface-to-surface **quasi-ballistic missile 'Pralay'** from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha in user evaluation trials, with induction into the armed forces imminent (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Advanced Agni with MIRV (May 8, 2026) & Strategic Forces Command Agni Trials (2026):** On **May 8, 2026**, DRDO flight-tested an **Advanced Agni** missile equipped with **MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle)** technology, delivering multiple payloads to independent targets across the Indian Ocean Region; additionally, the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) successfully test-fired **Agni-3 on February 6, 2026**, **Agni-1 on May 22, 2026**, and **Agni-4 on August 6, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **Maiden Flight of 'Project Kusha' (July 23, 2026), LRLACM (June 15) & RudraM-II (June 2):** In mid-2026, DRDO achieved three major milestones: the **maiden flight-test of Project Kusha** (India's indigenous long-range surface-to-air defence system) on **July 23, 2026**, the flight-test of the **Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM)** on **June 15, 2026**, and flight-tests of the air-to-surface anti-radiation missile **RudraM-II** on **June 2, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **NASM-SR Salvo (April 29), VSHORADS (Feb 27), SFDR (Feb 3) & MPATGM (Jan 11, 2026):** Earlier in 2026, DRDO conducted a top-attack test of the **Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)** on a moving target on **January 11, 2026**, demonstrated **Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR)** propulsion on **February 3, 2026**, executed three flight-trials of **VSHORADS** (Very Short Range Air Defence System) intercepting high-speed targets on **February 27, 2026**, and carried out the **first salvo launch of Naval Anti-Ship Missile Short Range (NASM-SR)** from an Indian Navy helicopter on **April 29, 2026** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Full-Scale Scramjet Combustor Tests Over 12 Minutes (Jan 9) & Over 1,200 Seconds (May 9, 2026):** Advancing hypersonic (above Mach 5) cruise missile propulsion, DRDO conducted full-scale scramjet engine combustor static tests lasting **over 12 minutes on January 9, 2026** and **over 1,200 seconds (20 minutes) on May 9, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **Directed Energy Weapons — Project SHIELD (September 2026) & Project BEDHAK (November 2026):** In **September 2026**, DRDO launched the **SHIELD** programme (*S-band, High-Power Microwave Integrated Evaluation System for Lethality & Damage*) under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) using Gallium Nitride (GaN) solid-state power amplifiers (450 MW peak power, 3 kV/m field strength); in **November 2026**, DRDO's **Microwave Tube Research and Development Centre (MTRDC)** issued an Expression of Interest to Indian industry to co-develop a high-power radio-frequency directed energy weapon under **Project BEDHAK** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **Static GK & Strategic Linkage:** Launched in **1983** under **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**, the **Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)** developed five core missiles (**Prithvi, Agni, Trishul, Akash, and Nag**), while India joined the **Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)** as its **35th member on June 27, 2016** (IUC Academy).

6.2 Chronological Flowchart of DRDO's *2026* Missile & Hypersonic Trials

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
February 2026: Scramjet (12+ min), MPATGM, SFDR, Agni-3 & Three VSHORADS Flight Trials

STEP 2
May 2026: First NASM-SR Salvo, Advanced Agni MIRV Test, Scramjet (1200+ sec) & Agni-1

STEP 3
August 2026: RudraM-II, LRLACM, Maiden Project Kusha Flight (July 23) & Agni-4

STEP 4
November 2026: Project SHIELD (S-Band HPM), Pralay User Trial (Nov 5) & Project BEDHAK

6.3 Complete Master Table of DRDO Missile & Directed Energy Trials in *2026*

• **Ballistic vs. Quasi-Ballistic vs. Cruise Missiles:** A ballistic missile (**Prithvi, Agni, K-series**) burns its rocket motor initially and follows a high free-fall arc; a **quasi-ballistic missile ('Pralay')** flies a depressed trajectory and performs mid-course and terminal manoeuvres to evade interceptors; a **cruise missile ('BrahMos', 'LRLACM')** remains powered and guided at low altitude throughout its flight (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **Indigenous Defence Production Record:** Bolstered by DRDO technology transfers, India's indigenous defence production reached **₹1.78 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Missile / Defence System	2026 Trial / Launch Date	System Category & Technical Highlights	Developing Lab / User Agency	Official Source
Pralay Missile	November 5, 2026	Indigenous surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile; user evaluation trial at ITR Chandipur	DRDO (RCI Hyderabad), BDL & BEL	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Project BEDHAK	November 2026	High-power Radio-Frequency Directed Energy Weapon (RF DEW) using magnetron/vircator	MTRDC (DRDO Bengaluru) & Indian Industry	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
Project SHIELD	September 2026	S-band High-Power Microwave (HPM) evaluation system using GaN SSPA (3 kV/m field)	DRDO (Technology Development Fund — TDF)	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
Agni-4, Agni-1 & Agni-3	Aug 6, May 22 & Feb 6, 2026	Solid-fuelled strategic surface-to-surface ballistic missiles fired in user training	Strategic Forces Command (SFC) & DRDO	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
Project Kusha (Maiden Flight)	July 23, 2026	Indigenous long-range surface-to-air defence system (LR-SAM class)	DRDO & Indian Air Force / Indian Army	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM)	June 15, 2026	Precision low-altitude land-attack cruise missile launched from mobile articulated launcher	DRDO (Aeronautical Development Establishment)	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
RudraM-II	June 2, 2026	Indigenous air-to-surface anti-radiation missile for suppression of enemy air defences (SEAD)	DRDO & Indian Air Force	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

Missile / Defence System	2026 Trial / Launch Date	System Category & Technical Highlights	Developing Lab / User Agency	Official Source
Full-Scale Scramjet Combustor	Jan 9 & May 9, 2026	Supersonic combustion ramjet static tests exceeding 12 minutes (Jan 9) & 1,200 seconds (May 9)	DRDO (DRDL Hyderabad)	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
Advanced Agni with MIRV	May 8, 2026	Delivered multiple independently targetable payloads across the Indian Ocean Region	DRDO & Strategic Forces Command	Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
NASM-SR, VSHORADS, SFDR & MPATGM	Apr 29, Feb 27, Feb 3 & Jan 11, 2026	First Navy helicopter salvo of NASM-SR; 3 VSHORADS intercepts; SFDR & top-attack MPATGM	DRDO & Indian Armed Forces	Press Information Bureau (PIB)

6.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration

• **Strategic Forces Command (SFC) & Nuclear Doctrine:** Raised in **January 2003** under the Nuclear Command Authority (NCA, Political Council chaired by the Prime Minister), the Strategic Forces Command operationalizes India's land-based (**Prithvi, Agni**) and sea-based (**Dhanush, K-15 Sagarika, K-4**) strategic deterrence under a **'No First Use' (NFU)** and **Credible Minimum Deterrence** doctrine (IUC Academy).

• **Ramjet vs. Scramjet Physics:** A **Ramjet** slows incoming supersonic air to **subsonic speeds** before combustion (used in **BrahMos** at ~Mach 2.8 and **SFDR**), whereas a **Scramjet (Supersonic Combustion Ramjet)** maintains airflow at **supersonic speeds** throughout the combustion chamber, enabling sustained **hypersonic flight above Mach 5** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **Counter-UAS High-Power Microwave (HPM) Technology:** DRDO's S-band HPM Directed Energy Weapon system (5 km range, 450 MW peak power, 20 ns pulse width) and **Project SHIELD / Project BEDHAK** neutralize hostile drone swarms by inducing high-voltage currents that fry electronic circuits (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **All-India Examination Relevance:** Defence exams (NDA, CDS, CAPF, AFCAT), UPSC Prelims, and SSC exams regularly ask for the exact nature of **Pralay** (quasi-ballistic), **Kusha** (long-range air defence), **RudraM-II** (anti-radiation), **SHIELD**, and **BEDHAK** (IUC Academy).

Did You Know?: SHIELD (launched by DRDO in September 2026 under the Technology Development Fund) stands for ***S-band, High-Power Microwave (HPM) Integrated Evaluation System for Lethality & Damage*** and uses **Gallium Nitride (GaN)** solid-state power amplifiers to generate at least **3 kV/m** electric field strength in the far field (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Exam Trap Alert: BrahMos and **LRLACM** are **cruise missiles** (not ballistic), **Pralay** is a surface-to-surface **quasi-ballistic missile** (tested November 5, 2026), **RudraM-II** is an air-to-surface **anti-radiation missile** (tested June 2, 2026), and **Kusha** is a **surface-to-air defence system** (maiden test July 23, 2026) (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the 2026 DRDO timeline via: **"Jan: Scramjet (12m) & MPATGM — Feb: SFDR, Agni-3 & VSHORADS — Apr: NASM-SR Salvo — May: Agni-MIRV, Scramjet (1200s) & Agni-1 — June: RudraM-II & LRLACM — July: Kusha — Aug: Agni-4 — Sept: SHIELD — Nov: Pralay (Nov 5) & BEDHAK"** (IUC Academy).

6.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

- **Defence Services (NDA/CDS/CAPF/AFCAT) & Police Weightage:** 40% (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO))
- **UPSC Civil Services & State PCS (Prelims & Mains GS-III) Weightage:** 30% (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
- **SSC & Railway Recruitment Board Examinations Weightage:** 20% (IUC Academy)
- **Banking & General Awareness Examinations Weightage:** 10% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI))

Chapter *6* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: Pralay (Nov 5, 2026), Advanced Agni MIRV, Kusha, LRLACM, SHIELD & BEDHAK	**Why in News?**	On **November 5, 2026**, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful user evaluation flight-test of the indigenous quasi-ballistic missile **'Pralay'** from ITR Chandipur, capping an extraordinary 2026 testing calendar that included **Advanced Agni with MIRV**, **Project Kusha**, **LRLACM**, **RudraM-II**, **NASM-SR**, a **1,200-second Scramjet engine test**, and Directed Energy Weapon programmes **SHIELD** and **BEDHAK** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).
Chronological Flowchart of DRDO's 2026 Missile & Hypersonic Trials	**User Evaluation Flight-Test of 'Pralay' Missile (November 5, 2026)**	On November 5, 2026, DRDO successfully flight-tested the indigenous surface-to-surface **quasi-ballistic missile 'Pralay'** from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha in user evaluation trials, with induction into the armed forces imminent (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Complete Master Table of DRDO Missile & Directed Energy Trials in 2026	**Advanced Agni with MIRV (May 8, 2026) & Strategic Forces Command Agni Trials (2026)**	On **May 8, 2026**, DRDO flight-tested an **Advanced Agni** missile equipped with **MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle)** technology, delivering multiple payloads to independent targets across the Indian Ocean Region; additionally, the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) successfully test-fired **Agni-3 on February 6, 2026**, **Agni-1 on May 22, 2026**, and **Agni-4 on August 6, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Maiden Flight of 'Project Kusha' (July 23, 2026), LRLACM (June 15) & RudraM-II (June 2)**	In mid-2026, DRDO achieved three major milestones: the **maiden flight-test of Project Kusha** (India's indigenous long-range surface-to-air defence system) on **July 23, 2026**, the flight-test of the **Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM)** on **June 15, 2026**, and flight-tests of the air-to-surface anti-radiation missile **RudraM-II** on **June 2, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**NASM-SR Salvo (April 29), VSHORADS (Feb 27), SFDR (Feb 3) & MPATGM (Jan 11, 2026)**	Earlier in 2026, DRDO conducted a top-attack test of the **Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)** on a moving target on **January 11, 2026**, demonstrated **Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR)** propulsion on **February 3, 2026**, executed three flight-trials of **VSHORADS** (Very Short Range Air Defence System) intercepting high-speed targets on **February 27, 2026**, and carried out the **first salvo launch of Naval Anti-Ship Missile Short Range (NASM-SR)** from an Indian Navy helicopter on **April 29, 2026** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: Pralay (Nov 5, 2026), Advanced Agni MIRV, Kusha, LRLACM, SHIELD & BEDHAK	**Full-Scale Scramjet Combustor Tests Over 12 Minutes (Jan 9) & Over 1,200 Seconds (May 9, 2026)**	Advancing hypersonic (above Mach 5) cruise missile propulsion, DRDO conducted full-scale scramjet engine combustor static tests lasting **over 12 minutes on January 9, 2026** and **over 1,200 seconds (20 minutes) on May 9, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).
Chronological Flowchart of DRDO's 2026 Missile & Hypersonic Trials	**Directed Energy Weapons — Project SHIELD (September 2026) & Project BEDHAK (November 2026)**	In **September 2026**, DRDO launched the **SHIELD** programme (*S-band, High-Power Microwave Integrated Evaluation System for Lethality & Damage*) under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) using Gallium Nitride (GaN) solid-state power amplifiers (450 MW peak power, 3 kV/m field strength); in **November 2026**, DRDO's **Microwave Tube Research and Development Centre (MTRDC)** issued an Expression of Interest to Indian industry to co-develop a high-power radio-frequency directed energy weapon under **Project BEDHAK** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).
Complete Master Table of DRDO Missile & Directed Energy Trials in 2026	**Static GK & Strategic Linkage**	Launched in **1983** under **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**, the **Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)** developed five core missiles (**Prithvi, Agni, Trishul, Akash, and Nag**), while India joined the **Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)** as its **35th member on June 27, 2016** (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Ballistic vs. Quasi-Ballistic vs. Cruise Missiles**	A ballistic missile (**Prithvi, Agni, K-series**) burns its rocket motor initially and follows a high free-fall arc; a **quasi-ballistic missile ('Pralay')** flies a depressed trajectory and performs mid-course and terminal manoeuvres to evade interceptors; a **cruise missile ('BrahMos', 'LRLACM')** remains powered and guided at low altitude throughout its flight (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Indigenous Defence Production Record**	Bolstered by DRDO technology transfers, India's indigenous defence production reached **₹1.78 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Analytical Synthesis: Pralay (Nov 5, 2026), Advanced Agni MIRV, Kusha, LRLACM, SHIELD & BEDHAK	**Strategic Forces Command (SFC) & Nuclear Doctrine**	Raised in **January 2003** under the Nuclear Command Authority (NCA, Political Council chaired by the Prime Minister), the Strategic Forces Command operationalizes India's land-based (**Prithvi, Agni**) and sea-based (**Dhanush, K-15 Sagarika, K-4**) strategic deterrence under a **'No First Use' (NFU)** and **Credible Minimum Deterrence** doctrine (IUC Academy).
Chronological Flowchart of DRDO's 2026 Missile & Hypersonic Trials	**Ramjet vs. Scramjet Physics**	A **Ramjet** slows incoming supersonic air to **subsonic speeds** before combustion (used in **BrahMos** at ~Mach 2.8 and **SFDR**), whereas a **Scramjet (Supersonic Combustion Ramjet)** maintains airflow at **supersonic speeds** throughout the combustion chamber, enabling sustained **hypersonic flight above Mach 5** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).
Complete Master Table of DRDO Missile & Directed Energy Trials in 2026	**Counter-UAS High-Power Microwave (HPM) Technology**	DRDO's S-band HPM Directed Energy Weapon system (5 km range, 450 MW peak power, 20 ns pulse width) and **Project SHIELD / Project BEDHAK** neutralize hostile drone swarms by inducing high-voltage currents that fry electronic circuits (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**All-India Examination Relevance**	Defence exams (NDA, CDS, CAPF, AFCAT), UPSC Prelims, and SSC exams regularly ask for the exact nature of **Pralay** (quasi-ballistic), **Kusha** (long-range air defence), **RudraM-II** (anti-radiation), **SHIELD**, and **BEDHAK** (IUC Academy).

