

POLITY

CURRENT AFFAIRS MONTHLY e-MAGAZINE

April 2026 | Vol.1



Snehil Tripathi

IAS Saumya Pandey

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Indian Polity & Constitution

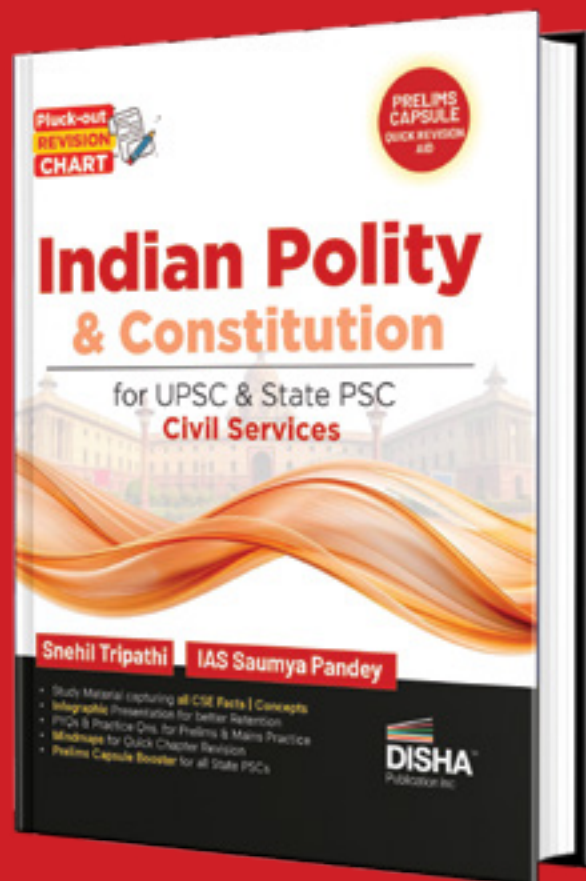
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Snehil Tripathi is a distinguished educator, researcher, and renowned author with over 8 years of experience in mentoring Civil Services aspirants. Widely recognized for his pedagogical expertise, he has authored several best-selling titles, including his acclaimed book on Modern Indian History, which earned high recommendations from toppers like Dr. Mayur Hazarika, IAS (AIR 5, UPSC 2022). In his latest work, Snehil brings his extensive academic rigor to the domain of Indian Polity, offering a comprehensive and nuanced guide specifically designed for the evolving patterns of the exam.



About the Authors

IAS Saumya Pandey is a distinguished IAS officer of the UP cadre (2017 batch), recognised for her academic excellence, administrative acumen, and impactful public service. She secured All India Rank 4 in her very first attempt in the UPSC 2016, attaining national distinction at a young age. She is a gold medallist in B.Tech. from MN NIT, Prayagraj. Ms. Pandey is currently posted as Addl. Commissioner (Labour), UP, & Director, ESIS, UP. She was recognised by the Hon'ble Prime Minister for a top-10 presentation on the iDEX platform, followed by felicitation by the Hon'ble Defence Minister.



16th Finance Commission

The 16th Finance Commission (FC) was constituted in 2023 under the chairmanship of Dr. Arvind Panagariya, former Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog. Its report was tabled in Parliament on February 1, 2026, and its recommendations have been accepted for implementation over a five-year period from 2026–27 to 2030–31.

What is the Finance Commission?

The Finance Commission is a constitutional body under Article 280. It is set up by the President of India every five years or earlier if needed. Its main aim is to ensure fair distribution of financial resources between the Centre and the States.

Under Article 281, the President places its report along with an Action Taken Memorandum before Parliament.