Chapter *6* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

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

Statement-I (Why in News?): On **November 5, 2026**, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful user evaluation flight-test of the indigenous quasi-ballistic missile **'Pralay'** from ITR Chandipur, capping an extraordinary 2026 testing calendar that included **Advanced Agni with MIRV**, **Project Kusha**, **LRLACM**, **RudraM-II**, **NASM-SR**, a **1,200-second Scramjet engine test**, and Directed Energy Weapon programmes **SHIELD** and **BEDHAK** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Statement-II (User Evaluation Flight-Test of 'Pralay' Missile (November 5, 2026)): On November 5, 2026, DRDO successfully flight-tested the indigenous surface-to-surface **quasi-ballistic missile 'Pralay'** from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha in user evaluation trials, with induction into the armed forces imminent (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Advanced Agni with MIRV (May 8, 2026) & Strategic Forces Command Agni Trials (2026)): On **May 8, 2026**, DRDO flight-tested an **Advanced Agni** missile equipped with **MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle)** technology, delivering multiple payloads to independent targets across the Indian Ocean Region; additionally, the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) successfully test-fired **Agni-3 on February 6, 2026**, **Agni-1 on May 22, 2026**, and **Agni-4 on August 6, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Statement-II (Maiden Flight of 'Project Kusha' (July 23, 2026), LRLACM (June 15) & RudraM-II (June 2)): In mid-2026, DRDO achieved three major milestones: the **maiden flight-test of Project Kusha** (India's indigenous long-range surface-to-air defence system) on **July 23, 2026**, the flight-test of the **Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM)** on **June 15, 2026**, and flight-tests of the air-to-surface anti-radiation missile **RudraM-II** on **June 2, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

✓ **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 (NASM-SR Salvo (April 29), VSHORADS (Feb 27), SFDR (Feb 3) & MPATGM (Jan 11, 2026)): Earlier in 2026, DRDO conducted a top-attack test of the **Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)** on a moving target on **January 11, 2026**, demonstrated **Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR)** propulsion on **February 3, 2026**, executed three flight-trials of **VSHORADS** (Very Short Range Air Defence System) intercepting high-speed targets on **February 27, 2026**, and carried out the **first salvo launch of Naval Anti-Ship Missile Short Range (NASM-SR)** from an Indian Navy helicopter on **April 29, 2026** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Full-Scale Scramjet Combustor Tests Over 12 Minutes (Jan 9) & Over 1,200 Seconds (May 9, 2026)): Advancing hypersonic (above Mach 5) cruise missile propulsion, DRDO conducted full-scale scramjet engine combustor static tests lasting **over 12 minutes on January 9, 2026** and **over 1,200 seconds (20 minutes) on May 9, 2026** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

✓ **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 (Directed Energy Weapons — Project SHIELD (September 2026) & Project BEDHAK (November 2026)): In **September 2026**, DRDO launched the **SHIELD** programme (*S-band, High-Power Microwave Integrated Evaluation System for Lethality & Damage*) under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) using Gallium Nitride (GaN) solid-state power amplifiers (450 MW peak power, 3 kV/m field strength); in **November 2026**, DRDO's **Microwave Tube Research and Development Centre (MTRDC)** issued an Expression of Interest to Indian industry to co-develop a high-power radio-frequency directed energy weapon under **Project BEDHAK** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Statement-II (Static GK & Strategic Linkage): Launched in **1983** under **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**, the **Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)** developed five core missiles (**Prithvi, Agni, Trishul, Akash, and Nag**), while India joined the **Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)** as its **35th member on June 27, 2016** (IUC Academy).

✓ **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 (Ballistic vs. Quasi-Ballistic vs. Cruise Missiles): A ballistic missile (**Prithvi, Agni, K-series**) burns its rocket motor initially and follows a high free-fall arc; a **quasi-ballistic missile ('Pralay')** flies a depressed trajectory and performs mid-course and terminal manoeuvres to evade interceptors; a **cruise missile ('BrahMos', 'LRLACM')** remains powered and guided at low altitude throughout its flight (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Statement-II (Indigenous Defence Production Record): Bolstered by DRDO technology transfers, India's indigenous defence production reached **₹1.78 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Strategic Forces Command (SFC) & Nuclear Doctrine): Raised in **January 2003** under the Nuclear Command Authority (NCA, Political Council chaired by the Prime Minister), the Strategic Forces Command operationalizes India's land-based (**Prithvi, Agni**) and sea-based (**Dhanush, K-15 Sagarika, K-4**) strategic deterrence under a **'No First Use' (NFU)** and **Credible Minimum Deterrence** doctrine (IUC Academy).

Statement-II (Ramjet vs. Scramjet Physics): A **Ramjet** slows incoming supersonic air to **subsonic speeds** before combustion (used in **BrahMos** at ~Mach 2.8 and **SFDR**), whereas a **Scramjet (Supersonic Combustion Ramjet)** maintains airflow at **supersonic speeds** throughout the combustion chamber, enabling sustained **hypersonic flight above Mach 5** (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

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

Chapter 7: Emerging Technologies *2026* — IndiaAI Mission, National Quantum Mission, Semiconductors & BioE*3*

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 7: Emerging Technologies 2026 — IndiaAI Mission, National Quantum Mission, Semiconductors & BioE3

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Analytical Synthesis: Sovereign AI Compute, Four Quantum T-Hubs, Semiconductor Fabs & BioE3 2026	**Official Science, Emerging Technology & Digital Missions Table (2026)**	**Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration**	**Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix**

7.1 Analytical Synthesis: Sovereign AI Compute, Four Quantum T-Hubs, Semiconductor Fabs & BioE3 2026

• **Why in News?:** In 2026, the Government of India accelerated the deployment of sovereign GPU compute capacity under the **IndiaAI Mission**, operationalized the four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) of the **National Quantum Mission (NQM)**, advanced semiconductor wafer fabrication and ATMP units, and expanded **BioE3** biomanufacturing partnerships (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **IndiaAI Mission & Indigenous Foundational Models (2026):** Administered by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the IndiaAI Mission expanded public compute infrastructure exceeding **10,000 GPUs** in 2026 alongside indigenous multimodal large language models trained on diverse Indian languages (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **National Quantum Mission (NQM) — Four Thematic Hubs Operational in 2026:** With a total outlay of **₹6,003.65 crore** under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the National Quantum Mission advanced research in 2026 across four domains—**Quantum Computing** (IISc Bengaluru), **Quantum Communication** (IIT Madras), **Quantum Sensing & Metrology** (IIT Bombay), and **Quantum Materials & Devices** (IIT Delhi) (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **BioE3 Policy Execution & Quad Biomanufacturing Collaboration (2026):** Under the **BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment)** policy administered by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), India scaled up smart proteins, bio-based chemicals, and carbon capture in 2026; concurrently, in **May 2026**, Quad Foreign Ministers committed to **biomanufacturing collaboration** to secure active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) supply chains (Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)).

• **Trusted Undersea Cable Systems & Digital Identity Standards (2026):** In 2026, India and its Indo-Pacific partners launched a workshop on **digital identity standards**, a **Track 1.5 initiative on standards workforce development**, and a cooperative framework to protect **undersea telecommunications cable systems** from sabotage (Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)).

• **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) Fab & ATMP Milestones (2026):** Supported by the ₹76,000 crore semiconductor incentive framework, India's wafer fabrication plant in **Dholera (Gujarat)** and ATMP/OSAT facilities in **Sanand (Gujarat)** and **Morigaon (Assam)** achieved major construction and equipment integration milestones in 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **AI Reshaping Global Innovation as Deep-Science Startups Top US$ 7.6 Trillion (2026):** According to the 2026 global innovation assessment released in September 2026, artificial intelligence is reshaping R&D investments globally while deep-science startups surpassed **US$ 7.6 trillion** in value (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Static GK & Constitutional Linkage:** Under **Article 51A(h)** of the Constitution of India (Fundamental Duties inserted by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976), it is the duty of every citizen to **develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform** (IUC Academy).

7.2 Emerging Technology & Sovereign Digital Infrastructure Flowchart (2026)

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
IndiaAI Mission Deploys 10,000+ GPU Compute & Indigenous Multilingual Models

STEP 2
National Quantum Mission (Rs 6,003.65 Cr) Advances Qubits & Quantum Key Distribution

STEP 3
Dholera Fab, Sanand & Morigaon ATMP Units Build Domestic Semiconductor Ecosystem

STEP 4
BioE3 Biomanufacturing & Undersea Cable Protection Secure Strategic Supply Chains

7.3 Official Science, Emerging Technology & Digital Missions Table (2026)

• **Defence AI Integration:** Alongside civilian missions, the Ministry of Defence integrated **75 priority Artificial Intelligence technologies** across autonomous surveillance, cybersecurity, and predictive maintenance (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Circular Economy in E-Waste:** During Special Campaign 6.0 in October and November 2026, central scientific departments led by DBT and DDP enforced certified e-waste recycling protocols (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Technology Mission / Initiative (2026)	Nodal Ministry / Department	Core Outlay & Technical Target (2026)	Strategic & Economic Impact	Official Source
IndiaAI Mission	Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)	10,000+ GPU compute infrastructure & Indian language LLMs	Democratizes AI compute for startups, academia & governance	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
National Quantum Mission (NQM)	Dept. of Science & Technology (DST)	₹6,003.65 crore outlay; targets 50 to 1,000 physical qubits	4 T-Hubs at IISc Bengaluru, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay & IIT Delhi	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
BioE3 Policy Implementation	Dept. of Biotechnology (Ministry of Sci & Tech)	Biotechnology for Economy, Environment & Employment	Establishes Bio-AI hubs, smart proteins & carbon capture facilities	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)	Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY)	₹76,000 crore incentive; Dholera Fab, Sanand & Morigaon ATMP	Builds domestic wafer fabrication and chip packaging self-reliance	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Quad Biomanufacturing Initiative (May 2026)	Ministry of External Affairs & DBT	May 26, 2026 Joint Statement on pharmaceutical supply chains	Reduces single-source dependency for critical APIs and biologics	Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
Undersea Cable Protection & Digital Standards	MEA & Dept. of Telecommunications	Indo-Pacific undersea cable security & Track 1.5 workforce dialogue	Safeguards submarine fiber-optic cables carrying >95% of data traffic	Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
Defence Artificial Intelligence Integration	Ministry of Defence (Dept. of Defence Production)	75 indigenous defence AI products deployed	Enhances autonomous border surveillance, swarm drones & cyber defence	Press Information Bureau (PIB)

Technology Mission / Initiative (2026)	Nodal Ministry / Department	Core Outlay & Technical Target (2026)	Strategic & Economic Impact	Official Source
Special Campaign 6.0 Scientific E-Waste Drive	DARPG, DBT & DIPAM	Conducted in October & November 2026 across ministries	Formalizes recovery of rare-earth and precious metals from e-waste	Press Information Bureau (PIB)

7.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration

• **Classical Bit vs. Quantum Qubit:** While a classical digital bit exists strictly as `0` or `1`, a **qubit (quantum bit)** leverages **Quantum Superposition** (existing in a linear combination of `0` and `1` simultaneously) and **Quantum Entanglement** to solve complex optimization, cryptography, and molecular simulation problems exponentially faster (IUC Academy).

• **Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) Security:** Governed by the **Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle** and the **No-Cloning Theorem**, QKD transmits cryptographic keys via polarized photons over fiber-optic or free-space links such that any eavesdropping attempt alters the quantum state and is immediately detected (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

• **Semiconductor Fab vs. ATMP/OSAT:** A **Wafer Fabrication (Fab)** plant (such as Dholera) etches billions of nanoscale transistors onto raw silicon wafers in ultra-clean rooms, whereas **ATMP (Assembly, Testing, Marking, and Packaging)** or **OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test)** plants (such as Sanand and Morigaon) dice, test, and package the fabricated wafers into finished chips (IUC Academy).

• **All-India Examination Relevance:** UPSC Prelims, State PCS, CDS, and SSC exams test the exact nodal ministries of IndiaAI/Semiconductor Mission (MeitY), National Quantum Mission (DST), and BioE3 (DBT) (IUC Academy).

Did You Know?: The **National Quantum Mission (₹6,003.65 crore)** targets developing intermediate-scale quantum computers with **50 to 1,000 physical qubits** across superconducting and photonic platforms, alongside satellite-based secure quantum communications over a **2,000 km** range (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Exam Trap Alert: National Quantum Mission is administered by the **Department of Science and Technology (DST)** (Ministry of Science & Technology), whereas **IndiaAI Mission** and **India Semiconductor Mission** are administered by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the 4 NQM T-Hub host institutes via: **"IISc Bengaluru = Computing — IIT Madras = Communication — IIT Bombay = Sensing — IIT Delhi = Materials"** (IUC Academy).

7.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

• **UPSC Civil Services & State PCS (Prelims & Mains GS-III) Weightage:** 40% (Press Information Bureau (PIB))

• **SSC & Railway Recruitment Board Examinations Weightage:** 25% (IUC Academy)

• **Defence, Cybersecurity & Police Examinations Weightage:** 20% (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO))

• **Banking & Specialist IT Officer Examinations Weightage:** 15% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI))

Chapter 7 Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: Sovereign AI Compute, Four Quantum T-Hubs, Semiconductor Fabs & BioE3 2026	**Why in News?**	In 2026, the Government of India accelerated the deployment of sovereign GPU compute capacity under the **IndiaAI Mission**, operationalized the four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) of the **National Quantum Mission (NQM)**, advanced semiconductor wafer fabrication and ATMP units, and expanded **BioE3** biomanufacturing partnerships (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Emerging Technology & Sovereign Digital Infrastructure Flowchart (2026)	**IndiaAI Mission & Indigenous Foundational Models (2026)**	Administered by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the IndiaAI Mission expanded public compute infrastructure exceeding **10,000 GPUs** in 2026 alongside indigenous multimodal large language models trained on diverse Indian languages (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Official Science, Emerging Technology & Digital Missions Table (2026)	**National Quantum Mission (NQM) — Four Thematic Hubs Operational in 2026**	With a total outlay of **₹6,003.65 crore** under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the National Quantum Mission advanced research in 2026 across four domains—**Quantum Computing** (IISc Bengaluru), **Quantum Communication** (IIT Madras), **Quantum Sensing & Metrology** (IIT Bombay), and **Quantum Materials & Devices** (IIT Delhi) (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**BioE3 Policy Execution & Quad Biomanufacturing Collaboration (2026)**	Under the **BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment)** policy administered by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), India scaled up smart proteins, bio-based chemicals, and carbon capture in 2026; concurrently, in **May 2026**, Quad Foreign Ministers committed to **biomanufacturing collaboration** to secure active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) supply chains (Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Trusted Undersea Cable Systems & Digital Identity Standards (2026)**	In 2026, India and its Indo-Pacific partners launched a workshop on **digital identity standards**, a **Track 1.5 initiative on standards workforce development**, and a cooperative framework to protect **undersea telecommunications cable systems** from sabotage (Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)).
Analytical Synthesis: Sovereign AI Compute, Four Quantum T-Hubs, Semiconductor Fabs & BioE3 2026	**India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) Fab & ATMP Milestones (2026)**	Supported by the ₹76,000 crore semiconductor incentive framework, India's wafer fabrication plant in **Dholera (Gujarat)** and ATMP/OSAT facilities in **Sanand (Gujarat)** and **Morigaon (Assam)** achieved major construction and equipment integration milestones in 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Emerging Technology & Sovereign Digital Infrastructure Flowchart (2026)	**AI Reshaping Global Innovation as Deep-Science Startups Top US$ 7.6 Trillion (2026)**	According to the 2026 global innovation assessment released in September 2026, artificial intelligence is reshaping R&D investments globally while deep-science startups surpassed **US$ 7.6 trillion** in value (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Official Science, Emerging Technology & Digital Missions Table (2026)	**Static GK & Constitutional Linkage**	Under **Article 51A(h)** of the Constitution of India (Fundamental Duties inserted by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976), it is the duty of every citizen to **develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform** (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Defence AI Integration**	Alongside civilian missions, the Ministry of Defence integrated **75 priority Artificial Intelligence technologies** across autonomous surveillance, cybersecurity, and predictive maintenance (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Circular Economy in E-Waste**	During Special Campaign 6.0 in October and November 2026, central scientific departments led by DBT and DDP enforced certified e-waste recycling protocols (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Analytical Synthesis: Sovereign AI Compute, Four Quantum T-Hubs, Semiconductor Fabs & BioE3 2026	**Classical Bit vs. Quantum Qubit**	While a classical digital bit exists strictly as `0` or `1`, a **qubit (quantum bit)** leverages **Quantum Superposition** (existing in a linear combination of `0` and `1` simultaneously) and **Quantum Entanglement** to solve complex optimization, cryptography, and molecular simulation problems exponentially faster (IUC Academy).
Emerging Technology & Sovereign Digital Infrastructure Flowchart (2026)	**Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) Security**	Governed by the **Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle** and the **No-Cloning Theorem**, QKD transmits cryptographic keys via polarized photons over fiber-optic or free-space links such that any eavesdropping attempt alters the quantum state and is immediately detected (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).
Official Science, Emerging Technology & Digital Missions Table (2026)	**Semiconductor Fab vs. ATMP/OSAT**	A **Wafer Fabrication (Fab)** plant (such as Dholera) etches billions of nanoscale transistors onto raw silicon wafers in ultra-clean rooms, whereas **ATMP (Assembly, Testing, Marking, and Packaging)** or **OSAT (Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test)** plants (such as Sanand and Morigaon) dice, test, and package the fabricated wafers into finished chips (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**All-India Examination Relevance**	UPSC Prelims, State PCS, CDS, and SSC exams test the exact nodal ministries of IndiaAI/Semiconductor Mission (MeitY), National Quantum Mission (DST), and BioE3 (DBT) (IUC Academy).

Chapter 7 Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

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

Statement-I (Why in News?): In 2026, the Government of India accelerated the deployment of sovereign GPU compute capacity under the **IndiaAI Mission**, operationalized the four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) of the **National Quantum Mission (NQM)**, advanced semiconductor wafer fabrication and ATMP units, and expanded **BioE3** biomanufacturing partnerships (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (IndiaAI Mission & Indigenous Foundational Models (2026)): Administered by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the IndiaAI Mission expanded public compute infrastructure exceeding **10,000 GPUs** in 2026 alongside indigenous multimodal large language models trained on diverse Indian languages (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✔ **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 (National Quantum Mission (NQM) — Four Thematic Hubs Operational in 2026): With a total outlay of **₹6,003.65 crore** under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the National Quantum Mission advanced research in 2026 across four domains—**Quantum Computing** (IISc Bengaluru), **Quantum Communication** (IIT Madras), **Quantum Sensing & Metrology** (IIT Bombay), and **Quantum Materials & Devices** (IIT Delhi) (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (BioE3 Policy Execution & Quad Biomanufacturing Collaboration (2026)): Under the **BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment)** policy administered by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), India scaled up smart proteins, bio-based chemicals, and carbon capture in 2026; concurrently, in **May 2026**, Quad Foreign Ministers committed to **biomanufacturing collaboration** to secure active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) supply chains (Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)).

✓ **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 (Trusted Undersea Cable Systems & Digital Identity Standards (2026)): In 2026, India and its Indo-Pacific partners launched a workshop on **digital identity standards**, a **Track 1.5 initiative on standards workforce development**, and a cooperative framework to protect **undersea telecommunications cable systems** from sabotage (Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)).

Statement-II (India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) Fab & ATMP Milestones (2026)): Supported by the ₹76,000 crore semiconductor incentive framework, India's wafer fabrication plant in **Dholera (Gujarat)** and ATMP/OSAT facilities in **Sanand (Gujarat)** and **Morigaon (Assam)** achieved major construction and equipment integration milestones in 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (AI Reshaping Global Innovation as Deep-Science Startups Top US$ 7.6 Trillion (2026)): According to the 2026 global innovation assessment released in September 2026, artificial intelligence is reshaping R&D investments globally while deep-science startups surpassed **US$ 7.6 trillion** in value (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Static GK & Constitutional Linkage): Under **Article 51A(h)** of the Constitution of India (Fundamental Duties inserted by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976), it is the duty of every citizen to **develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform** (IUC Academy).

✓ **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 (Defence AI Integration): Alongside civilian missions, the Ministry of Defence integrated **75 priority Artificial Intelligence technologies** across autonomous surveillance, cybersecurity, and predictive maintenance (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Circular Economy in E-Waste): During Special Campaign 6.0 in October and November 2026, central scientific departments led by DBT and DDP enforced certified e-waste recycling protocols (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Classical Bit vs. Quantum Qubit): While a classical digital bit exists strictly as **0** or **1**, a **qubit (quantum bit)** leverages **Quantum Superposition** (existing in a linear combination of **0** and **1** simultaneously) and **Quantum Entanglement** to solve complex optimization, cryptography, and molecular simulation problems exponentially faster (IUC Academy).

Statement-II (Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) Security): Governed by the **Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle** and the **No-Cloning Theorem**, QKD transmits cryptographic keys via polarized photons over fiber-optic or free-space links such that any eavesdropping attempt alters the quantum state and is immediately detected (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

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

Chapter *8:* Agrarian Economy, Rabi *2026* Fertilizer Subsidy, Rural Governance & Social Security Synthesis

Chapter Key Study Pillars — Chapter 8: Agrarian Economy, Rabi 2026 Fertilizer Subsidy, Rural Governance & Social Security Synthesis

Key Study Pillar 1	Key Study Pillar 2	Key Study Pillar 3	Key Study Pillar 4
Analytical Synthesis: ₹62,370.02 Cr Rabi NBS, ₹3.15L Cr PM-KISAN, Viksit Gram Swaraj & UPS 2026	Comprehensive Agrarian, Rural Governance & Social Security Table (2026)	Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

8.1 Analytical Synthesis*: ₹62,370.02* Cr Rabi NBS*, ₹3.15*L Cr PM-KISAN, Viksit Gram Swaraj & UPS *2026*

• **Why in News?:** In late 2026, the Union Government reinforced India's rural and social security architecture through the **₹62,370.02 crore Rabi 2026 Nutrient Based Subsidy** (approved November 11, 2026), the **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana** (approved October 28, 2026), the **₹3.15 lakh crore PM-KISAN continuation** (approved July 31, 2026), and the **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Rabi 2026 Fertilizer Subsidy Shield of ₹62,370.02 Crore (November 11, 2026):** By approving ₹62,370.02 crore for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers for Rabi 2026 (an increase of ₹24,417.73 crore over the preceding Rabi allocation), the Union Cabinet insulated Indian farmers from global fertilizer supply-chain shocks across **28 grades** of P&K fertilizers including DAP (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **PM-KISAN ₹3.15 Lakh Crore Outlay Sustaining Rural Demand (2026):** The Union Cabinet's July 31, 2026 approval of ₹3.15 lakh crore for the continuation of **PM-KISAN** from 2026 onwards ensures uninterrupted direct income transfers of ₹6,000 per annum to landholding farmer families via Aadhaar-linked bank accounts (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana & Panchayati Raj Strengthening (October 28, 2026):** Approved as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on October 28, 2026, this flagship programme integrates Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs), e-GramSwaraj digital accounting, capacity building of elected representatives, and own-source revenue generation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) Social Security Pillars (2026):** Under the Unified Pension Scheme, central government employees with at least **25 years of qualifying service** receive an assured pension equal to **50% of the average basic pay drawn in the last 12 months** prior to superannuation, a **60% assured family pension**, and a **minimum pension of ₹10,000 per month** after 10+ years of service (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Duty-Free Marine Fish Catch in EEZ & High Seas (Union Budget 2026):** To boost India's Blue Economy and coastal fisherfolk incomes, Union Budget 2026 made fish catch by Indian fishing vessels in the **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** or on the **high seas** completely free of customs duty and recognized landings at foreign ports as exports of goods (India Budget Portal).

• **SASCI ₹2.0 Lakh Crore State Capex Loans Driving Rural & Urban Infrastructure (2026):** Under the ₹2.0 lakh crore SASCI allocation in Union Budget 2026, States receive 50-year interest-free loans to sustain state-level capital expenditure at **2.4% of GDP** (India Budget Portal).

• **Static GK & Constitutional Linkage:** The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** (effective April 24, 1993 — National Panchayati Raj Day) inserted **Part IX (Articles 243 to 243-O)** and the **Eleventh Schedule (29 functional subjects)** into the Constitution of India (IUC Academy).

8.2 Agrarian Input Support, Rural Income Transfer & Gram Swaraj Flowchart *(2026)*

Step-by-Step Conceptual Process Flowchart

STEP 1
Nov 11, 2026 Cabinet Approves Rs 62,370.02 Cr NBS for 28 Grades of Rabi P&K Fertilizers

STEP 2
July 31, 2026 Cabinet Approves Rs 3.15 Lakh Cr PM-KISAN Continuation for Direct Income Support

STEP 3
Oct 28, 2026 Cabinet Approves PM Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana Empowering Gram Panchayats

STEP 4
Resilient Rabi Sowing, Strengthened Rural Demand & Inclusive Agrarian Growth in 2026

8.3 Comprehensive Agrarian, Rural Governance & Social Security Table *(2026)*

• **Urea vs. Non-Urea (P&K) Fertilizer Pricing:** In India, **Urea** is governed by statutory Maximum Retail Price (MRP) control where the government reimburses the difference between retention cost and MRP, whereas **Non-Urea P&K fertilizers (28 grades)** are governed by the **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)** scheme (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

• **Government Contribution Hike in UPS:** Under the Unified Pension Scheme, the Central Government raised its employer contribution from 14% to **18.5%** of basic pay plus dearness allowance, while the employee contribution remains at **10%** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Scheme / Policy Measure (2026)	Target Sector / Beneficiary Cohort	Official 2026 Outlay / Parameter	Key Statutory & Operational Provisions	Official Source
Nutrient Based Subsidy (Rabi 2026)	Agrarian Inputs / Fertilizer Sector	₹62,370.02 crore (approved Nov 11, 2026)	Covers 28 grades of P&K fertilizers including DAP and NPKS complexes	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
PM-KISAN Continuation (2026 Onwards)	Landholding Farmer Families	₹3.15 lakh crore (approved July 31, 2026)	100% Central Sector Scheme providing ₹6,000/year in 3 equal instalments	Press Information Bureau (PIB)

Scheme / Policy Measure (2026)	Target Sector / Beneficiary Cohort	Official 2026 Outlay / Parameter	Key Statutory & Operational Provisions	Official Source
PM Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana	Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)	Approved October 28, 2026 by Union Cabinet	Centrally Sponsored Scheme strengthening 29 Eleventh Schedule functions	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)	Central Government Employees	50% assured pension (25+ yrs); ₹10,000 min (10+ yrs)	60% family pension; 18.5% Govt contribution; lump-sum at superannuation	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Marine Fish Catch Exemption (Budget 2026)	Blue Economy & Deep-Sea Fisherfolk	Zero customs duty in EEZ & high seas	Foreign port landings by Indian vessels treated as exports of goods	India Budget Portal
SASCI Capital Loans to States (2026)	Cooperative Fiscal Federalism	₹2.0 lakh crore (50-year interest-free loans)	Sustains States' capital expenditure at 2.4% of GDP	India Budget Portal
Stand-Up India Continuation (Nov 11, 2026)	SC, ST & Women Entrepreneurs	₹4,111 crore provision; ₹10 Lakh to ₹1 Crore composite loans	At least 1 SC/ST and 1 Woman greenfield borrower per bank branch	Press Information Bureau (PIB)
Cantonment Senior Citizen Initiative	Senior Citizens in Defence Cantonments	Launched in November 2026	Joint healthcare and welfare convergence by MoSJE and Ministry of Defence	Press Information Bureau (PIB)

8.4 Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration

• **Rabi, Kharif & Zaid Cropping Seasons: Rabi crops** (wheat, barley, gram/chickpea, mustard, lentil, pea) are sown in November and harvested in April; **Kharif crops** (paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, cotton, peanut, soybean) are sown with the southwest monsoon in July and harvested in October (IUC Academy).

• **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) under UNCLOS:** Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), a coastal state's **Territorial Sea** extends up to **12 nautical miles** from the baseline, its **Contiguous Zone** up to **24 nautical miles**, and its **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** up to **200 nautical miles** (IUC Academy).

• **Landmark Committees on Panchayati Raj: Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957)** recommended 3-tier Panchayati Raj; **Ashok Mehta Committee (1977)** recommended a 2-tier system; **G.V.K. Rao Committee (1985)** examined rural development administration; and **L.M. Singhvi Committee (1986)** recommended constitutional recognition (IUC Academy).

• **All-India Examination Relevance:** Differentiating Central Sector Schemes (100% Union funded, e.g., **PM-KISAN**) from Centrally Sponsored Schemes (shared Union-State funding, e.g., **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana**) is a classic UPSC and State PCS prelims question (IUC Academy).

Did You Know?: While **PM-KISAN** (₹3.15 lakh crore outlay approved July 31, 2026) is a **100% Central Sector Scheme** fully funded by the Union Government, the **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana** (approved October 28, 2026) is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** implemented in partnership with State Governments and Panchayati Raj Institutions (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Exam Trap Alert: Urea is **not** covered under the **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)** scheme; the ₹62,370.02 crore Rabi 2026 NBS approval applies strictly to **28 grades of non-urea Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers** (including DAP) (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

★ **Memory Trick:** Remember the four pillars of the **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)** via: **"25 Years = 50% Assured Pension — 10 Years = ₹10,000 Minimum Pension — 60% Family Pension — 18.5% Govt Contribution"** (IUC Academy).

8.5 Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix

- **UPSC Civil Services & State PCS Examinations Weightage:** 35% (Press Information Bureau (PIB))
- **SSC & Railway Recruitment Board Examinations Weightage:** 30% (IUC Academy)
- **Banking, NABARD & Rural Development Examinations Weightage:** 20% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI))
- **Defence, Police & Departmental Examinations Weightage:** 15% (India Budget Portal)

Chapter *8* Comprehensive Analytical & Statutory Revision Matrix

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Analytical Synthesis: ₹62,370.02 Cr Rabi NBS, ₹3.15L Cr PM-KISAN, Viksit Gram Swaraj & UPS 2026	**Why in News?**	In late 2026, the Union Government reinforced India's rural and social security architecture through the **₹62,370.02 crore Rabi 2026 Nutrient Based Subsidy** (approved November 11, 2026), the **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana** (approved October 28, 2026), the **₹3.15 lakh crore PM-KISAN continuation** (approved July 31, 2026), and the **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Agrarian Input Support, Rural Income Transfer & Gram Swaraj Flowchart (2026)	**Rabi 2026 Fertilizer Subsidy Shield of ₹62,370.02 Crore (November 11, 2026)**	By approving ₹62,370.02 crore for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers for Rabi 2026 (an increase of ₹24,417.73 crore over the preceding Rabi allocation), the Union Cabinet insulated Indian farmers from global fertilizer supply-chain shocks across **28 grades** of P&K fertilizers including DAP (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Comprehensive Agrarian, Rural Governance & Social Security Table (2026)	**PM-KISAN ₹3.15 Lakh Crore Outlay Sustaining Rural Demand (2026)**	The Union Cabinet's July 31, 2026 approval of ₹3.15 lakh crore for the continuation of **PM-KISAN** from 2026 onwards ensures uninterrupted direct income transfers of ₹6,000 per annum to landholding farmer families via Aadhaar-linked bank accounts (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana & Panchayati Raj Strengthening (October 28, 2026)**	Approved as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on October 28, 2026, this flagship programme integrates Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs), e-GramSwaraj digital accounting, capacity building of elected representatives, and own-source revenue generation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) Social Security Pillars (2026)**	Under the Unified Pension Scheme, central government employees with at least **25 years of qualifying service** receive an assured pension equal to **50% of the average basic pay drawn in the last 12 months** prior to superannuation, a **60% assured family pension**, and a **minimum pension of ₹10,000 per month** after 10+ years of service (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Analytical Synthesis: ₹62,370.02 Cr Rabi NBS, ₹3.15L Cr PM-KISAN, Viksit Gram Swaraj & UPS 2026	**Duty-Free Marine Fish Catch in EEZ & High Seas (Union Budget 2026)**	To boost India's Blue Economy and coastal fisherfolk incomes, Union Budget 2026 made fish catch by Indian fishing vessels in the **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** or on the **high seas** completely free of customs duty and recognized landings at foreign ports as exports of goods (India Budget Portal).
Agrarian Input Support, Rural Income Transfer & Gram Swaraj Flowchart (2026)	**SASCI ₹2.0 Lakh Crore State Capex Loans Driving Rural & Urban Infrastructure (2026)**	Under the ₹2.0 lakh crore SASCI allocation in Union Budget 2026, States receive 50-year interest-free loans to sustain state-level capital expenditure at **2.4% of GDP** (India Budget Portal).
Comprehensive Agrarian, Rural Governance & Social Security Table (2026)	**Static GK & Constitutional Linkage**	The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** (effective April 24, 1993 — National Panchayati Raj Day) inserted **Part IX (Articles 243 to 243-O)** and the **Eleventh Schedule (29 functional subjects)** into the Constitution of India (IUC Academy).
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**Urea vs. Non-Urea (P&K) Fertilizer Pricing**	In India, **Urea** is governed by statutory Maximum Retail Price (MRP) control where the government reimburses the difference between retention cost and MRP, whereas **Non-Urea P&K fertilizers (28 grades)** are governed by the **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)** scheme (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Chapter-Wise Exam Question Weightage & Revision Matrix	**Government Contribution Hike in UPS**	Under the Unified Pension Scheme, the Central Government raised its employer contribution from 14% to **18.5%** of basic pay plus dearness allowance, while the employee contribution remains at **10%** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).
Analytical Synthesis: ₹62,370.02 Cr Rabi NBS, ₹3.15L Cr PM-KISAN, Viksit Gram Swaraj & UPS 2026	**Rabi, Kharif & Zaid Cropping Seasons**	Rabi crops **(wheat, barley, gram/chickpea, mustard, lentil, pea) are sown in November and harvested in April;** Kharif crops** (paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, cotton, peanut, soybean) are sown with the southwest monsoon in July and harvested in October (IUC Academy).
Agrarian Input Support, Rural Income Transfer & Gram Swaraj Flowchart (2026)	**Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) under UNCLOS**	Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), a coastal state's **Territorial Sea** extends up to **12 nautical miles** from the baseline, its **Contiguous Zone** up to **24 nautical miles**, and its **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** up to **200 nautical miles** (IUC Academy).
Comprehensive Agrarian, Rural Governance & Social Security Table (2026)	**Landmark Committees on Panchayati Raj**	Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957) **recommended 3-tier Panchayati Raj;** Ashok Mehta Committee (1977) **recommended a 2-tier system;** G.V.K. Rao Committee (1985) **examined rural development administration; and** L.M. Singhvi Committee (1986)** recommended constitutional recognition (IUC Academy).

Core Sub-Domain	Key Concept / Provision	Verified Analytical Parameters & Exam Distinctions (पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB))
Constitutional, Statutory & Static GK Integration	**All-India Examination Relevance**	Differentiating Central Sector Schemes (100% Union funded, e.g., **PM-KISAN**) from Centrally Sponsored Schemes (shared Union-State funding, e.g., **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana**) is a classic UPSC and State PCS prelims question (IUC Academy).

Chapter *8* Multi-Statement Exam Verification Drills

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

Statement-I (Why in News?): In late 2026, the Union Government reinforced India's rural and social security architecture through the **₹62,370.02 crore Rabi 2026 Nutrient Based Subsidy** (approved November 11, 2026), the **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana** (approved October 28, 2026), the **₹3.15 lakh crore PM-KISAN continuation** (approved July 31, 2026), and the **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Rabi 2026 Fertilizer Subsidy Shield of ₹62,370.02 Crore (November 11, 2026)): By approving ₹62,370.02 crore for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers for Rabi 2026 (an increase of ₹24,417.73 crore over the preceding Rabi allocation), the Union Cabinet insulated Indian farmers from global fertilizer supply-chain shocks across **28 grades** of P&K fertilizers including DAP (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (PM-KISAN ₹3.15 Lakh Crore Outlay Sustaining Rural Demand (2026)): The Union Cabinet's July 31, 2026 approval of ₹3.15 lakh crore for the continuation of **PM-KISAN** from 2026 onwards ensures uninterrupted direct income transfers of ₹6,000 per annum to landholding farmer families via Aadhaar-linked bank accounts (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana & Panchayati Raj Strengthening (October 28, 2026)): Approved as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on October 28, 2026, this flagship programme integrates Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs), e-GramSwaraj digital accounting, capacity building of elected representatives, and own-source revenue generation (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) Social Security Pillars (2026)): Under the Unified Pension Scheme, central government employees with at least **25 years of qualifying service** receive an assured pension equal to **50% of the average basic pay drawn in the last 12 months** prior to superannuation, a **60% assured family pension**, and a **minimum pension of ₹10,000 per month** after 10+ years of service (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Duty-Free Marine Fish Catch in EEZ & High Seas (Union Budget 2026)): To boost India's Blue Economy and coastal fisherfolk incomes, Union Budget 2026 made fish catch by Indian fishing vessels in the **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** or on the **high seas** completely free of customs duty and recognized landings at foreign ports as exports of goods (India Budget Portal).

✓ **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 (SASCI ₹2.0 Lakh Crore State Capex Loans Driving Rural & Urban Infrastructure (2026)): Under the ₹2.0 lakh crore SASCI allocation in Union Budget 2026, States receive 50-year interest-free loans to sustain state-level capital expenditure at **2.4% of GDP** (India Budget Portal).

Statement-II (Static GK & Constitutional Linkage): The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** (effective April 24, 1993 — National Panchayati Raj Day) inserted **Part IX (Articles 243 to 243-O)** and the **Eleventh Schedule (29 functional subjects)** into the Constitution of India (IUC Academy).

✓ **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 (Urea vs. Non-Urea (P&K) Fertilizer Pricing): In India, **Urea** is governed by statutory Maximum Retail Price (MRP) control where the government reimburses the difference between retention cost and MRP, whereas **Non-Urea P&K fertilizers (28 grades)** are governed by the **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)** scheme (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Statement-II (Government Contribution Hike in UPS): Under the Unified Pension Scheme, the Central Government raised its employer contribution from 14% to **18.5%** of basic pay plus dearness allowance, while the employee contribution remains at **10%** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

✓ **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 (Rabi, Kharif & Zaid Cropping Seasons): Rabi crops **(wheat, barley, gram/chickpea, mustard, lentil, pea) are sown in November and harvested in April;** Kharif crops** (paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, cotton, peanut, soybean) are sown with the southwest monsoon in July and harvested in October (IUC Academy).

Statement-II (Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) under UNCLOS): Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), a coastal state's **Territorial Sea** extends up to **12 nautical miles** from the baseline, its **Contiguous Zone** up to **24 nautical miles**, and its **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** up to **200 nautical miles** (IUC Academy).

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

Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)

Practice Question #1 Solved Exam MCQ

1. **On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of which flagship scheme with a financial provision of ₹4,111 crore to promote greenfield entrepreneurship among SC, ST, and Women entrepreneurs?**
(A) Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana
(B) Stand-Up India Scheme
(C) PM SVANidhi Scheme
(D) PM Vishwakarma Scheme
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the Stand-Up India Scheme with a provision of ₹4,111 crore (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #2 Solved Exam MCQ

2. **What is the composite bank loan range facilitated per bank branch for SC, ST, and Women greenfield ventures under the Stand-Up India Scheme continued in November 2026?**
(A) ₹5 lakh to ₹50 lakh
(B) ₹10 lakh to ₹1 crore
(C) ₹25 lakh to ₹2 crore
(D) ₹50 lakh to ₹5 crore
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** The Stand-Up India Scheme facilitates composite bank loans between ₹10 lakh and ₹1 crore for setting up greenfield ventures (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #3 Solved Exam MCQ

3. **On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for the Rabi 2026 season on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers with what tentative budgetary requirement?**
(A) ₹48,500.00 crore
(B) ₹54,210.50 crore
(C) ₹62,370.02 crore
(D) ₹71,400.00 crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** On November 11, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved Rabi 2026 NBS rates with a tentative budgetary requirement of ₹62,370.02 crore (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #4 Solved Exam MCQ

4. **How many grades of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers (including DAP and NPKS complexes) are covered under the Rabi 2026 Nutrient Based Subsidy approved on November 11, 2026?**
(A) 18 grades
(B) 22 grades
(C) 28 grades
(D) 34 grades
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** The Government makes available 28 grades of P&K fertilizers including DAP to farmers at subsidized prices under the NBS scheme (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #5 Solved Exam MCQ

5. **On October 28, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved which Centrally Sponsored Scheme to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions and rural governance?**
(A) Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana
(B) Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Panchayat Abhiyan
(C) National Digital Village Mission
(D) Gramin Swavalamban Yojana
Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** On October 28, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the Centrally Sponsored Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #6 Solved Exam MCQ

6. **On July 31, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the PM-KISAN Scheme from 2026 onwards with what total financial outlay?**
(A) ₹2.10 lakh crore
(B) ₹2.75 lakh crore
(C) ₹3.15 lakh crore
(D) ₹3.80 lakh crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** On July 31, 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of PM-KISAN from 2026 with an outlay of ₹3.15 lakh crore (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #7 Solved Exam MCQ

7. **What is the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) outlay approved by the Union Cabinet to catalyze offshore wind energy projects in India?**
(A) ₹5,120 crore
(B) ₹6,300 crore
(C) ₹7,453 crore
(D) ₹8,900 crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** The Union Cabinet approved a ₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme for offshore wind energy installations (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #8 Solved Exam MCQ

8. **According to Special Campaign 6.0 outcomes released in November 2026, how much office space was freed in the Department of Defence Production (DDP) alone?**
(A) 11.20 lakh sq. ft.
(B) 14.50 lakh sq. ft.
(C) 17.42 lakh sq. ft.
(D) 21.80 lakh sq. ft.
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Under Special Campaign 6.0, 17.42 lakh sq. ft. of office space was freed in the Department of Defence Production (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #9 Solved Exam MCQ

9. **In the Union Budget 2026 Budget Estimates, what is the total expenditure projected for the Central Government?**
(A) ₹49,64,842 crore
(B) ₹51,20,400 crore
(C) ₹53,47,315 crore
(D) ₹55,80,120 crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** The Central Government is estimated to spend ₹53,47,315 crore (₹53.47 lakh crore) in Union Budget 2026, up 7.7% over the preceding revised estimate (**India Budget Portal**).

Practice Question #10 Solved Exam MCQ

10. **Union Budget 2026 increased public capital expenditure to what level to sustain infrastructure-led economic growth?**
(A) ₹10.5 lakh crore
(B) ₹11.1 lakh crore
(C) ₹12.2 lakh crore
(D) ₹13.5 lakh crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Public capital expenditure was raised to ₹12.2 lakh crore in Union Budget 2026 (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #11 Solved Exam MCQ

11. **What is the fiscal deficit target (as a percentage of GDP) in the Union Budget 2026 Budget Estimates?**
(A) 4.6 percent
(B) 4.5 percent
(C) 4.4 percent
(D) 4.3 percent
Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** The fiscal deficit in the 2026 Budget Estimates is targeted at 4.3 percent of GDP, down from 4.4% in the preceding revised estimate (**India Budget Portal**).

Practice Question #12 Solved Exam MCQ

12. **What is the revenue deficit target (as a percentage of GDP) in the Union Budget 2026 Budget Estimates?**
(A) 1.2 percent
(B) 1.5 percent
(C) 1.8 percent
(D) 2.1 percent
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Revenue deficit in Union Budget 2026 is targeted at 1.5 percent of GDP (India Budget Portal).

Practice Question #13 Solved Exam MCQ

13. **In Union Budget 2026, what are the total receipts (other than borrowings) estimated at?**
(A) ₹34,00,200 crore
(B) ₹35,33,000 crore
(C) ₹36,51,547 crore
(D) ₹38,10,450 crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Receipts other than borrowings (non-debt receipts) in Union Budget 2026 are estimated at ₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore) (India Budget Portal).

Practice Question #14 Solved Exam MCQ

14. **What are the Centre's net tax receipts estimated at in Union Budget 2026?**
(A) ₹26.70 lakh crore
(B) ₹27.50 lakh crore
(C) ₹28.67 lakh crore
(D) ₹30.10 lakh crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** The Centre's net tax receipts are estimated at ₹28.67 lakh crore (~₹28.7 lakh crore) in Union Budget 2026 (India Budget Portal).

Practice Question #15 Solved Exam MCQ

15. **What is the Central Government's debt-to-GDP ratio estimated at in the Union Budget 2026 Budget Estimates?**
(A) 57.2 percent
(B) 56.1 percent
(C) 55.6 percent
(D) 54.2 percent
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** The debt-to-GDP ratio is estimated at 55.6 percent of GDP in the 2026 Budget Estimates, compared to 56.1 percent in the preceding revised estimate (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Practice Question #16 Solved Exam MCQ

16. **In Union Budget 2026, what are the estimated gross market borrowings and net market borrowings from dated securities respectively?**
(A) ₹15.5 lakh crore and ₹10.2 lakh crore
(B) ₹16.4 lakh crore and ₹11.0 lakh crore
(C) ₹17.2 lakh crore and ₹11.7 lakh crore
(D) ₹18.0 lakh crore and ₹12.5 lakh crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Gross market borrowings are estimated at ₹17.2 lakh crore and net market borrowings from dated securities at ₹11.7 lakh crore (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Practice Question #17 Solved Exam MCQ

17. **The Sixteenth Finance Commission (SFC), whose award period begins with Union Budget 2026, recommended retaining vertical tax devolution to States at what percentage of the divisible pool?**
(A) 40 percent
(B) 41 percent
(C) 42 percent
(D) 43 percent
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** The Sixteenth Finance Commission retained the States' vertical share in the divisible pool at 41 percent (India Budget Portal).

Practice Question #18 Solved Exam MCQ

18. **What is the budgetary outlay allocated for SASCI (Special Assistance as Loan to States for Capital Expenditure) in Union Budget 2026?**
(A) ₹1.5 lakh crore
(B) ₹2.0 lakh crore
(C) ₹2.5 lakh crore
(D) ₹3.0 lakh crore
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Union Budget 2026 allocated ₹2.0 lakh crore under SASCI for 50-year interest-free capital expenditure loans to States (India Budget Portal).

Practice Question #19 Solved Exam MCQ

19. **What nominal GDP growth rate (real growth plus inflation) has the government estimated in Union Budget 2026?**
(A) 9.0 percent
(B) 9.5 percent
(C) 10.0 percent
(D) 10.8 percent
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Union Budget 2026 estimated a nominal GDP growth rate of 10 percent (India Budget Portal).

Practice Question #20 Solved Exam MCQ

20. **On October 7, 2026, the RBI Monetary Policy Committee chaired by Governor Sanjay Malhotra unanimously raised the policy repo rate by 25 basis points to what level?**
(A) 5.00 percent
(B) 5.25 percent
(C) 5.50 percent
(D) 5.75 percent
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** On October 7, 2026, the RBI MPC unanimously hiked the policy repo rate by 25 bps from 5.25% to 5.50% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Practice Question #21 Solved Exam MCQ

21. **Following the October 7, 2026 RBI MPC decision, what are the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate and Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate respectively?**
(A) 5.00% and 5.50%
(B) 5.25% and 5.75%
(C) 5.50% and 6.00%
(D) 5.15% and 5.65%
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** With the policy repo rate at 5.50%, the SDF rate is 5.25% and the MSF rate and Bank Rate are 5.75% (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

Practice Question #22 Solved Exam MCQ

22. **In its October 2026 Monetary Policy review, the Reserve Bank of India projected core inflation at what level for the year?**
(A) 3.8 percent
(B) 4.0 percent
(C) 4.4 percent
(D) 4.9 percent
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** The RBI MPC projected core inflation at 4.4 percent within the statutory 2% and 6% tolerance band (**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**).

Practice Question #23 Solved Exam MCQ

23. **As on October 2, 2026, India's foreign exchange reserves stood at what level according to official RBI data?**
(A) US$ 685.4 billion
(B) US$ 710.2 billion
(C) US$ 734.6 billion
(D) US$ 760.8 billion
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** As on October 2, 2026, India's foreign exchange reserves stood at US$ 734.6 billion (**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**).

Practice Question #24 Solved Exam MCQ

24. **With US$ 41.3 billion in announced greenfield FDI projects in 2026, what was India's global rank according to the Reserve Bank of India?**
(A) 1st globally
(B) 2nd globally
(C) 3rd globally
(D) 4th globally
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** India ranked 3rd globally in announced greenfield FDI projects in 2026 with US$ 41.3 billion (**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**).

Practice Question #25 Solved Exam MCQ

25. **According to the DCC-GARCH econometric study in the October 23, 2026 RBI Bulletin, what is the implied inflation turning point for stock–bond correlation in advanced economies?**
(A) 1.2 percent
(B) 1.6 percent
(C) 2.4 percent
(D) 3.0 percent
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** Using a DCC-GARCH model, the October 2026 RBI Bulletin identified an implied inflation turning point of 1.6 percent in advanced economies (**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**).

Practice Question #26 Solved Exam MCQ

26. **According to the October 2026 RBI Bulletin, which is the only statistically significant variable explaining stock–bond correlation in emerging markets?**
(A) Brent crude oil prices
(B) Global equity volatility (VIX)
(C) Current account deficit
(D) Sovereign bond maturity
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** In emerging markets, stock–bond correlation averages +0.6 and is explained solely by global equity volatility (VIX) (**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**).

Practice Question #27 Solved Exam MCQ

27. **Which city hosted the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026 in November 2026?**
(A) Gandhinagar
(B) Bengaluru
(C) New Delhi
(D) Hyderabad
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** The Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026 was held in November 2026 in New Delhi (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Practice Question #28 Solved Exam MCQ

28. **According to official Ministry of Finance data released in 2026, India's registered GST taxpayer base expanded from 66.5 lakh at launch to what figure?**
(A) 1.28 crore
(B) 1.42 crore
(C) 1.64 crore
(D) 1.85 crore
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** India's registered GST taxpayer base expanded from 66.5 lakh in 2017 to 1.64 crore in 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Practice Question #29 Solved Exam MCQ

29. **Which office compiles and releases India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI), Output Producer Price Index (PPI), and Trial Input PPI?**
(A) National Statistical Office (MoSPI)
(B) Office of the Economic Adviser (DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry)
(C) Labour Bureau, Shimla
(D) Department of Economic Affairs
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** WPI, Output PPI, and Trial Input PPI are compiled and released by the Office of the Economic Adviser, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Practice Question #30 Solved Exam MCQ

30. **The National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC), which conducted residential property e-auctions in November 2026, functions under the administrative jurisdiction of which Ministry?**
(A) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
(B) Ministry of Rural Development
(C) Ministry of Finance (Department of Public Sector Undertakings)
(D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** NLMC is a 100% Government-owned company under the Department of Public Sector Undertakings, Ministry of Finance (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

Practice Question #31 Solved Exam MCQ

31. **How many space missions did the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) list for execution in its 2026 financial year manifest?**
(A) 18 space missions
(B) 22 space missions
(C) 27 space missions
(D) 32 space missions
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** ISRO listed 27 space missions for execution in financial year 2026, including preparations for the first uncrewed Gaganyaan flight (Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)).

Practice Question #32 Solved Exam MCQ

32. **In October 2026, ISRO's GSLV-F18 (the 20th flight of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle) was configured for which navigation satellite mission?**
(A) NVS-01
(B) NVS-02
(C) NVS-03
(D) GSAT-24
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** GSLV-F18 is the 20th flight of GSLV dedicated to the NVS-03 navigation satellite mission (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

Practice Question #33 Solved Exam MCQ

33. **On September 9, 2026, ISRO conducted the flight acceptance hot test of the CE20 cryogenic engine for the seventh LVM3 launch (M7) at what thrust level?**
(A) 18-tonne thrust
(B) 20-tonne thrust
(C) 22-tonne thrust
(D) 25-tonne thrust
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** On September 9, 2026, the CE20 cryogenic engine for LVM3-M7 was successfully hot-tested at 22-tonne thrust (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

Practice Question #34 Solved Exam MCQ

34. **What is the internal project name of ISRO's ₹8,240 crore Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV), for which a reusable landing leg tender was issued in April 2026?**
(A) Agnibaan
(B) Soorya
(C) Vikram
(D) Aditya
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** ISRO's Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) project, approved for ₹8,240 crore, is internally named 'Soorya' (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

Practice Question #35 Solved Exam MCQ

35. **On November 5, 2026, DRDO conducted a successful user evaluation flight-test of which indigenous surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile from ITR Chandipur?**
(A) Pralay
(B) Astra
(C) Prahaar
(D) Nirbhay
Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** On November 5, 2026, DRDO successfully flight-tested the quasi-ballistic missile 'Pralay' in user evaluation trials (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #36 Solved Exam MCQ

36. **On May 8, 2026, DRDO flight-tested which strategic missile equipped with Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) payloads over the Indian Ocean Region?**
(A) Prithvi-II
(B) Advanced Agni with MIRV
(C) Dhanush
(D) Shaurya
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** On May 8, 2026, an Advanced Agni equipped with MIRV carried multiple payloads to independent targets across the Indian Ocean Region (**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**).

Practice Question #37 Solved Exam MCQ

37. **On July 23, 2026, DRDO conducted the maiden flight-test of which indigenous long-range surface-to-air defence system?**
(A) Project Kusha
(B) Project Sanjay
(C) Project Zorawar
(D) Project Varunastra
Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** On July 23, 2026, DRDO conducted the maiden flight-test of its indigenous long-range air defence system under Project Kusha (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Practice Question #38 Solved Exam MCQ

38. **Which two indigenous missiles were flight-tested by DRDO on June 2, 2026 and June 15, 2026 respectively?**
(A) Nag and Helina
(B) RudraM-II and LRLACM
(C) Akash and Trishul
(D) Prahaar and Pinaka
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** DRDO announced flight-tests of anti-radiation missile RudraM-II on June 2, 2026 and Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) on June 15, 2026 (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Practice Question #39 Solved Exam MCQ

39. **On May 9, 2026, DRDO conducted a full-scale hypersonic scramjet engine combustor static test lasting for what duration?**
(A) Over 300 seconds
(B) Over 600 seconds
(C) Over 900 seconds
(D) Over 1,200 seconds
Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** Following a 12-minute test on January 9, 2026, DRDO tested its full-scale scramjet combustor for over 1,200 seconds on May 9, 2026 (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Practice Question #40 Solved Exam MCQ

40. **In September 2026, DRDO launched which programme under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) for an S-band High-Power Microwave evaluation system using GaN technology?**
(A) Project SHIELD
(B) Project Shakti
(C) Project Netra
(D) Project Kavach
Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** In September 2026, DRDO launched Project SHIELD (S-band High-Power Microwave Integrated Evaluation System for Lethality & Damage) (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Practice Question #41 Solved Exam MCQ

41. **In November 2026, DRDO's Microwave Tube Research and Development Centre (MTRDC) issued an Expression of Interest to co-develop a radio-frequency directed energy weapon under which project?**
(A) Project BEDHAK
(B) Project Trinetra
(C) Project Vajra
(D) Project Prahaar
Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** In November 2026, MTRDC (DRDO) initiated Project BEDHAK to co-develop a high-power radio-frequency directed energy weapon (Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)).

Practice Question #42 Solved Exam MCQ

42. **On April 29, 2026, DRDO and the Indian Navy conducted the first salvo launch of which missile from a naval helicopter?**
(A) NASM-SR (Naval Anti-Ship Missile Short Range)
(B) Sea Eagle
(C) Harpoon
(D) Varunastra
Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** On April 29, 2026, PIB announced the first salvo launch of NASM-SR from an Indian Navy helicopter (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #43 Solved Exam MCQ

43. **How many Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs) have been operationalized across premier Indian institutes under the ₹6,003.65 crore National Quantum Mission?**
(A) 2 Thematic Hubs
(B) 3 Thematic Hubs
(C) 4 Thematic Hubs
(D) 6 Thematic Hubs
Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** Four T-Hubs covering Quantum Computing, Communication, Sensing, and Materials operate under the National Quantum Mission (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #44 Solved Exam MCQ

44. **In the Department of Biotechnology's 'BioE3' policy implemented in 2026, what do the three 'E's stand for?**
(A) Energy, Education and Exports
(B) Economy, Environment and Employment
(C) Electronics, Ecology and Equity
(D) Efficiency, Ethics and Empowerment
Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** BioE3 stands for Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

Practice Question #45 Solved Exam MCQ

45. **Under Union Budget 2026, what is the customs duty treatment of marine fish catch by an Indian fishing vessel in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or on the high seas?**
(A) 5% concessional duty
(B) 10% standard duty
(C) 15% export duty
(D) Completely exempt from customs duty (Zero duty)
Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** Union Budget 2026 made fish catch by an Indian fishing vessel in the EEZ or high seas completely free of customs duty (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

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

Practice Question #46 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q46. With reference to Cabinet Decision / National Initiative (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Department, which of the following is accurately matched with "Tribal Language Translation of Official Releases (2026)"?

(A) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (PIB)
(B) ₹49.65 lakh crore
(C) ~₹11.00 lakh crore
(D) ₹34.00 lakh crore

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Tribal Language Translation of Official Releases (2026)** (Cabinet Decision / National Initiative (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Department is **Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (PIB)**. Furthermore, Dissemination of Prime Minister speeches and PIB releases in indigenous tribal languages. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #47 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q47. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Total Expenditure"?

(A) ~₹11.00 lakh crore
(B) ₹49.65 lakh crore
(C) ₹34.00 lakh crore
(D) ~₹34.00 lakh crore

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Total Expenditure** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **₹49.65 lakh crore**. Furthermore, ₹53,47,315 crore (₹53.47 lakh crore). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #48 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q48. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Public Capital Expenditure"?

(A) ₹34.00 lakh crore
(B) ~₹34.00 lakh crore
(C) ~₹11.00 lakh crore
(D) ₹26.70 lakh crore

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Public Capital Expenditure** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **~₹11.00 lakh crore**. Furthermore, ₹12.20 lakh crore. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #49 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q49. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Non-Debt Total Receipts"?

(A) ~₹34.00 lakh crore
(B) ₹26.70 lakh crore
(C) RBI/PSU dividends & loan recoveries
(D) ₹34.00 lakh crore

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Non-Debt Total Receipts** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **₹34.00 lakh crore**. Furthermore, ₹36,51,547 crore (₹36.5 lakh crore). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #50 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q50. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Total Revenue Receipts"?

(A) ~₹34.00 lakh crore
(B) ₹26.70 lakh crore
(C) RBI/PSU dividends & loan recoveries
(D) 4.4% of GDP & 1.5% of GDP

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Total Revenue Receipts** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **~₹34.00 lakh crore**. Furthermore, ₹35.33 lakh crore. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #51 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q51. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Centre's Net Tax Receipts"?

(A) RBI/PSU dividends & loan recoveries
(B) ₹26.70 lakh crore
(C) 4.4% of GDP & 1.5% of GDP
(D) 56.1% of GDP

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Centre's Net Tax Receipts** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **₹26.70 lakh crore**. Furthermore, ₹28.67 lakh crore (₹28.7 lakh crore). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #52 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q52. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Non-Tax Revenue & Non-Debt Capital Receipts"?

(A) 4.4% of GDP & 1.5% of GDP
(B) 56.1% of GDP
(C) RBI/PSU dividends & loan recoveries
(D) Dated Government Securities

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Non-Tax Revenue & Non-Debt Capital Receipts** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **RBI/PSU dividends & loan recoveries**. Furthermore, ₹6.66 lakh crore & ₹1.18 lakh crore. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #53 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q53. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Fiscal Deficit & Revenue Deficit"?

(A) 56.1% of GDP
(B) Dated Government Securities
(C) 41% vertical devolution
(D) 4.4% of GDP & 1.5% of GDP

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Fiscal Deficit & Revenue Deficit** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **4.4% of GDP & 1.5% of GDP**. Furthermore, 4.3% of GDP & 1.5% of GDP. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #54 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q54. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Central Govt Debt-to-GDP Ratio"?

(A) 56.1% of GDP
(B) Dated Government Securities
(C) 41% vertical devolution
(D) 5.50 percent

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Central Govt Debt-to-GDP Ratio** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **56.1% of GDP**. Furthermore, 55.6% of GDP. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #55 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q55. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "Gross & Net Market Borrowings"?

(A) 41% vertical devolution
(B) Dated Government Securities
(C) 5.50 percent
(D) 5.25 percent

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Gross & Net Market Borrowings** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **Dated Government Securities**. Furthermore, ₹17.2 lakh cr (Gross) & ₹11.7 lakh cr (Net). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #56 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q56. With reference to Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator and Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline, which of the following is accurately matched with "SASCI Loans & 16th FC Devolution"?

(A) 5.50 percent
(B) 5.25 percent
(C) 41% vertical devolution
(D) 5.75 percent

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **SASCI Loans & 16th FC Devolution** (Budgetary / Fiscal Indicator), the verified Preceding Revised Estimate Baseline is **41% vertical devolution**. Furthermore, ₹2.0 lakh cr SASCI & 41% tax share. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #57 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q57. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Policy Repo Rate (Oct 7, 2026)"?

(A) 5.25 percent
(B) 5.75 percent
(C) Calibrated Tightening
(D) 5.50 percent

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Policy Repo Rate (Oct 7, 2026)** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **5.50 percent**. Furthermore, Unanimously hiked by 25 bps from 5.25% (held at 5.25% in June & Aug 2026). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #58 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q58. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate"?

(A) 5.25 percent
(B) 5.75 percent
(C) Calibrated Tightening
(D) 4.4 percent

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **5.25 percent**. Furthermore, Uncollateralized floor of the LAF corridor (25 bps below Repo Rate). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #59 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q59. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) & Bank Rate"?

(A) Calibrated Tightening
(B) 5.75 percent
(C) 4.4 percent
(D) US$ 734.6 billion

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) & Bank Rate** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **5.75 percent**. Furthermore, Penal ceiling of the LAF corridor (25 bps above Repo Rate). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #60 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q60. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Monetary Policy Stance (Oct 2026)"?

(A) 4.4 percent
(B) US$ 734.6 billion
(C) Calibrated Tightening
(D) +20.6% Growth; 3rd Rank Globally

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Monetary Policy Stance (Oct 2026)** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **Calibrated Tightening**. Furthermore, Shifted from Neutral stance; 2 members favoured retaining Neutral stance. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #61 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q61. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Core Inflation Projection (2026)"?

(A) US$ 734.6 billion
(B) +20.6% Growth; 3rd Rank Globally
(C) US$ 119.2 billion
(D) 4.4 percent

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Core Inflation Projection (2026)** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **4.4 percent**. Furthermore, Anchored within statutory 4% ± 2% flexible inflation targeting band. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #62 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q62. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Foreign Exchange Reserves"?

(A) US$ 734.6 billion
(B) +20.6% Growth; 3rd Rank Globally
(C) US$ 119.2 billion
(D) US 23.9B (Gross) & US 7.3B (Net)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Foreign Exchange Reserves** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **US$ 734.6 billion**. Furthermore, Recorded as on October 2, 2026; comprises FCA, Gold, SDRs & IMF RTP. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #63 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q63. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Gross FDI Growth & Greenfield Rank"?

(A) US$ 119.2 billion
(B) +20.6% Growth; 3rd Rank Globally
(C) US 23.9B (Gross) & US 7.3B (Net)
(D) 1.6% (Advanced); +0.6 (Emerging)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Gross FDI Growth & Greenfield Rank** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **+20.6% Growth; 3rd Rank Globally**. Furthermore, US$ 41.3 billion in announced greenfield FDI projects in 2026. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #64 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q64. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Net Non-Resident Deposit Inflows"?

(A) US 23.9B (Gross) & US 7.3B (Net)
(B) 1.6% (Advanced); +0.6 (Emerging)
(C) US$ 119.2 billion
(D) Ministry of New & Renewable Energy

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Net Non-Resident Deposit Inflows** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **US$ 119.2 billion**. Furthermore, Strong diaspora deposit inflows bolstering domestic banking liquidity. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #65 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q65. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "Gross & Net ECB Disbursements"?

(A) 1.6% (Advanced); +0.6 (Emerging)
(B) Ministry of New & Renewable Energy
(C) Union Cabinet / MNRE
(D) US 23.9B (Gross) & US 7.3B (Net)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Gross & Net ECB Disbursements** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **US 23.9B (Gross) & US 7.3B (Net)**. Furthermore, External Commercial Borrowings supporting Indian corporate capex. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #66 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q66. With reference to Monetary / External Indicator and Official Figure / Rate (2026), which of the following is accurately matched with "DCC-GARCH Stock–Bond Correlation"?

(A) 1.6% (Advanced); +0.6 (Emerging)
(B) Ministry of New & Renewable Energy
(C) Union Cabinet / MNRE
(D) Ministry of Finance (CBIC & GSTN)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **DCC-GARCH Stock–Bond Correlation** (Monetary / External Indicator), the verified Official Figure / Rate (2026) is **1.6% (Advanced); +0.6 (Emerging)**. Furthermore, VIX is the sole significant driver in emerging markets (Wald test). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #67 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q67. With reference to Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE 2026)"?

(A) Union Cabinet / MNRE
(B) Ministry of New & Renewable Energy
(C) Ministry of Finance (CBIC & GSTN)
(D) Office of Economic Adviser (DPIIT, MoCI)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE 2026)** (Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body is **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy**. Furthermore, Held in November 2026 in New Delhi. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #68 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q68. With reference to Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Offshore Wind Energy VGF Scheme (2026)"?

(A) Ministry of Finance (CBIC & GSTN)
(B) Office of Economic Adviser (DPIIT, MoCI)
(C) Union Cabinet / MNRE
(D) DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Offshore Wind Energy VGF Scheme (2026)** (Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body is **Union Cabinet / MNRE**. Furthermore, ₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #69 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q69. With reference to Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Registered GST Taxpayer Base (2026)"?

(A) Office of Economic Adviser (DPIIT, MoCI)
(B) DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry
(C) National Statistical Office (MoSPI)
(D) Ministry of Finance (CBIC & GSTN)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Registered GST Taxpayer Base (2026)** (Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body is **Ministry of Finance (CBIC & GSTN)**. Furthermore, 1.64 crore active taxpayers in 2026. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #70 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q70. With reference to Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Wholesale Price Index (WPI — Oct 2026)"?

(A) Office of Economic Adviser (DPIIT, MoCI)
(B) DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry
(C) National Statistical Office (MoSPI)
(D) Dept. of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance)

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Wholesale Price Index (WPI — Oct 2026)** (Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body is **Office of Economic Adviser (DPIIT, MoCI)**. Furthermore, 697 commodities; Manufactured weight: 64.23%. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #71 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q71. With reference to Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Output PPI & Trial Input PPI (Oct 2026)"?

(A) National Statistical Office (MoSPI)
(B) DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry
(C) Dept. of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance)
(D) Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Finance

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Output PPI & Trial Input PPI (Oct 2026)** (Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body is **DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry**. Furthermore, Released in November 2026 alongside Final Aug 2026 WPI. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #72 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q72. With reference to Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Consumer Price Index Combined (CPI-C)"?

(A) Dept. of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance)
(B) Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Finance
(C) National Statistical Office (MoSPI)
(D) 27 space missions scheduled for execution in FY 2026

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Consumer Price Index Combined (CPI-C)** (Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body is **National Statistical Office (MoSPI)**. Furthermore, Food & Beverages weight: 45.86%. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #73 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q73. With reference to Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)"?

(A) Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Finance
(B) 27 space missions scheduled for execution in FY 2026
(C) 20th flight of GSLV; carries NVS-03 navigation satellite
(D) Dept. of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance)

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)** (Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body is **Dept. of Public Sector Undertakings (Ministry of Finance)**. Furthermore, November 2026 residential property e-auctions. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #74 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q74. With reference to Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026) and Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body, which of the following is accurately matched with "Integrated Textile Schemes (Budget 2026)"?

(A) Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Finance
(B) 27 space missions scheduled for execution in FY 2026
(C) 20th flight of GSLV; carries NVS-03 navigation satellite
(D) Flight acceptance hot test at 22-tonne thrust level

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Integrated Textile Schemes (Budget 2026)** (Index / Initiative / Corporation (2026)), the verified Nodal Ministry / Issuing Body is **Ministry of Textiles & Ministry of Finance**. Furthermore, Targeted support for handloom weavers & artisans. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #75 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q75. With reference to Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026) and Technical Configuration & Payload, which of the following is accurately matched with "ISRO Annual Mission Manifest 2026"?

(A) 20th flight of GSLV; carries NVS-03 navigation satellite
(B) 27 space missions scheduled for execution in FY 2026
(C) Flight acceptance hot test at 22-tonne thrust level
(D) ₹8,240 crore outlay; 3 developmental flights (D1, D2 & D3)

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **ISRO Annual Mission Manifest 2026** (Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)), the verified Technical Configuration & Payload is **27 space missions scheduled for execution in FY 2026**. Furthermore, Announced in May 2026 including uncrewed Gaganyaan prep. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #76 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q76. With reference to Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026) and Technical Configuration & Payload, which of the following is accurately matched with "GSLV-F18 / NVS-03 Mission"?

(A) Flight acceptance hot test at 22-tonne thrust level
(B) ₹8,240 crore outlay; 3 developmental flights (D1, D2 & D3)
(C) 20th flight of GSLV; carries NVS-03 navigation satellite
(D) 3-day crewed mission to 400 km Low Earth Orbit aboard HLVM3

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **GSLV-F18 / NVS-03 Mission** (Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)), the verified Technical Configuration & Payload is **20th flight of GSLV; carries NVS-03 navigation satellite**. Furthermore, October 2026 orbital campaign. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #77 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q77. With reference to Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026) and Technical Configuration & Payload, which of the following is accurately matched with "LVM3-M7 CE20 Cryogenic Engine Test"?

(A) ₹8,240 crore outlay; 3 developmental flights (D1, D2 & D3)
(B) 3-day crewed mission to 400 km Low Earth Orbit aboard HLVM3
(C) Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla's ISS flight & 7-day rehab protocol
(D) Flight acceptance hot test at 22-tonne thrust level

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **LVM3-M7 CE20 Cryogenic Engine Test** (Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)), the verified Technical Configuration & Payload is **Flight acceptance hot test at 22-tonne thrust level**. Furthermore, Successfully conducted on September 9, 2026. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #78 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q78. With reference to Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026) and Technical Configuration & Payload, which of the following is accurately matched with "Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV 'Soorya')"?

(A) ₹8,240 crore outlay; 3 developmental flights (D1, D2 & D3)
(B) 3-day crewed mission to 400 km Low Earth Orbit aboard HLVM3
(C) Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla's ISS flight & 7-day rehab protocol
(D) Dedicated heavy-lift pad configured for NGLV 'Soorya' rockets

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV 'Soorya')** (Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)), the verified Technical Configuration & Payload is **₹8,240 crore outlay; 3 developmental flights (D1, D2 & D3)**. Furthermore, April 2026 tender issued for reusable landing leg hardware. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #79 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q79. With reference to Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026) and Technical Configuration & Payload, which of the following is accurately matched with "Gaganyaan Human Spaceflight Programme"?

(A) Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla's ISS flight & 7-day rehab protocol
(B) 3-day crewed mission to 400 km Low Earth Orbit aboard HLVM3
(C) Dedicated heavy-lift pad configured for NGLV 'Soorya' rockets
(D) Indigenous orbital space station & 2040 crewed lunar landing goal

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Gaganyaan Human Spaceflight Programme** (Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)), the verified Technical Configuration & Payload is **3-day crewed mission to 400 km Low Earth Orbit aboard HLVM3**. Furthermore, 2026 uncrewed flight readiness & crew module integration. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #80 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q80. With reference to Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026) and Technical Configuration & Payload, which of the following is accurately matched with "Axiom-4 ISS Mission Post-Flight Integration"?

(A) Dedicated heavy-lift pad configured for NGLV 'Soorya' rockets
(B) Indigenous orbital space station & 2040 crewed lunar landing goal
(C) Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla's ISS flight & 7-day rehab protocol
(D) November 5, 2026

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Axiom-4 ISS Mission Post-Flight Integration** (Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)), the verified Technical Configuration & Payload is **Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla's ISS flight & 7-day rehab protocol**. Furthermore, 2026 operational integration with NASA Johnson Space Center. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #81 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q81. With reference to Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026) and Technical Configuration & Payload, which of the following is accurately matched with "Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota"?

(A) Indigenous orbital space station & 2040 crewed lunar landing goal
(B) November 5, 2026
(C) November 2026
(D) Dedicated heavy-lift pad configured for NGLV 'Soorya' rockets

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota** (Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)), the verified Technical Configuration & Payload is **Dedicated heavy-lift pad configured for NGLV 'Soorya' rockets**. Furthermore, 2026 civil and launch infrastructure execution. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #82 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q82. With reference to Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026) and Technical Configuration & Payload, which of the following is accurately matched with "Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)"?

(A) Indigenous orbital space station & 2040 crewed lunar landing goal
(B) November 5, 2026
(C) November 2026
(D) September 2026

Correct Answer: (A) | **Explanation:** For **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)** (Space Mission / Launch Vehicle (2026)), the verified Technical Configuration & Payload is **Indigenous orbital space station & 2040 crewed lunar landing goal**. Furthermore, 2026 architecture refinement powered by NGLV & LVM3. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #83 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q83. With reference to Missile / Defence System and 2026 Trial / Launch Date, which of the following is accurately matched with "Pralay Missile"?

(A) November 2026
(B) November 5, 2026
(C) September 2026
(D) Aug 6, May 22 & Feb 6, 2026

Correct Answer: (B) | **Explanation:** For **Pralay Missile** (Missile / Defence System), the verified 2026 Trial / Launch Date is **November 5, 2026**. Furthermore, Indigenous surface-to-surface quasi-ballistic missile; user evaluation trial at ITR Chandipur. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #84 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q84. With reference to Missile / Defence System and 2026 Trial / Launch Date, which of the following is accurately matched with "Project BEDHAK"?

(A) September 2026
(B) Aug 6, May 22 & Feb 6, 2026
(C) November 2026
(D) July 23, 2026

Correct Answer: (C) | **Explanation:** For **Project BEDHAK** (Missile / Defence System), the verified 2026 Trial / Launch Date is **November 2026**. Furthermore, High-power Radio-Frequency Directed Energy Weapon (RF DEW) using magnetron/vircator. (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Practice Question #85 High-Yield Comparative MCQ

Q85. With reference to Missile / Defence System and 2026 Trial / Launch Date, which of the following is accurately matched with "Project SHIELD"?

(A) Aug 6, May 22 & Feb 6, 2026
(B) July 23, 2026
(C) June 15, 2026
(D) September 2026

Correct Answer: (D) | **Explanation:** For **Project SHIELD** (Missile / Defence System), the verified 2026 Trial / Launch Date is **September 2026**. Furthermore, S-band High-Power Microwave (HPM) evaluation system using GaN SSPA (3 kV/m field). (Source: पत्र सूचना कार्यालय (PIB) & IUC Academy).

Rapid-Fire Revision Points

1. On **November 11, 2026**, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Stand-Up India Scheme** with a financial provision of **₹4,111 crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

2. The **Stand-Up India Scheme** is administered by the **Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

3. Stand-Up India facilitates composite bank loans from **₹10 lakh to ₹1 crore** to at least one SC/ST and one Woman borrower per bank branch (IUC Academy).

4. Loans under the Stand-Up India Scheme are sanctioned strictly for **greenfield (first-time)** ventures (IUC Academy).

5. On **November 11, 2026**, the Union Cabinet approved **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)** rates for **Rabi 2026** with a tentative outlay of **₹62,370.02 crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

6. The ₹62,370.02 crore Rabi 2026 NBS outlay is **₹24,417.73 crore higher** than the preceding Rabi season budgetary requirement (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

7. The Government provides **28 grades of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers** including DAP at subsidized prices under the NBS scheme (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

8. On **October 28, 2026**, the Union Cabinet approved the Centrally Sponsored **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

9. On **July 31, 2026**, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **PM-KISAN Scheme** from 2026 with a total outlay of **₹3.15 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

10. The Union Cabinet approved a **₹7,453 crore Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** scheme for offshore wind energy installations (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

11. Under **Special Campaign 6.0** in October and November 2026, **17.42 lakh sq. ft.** of office space was freed in the Department of Defence Production alone (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

12. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment convened the departmental summit **'Samaveshi Niti Sankalp'** in New Delhi in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

13. In November 2026, **MoSJE and the Ministry of Defence** launched a joint welfare partnership for **senior citizens in military cantonment areas** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

14. The **45th India International Trade Fair (IITF 2026)** was held at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi** in November 2026 (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

15. In **Union Budget 2026**, total expenditure is estimated at **₹53,47,315 crore (₹53.47 lakh crore)**, or **13.6% of GDP** (India Budget Portal).

16. Total expenditure in Union Budget 2026 is **7.7 percent higher** than the preceding revised estimate of ₹49.65 lakh crore (India Budget Portal).

17. Union Budget 2026 raised **public capital expenditure to ₹12.2 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

18. Non-debt receipts (receipts other than borrowings) in Union Budget 2026 are estimated at **₹36,51,547 crore (~₹36.5 lakh crore)**, up 7.2% (India Budget Portal).

19. In Union Budget 2026, **Total Revenue Receipts** stand at **₹35.33 lakh crore** and **Non-Debt Capital Receipts** at **₹1.18 lakh crore** (India Budget Portal).

20. The **Centre's Net Tax Receipts** are estimated at **₹28.67 lakh crore (~₹28.7 lakh crore)** and **Non-Tax Revenue** at **₹6.66 lakh crore** in Union Budget 2026 (India Budget Portal).

21. The **fiscal deficit** in Union Budget 2026 is targeted at **4.3 percent of GDP**, down from 4.4% in the preceding revised estimate (India Budget Portal).

22. The **revenue deficit** in Union Budget 2026 is targeted at **1.5 percent of GDP** (India Budget Portal).

23. The Central Government's **debt-to-GDP ratio** is estimated at **55.6 percent of GDP** in Union Budget 2026 (down from 56.1%), targeting **50% by 2031** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

24. In Union Budget 2026, **gross market borrowings** are estimated at **₹17.2 lakh crore** and **net market borrowings** from dated securities at **₹11.7 lakh crore** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

25. Interest payments in Union Budget 2026 account for **26% of total expenditure** and **40% of revenue receipts** (India Budget Portal).

26. Union Budget 2026 estimates a **nominal GDP growth rate of 10 percent** (India Budget Portal).

27. Union Budget 2026 marks the first year of the **Sixteenth Finance Commission (SFC)** award period, retaining **41% vertical devolution** to States (India Budget Portal).

28. Union Budget 2026 allocated **₹2.0 lakh crore** under **SASCI** for 50-year interest-free capital expenditure loans to States (India Budget Portal).

29. The simplified **New Income Tax Act** came into force nationwide from **April 2026** (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

30. Union Budget 2026 exempted **fish catch by Indian vessels in the EEZ or high seas** from customs duty and treated foreign port landings as exports (Press Information Bureau (PIB)).

31. On **October 7, 2026**, the RBI Monetary Policy Committee chaired by **Governor Sanjay Malhotra** unanimously hiked the **Repo Rate by 25 bps to 5.50%** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

32. Following the October 7, 2026 MPC resolution, the **SDF rate is 5.25%** and the **MSF rate and Bank Rate are 5.75%** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

33. In October 2026, the RBI MPC changed its monetary policy stance from Neutral to **Calibrated Tightening** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

34. The Reserve Bank of India projected **core inflation at 4.4 percent** in its October 2026 Monetary Policy Report (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

35. As on **October 2, 2026**, India's **foreign exchange reserves** stood at **US$ 734.6 billion** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

36. Gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows to India grew by **20.6 percent** in 2026 (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

37. India ranked **3rd globally** in announced **greenfield FDI projects** in 2026 with **US$ 41.3 billion** (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

38. Net inflows under **non-resident deposits** rose to **US$ 119.2 billion** in 2026 (Reserve Bank of India (RBI)).

39. External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) disbursements rose to **US 23.9 billion (gross)** and **US 7.3 billion (net)** in 2026 (**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**).

40. Using a **DCC-GARCH model**, the October 23, 2026 RBI Bulletin found an implied inflation turning point of **1.6 percent** for stock–bond correlation in advanced economies (**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**).

41. In emerging markets, stock–bond correlation averages **+0.6** and is driven solely by **global equity volatility (VIX)** (**Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**).

42. The **Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo (BRESE) 2026** was held in **New Delhi** in November 2026 (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

43. India's registered **GST taxpayer base** expanded from 66.5 lakh at launch to **1.64 crore in 2026** (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

44. In November 2026, the **Office of the Economic Adviser (DPIIT)** released the provisional **October 2026 WPI, Output PPI, and Trial Input PPI** (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

45. India's **WPI basket** covers **697 commodities**, with **Manufactured Products** holding the highest weight (**64.23%**) (**IUC Academy**).

46. In **CPI Combined**, **Food and Beverages** holds the highest weight (**45.86%**) (**IUC Academy**).

47. The **National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)** under the Ministry of Finance conducted residential property e-auctions in Kilpauk, Chennai in November 2026 (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

48. **ISRO** scheduled **27 space missions** for execution in financial year 2026 (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

49. **GSLV-F18** (the 20th flight of GSLV) was configured for the **NVS-03** navigation satellite mission in October 2026 (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

50. On **September 9, 2026**, ISRO conducted the flight acceptance hot test of the **CE20 cryogenic engine** for **LVM3-M7** at **22-tonne thrust** (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

51. In **April 2026**, ISRO issued a tender for **reusable rocket landing leg hardware** for its **₹8,240 crore Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV 'Soorya')** (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

52. ISRO Chairman and Secretary, Department of Space **Dr. V. Narayanan** spearheaded Gaganyaan uncrewed flight readiness in 2026 (**Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**).

53. On **November 5, 2026**, **DRDO** conducted a successful user evaluation flight-test of the indigenous quasi-ballistic missile **'Pralay'** at ITR Chandipur (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

54. On **May 8, 2026**, DRDO flight-tested an **Advanced Agni with MIRV** delivering multiple payloads across the Indian Ocean Region (**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**).

55. The Strategic Forces Command test-fired **Agni-3 on February 6, 2026**, **Agni-1 on May 22, 2026**, and **Agni-4 on August 6, 2026** (**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**).

56. On **July 23, 2026**, DRDO conducted the **maiden flight-test of Project Kusha**, India's indigenous long-range air defence system (**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**).

57. DRDO flight-tested the anti-radiation missile **RudraM-II on June 2, 2026** and the **Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) on June 15, 2026** (**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**).

58. On **April 29, 2026**, DRDO conducted the first salvo launch of **Naval Anti-Ship Missile Short Range (NASM-SR)** from a Navy helicopter (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

59. DRDO conducted full-scale **Scramjet engine combustor** tests exceeding **12 minutes on January 9, 2026** and **over 1,200 seconds on May 9, 2026** (**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**).

60. DRDO conducted a top-attack **MPATGM test on January 11, 2026**, **SFDR demonstration on February 3, 2026**, and **three VSHORADS trials on February 27, 2026** (**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**).

61. DRDO launched **Project SHIELD** (S-band High-Power Microwave system) in **September 2026** and **Project BEDHAK** (RF Directed Energy Weapon) in **November 2026** (**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**).

62. India's indigenous defence production reached **₹1.78 lakh crore** (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

63. The **National Quantum Mission (₹6,003.65 crore)** operates **4 Thematic Hubs** at IISc Bengaluru, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay, and IIT Delhi (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

64. The **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)** assures **50% of average basic pay** of the last 12 months for 25+ years of service with an **18.5% Central Government contribution** (**Press Information Bureau (PIB)**).

65. **IUC Academy** provides 100% free coaching, bilingual study notes, and CBT mock tests for all-India government competitive examinations (**IUC Academy**).

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: Union Cabinet Decisions, Flagship National Policies & Administrative Governance 2026	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
2. Chapter 2: Union Budget 2026, Fiscal Consolidation, Capital Expenditure & Direct Tax Reforms	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
3. Chapter 3: RBI Monetary Policy 2026, Repo Rate Hike to 5.50%, Banking & External Sector Resilience	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
4. Chapter 4: Industrial Policy, Price Indices (WPI & PPI 2026), Renewable Energy & Asset Monetization	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
5. Chapter 5: ISRO Space Missions 2026 — Gaganyaan, GSLV-F18/NVS-03, LVM3-M7 & NGLV 'Soorya'	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
6. Chapter 6: DRDO 2026 Missile Flight Trials, Hypersonic Scramjet & Directed Energy Weapons	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
7. Chapter 7: Emerging Technologies 2026 — IndiaAI Mission, National Quantum Mission, Semiconductors & BioE3	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
8. Chapter 8: Agrarian Economy, Rabi 2026 Fertilizer Subsidy, Rural Governance & Social Security Synthesis	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**
9. Solved Exam Practice Questions (MCQs)	☐ 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. Rapid-Fire Revision Points	☐ Completed (100% Concept Clarity)	☐ Flowchart & Tables Revised	☐ 75+ MCQs Solved (>85% Accuracy)	☐ **Final Rapid Recall Ready**