Composition

The Finance Commission consists of:

- One Chairman
- Four other members appointed by the President
- Members are experts in finance, economics, or administration

16th FC Members

- Dr. Arvind Panagariya (Chairman)
- Ajay Narayan Jha
- Annie George Mathew
- Niranjana Rajadhyaksha
- Soumya Kanti Ghosh

Functions of the Finance Commission

The Commission performs important financial functions:

- Recommends sharing of taxes between Centre and States
- Decides distribution among states (horizontal sharing)

- Suggests grants-in-aid to states
- Supports Panchayats and Municipalities financially
- Promotes fiscal discipline and economic stability

Key Recommendations of the 16th FC

1. Vertical Devolution

- States’ share fixed at 41% of divisible tax pool
- Divisible pool excludes cesses, surcharges, and collection costs

2. Horizontal Devolution

- Determines how the 41% is divided among states
- New criterion: Contribution to GDP introduced
- Reduced weightage to income distance and area
- Southern states likely to benefit more due to performance factors

3. Grants and Local Bodies

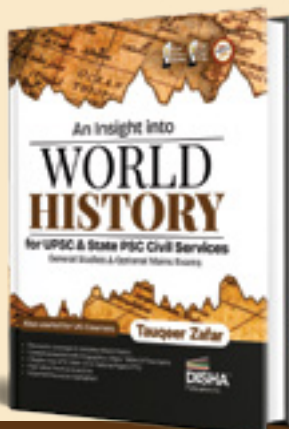
- Total grants of about ₹9.47 lakh crore recommended
- Focus on rural and urban local bodies and disaster management

4. Fiscal Stability

- States’ fiscal deficit capped at 3% of GSDP
- Centre’s fiscal deficit target at 3.5% by 2030–31
- Excludes loans under SASCI scheme for states

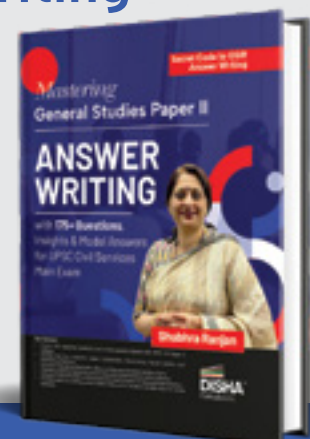
Criteria	15th FC (2021-26)	16th FC (2026-31)
Income Distance	45%	42.5%
Population (2011)	15%	17.5%
Demographic performance	12.5%	10%

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Shubhra Ranjan

Area	15%	10%
Forest	10%	10
Tax and Fiscal Efforts	2.5%	—
Contribution to GDP	—	—
Total	100%	100%

Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

Why in News?

The Supreme Court, in **Pavini Shukla vs Union of India**, recently suggested the need for a **Uniform Civil Code (UCC)** to address gender bias in personal laws.

What is Uniform Civil Code (UCC)?

The UCC seeks to replace religion-based personal laws with a **common set of civil laws** applicable to all citizens, irrespective of religion, caste, creed, gender, or sexual orientation.

It covers matters such as:

- Marriage
- Divorce
- Adoption
- Succession
- Inheritance

Constitutional Provisions

- **Article 44 (Directive Principles of State Policy):** Directs the State to endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code throughout India.
- **7th Schedule – Concurrent List:** Marriage, divorce, adoption, and succession fall under the Concurrent List, allowing both Centre and States to legislate.

Need for UCC

1. Gender Justice

- Removes discriminatory practices in personal laws.
- Promotes equality before law (Article 14).

2. Secularism

- Separates civil laws from religious doctrines.
- Strengthens constitutional secular framework.

3. Legal Simplicity

- Uniform rules reduce legal complexity.
- Streamlines procedures in family matters.

4. National Integration

- Promotes common citizenship.
- Reduces fragmentation along religious lines.

Current Status in India

- **Uttarakhand:** First State in independent India to implement UCC.
- **Goa:** Follows Portuguese Civil Code (1867), a form of common civil law.
- No nationwide UCC currently exists.

Judicial & Commission Views

- **Shah Bano Case (1985)** – SC emphasized need for UCC.
- **Sarla Mudgal Case (1995)** – SC reiterated importance of

UCC.

- **21st Law Commission (2018)** – Stated UCC is neither necessary nor desirable at present; Suggested reforming personal laws to ensure gender justice instead.

Key Issues & Challenges

- Religious freedom concerns (Article 25).
- Federal structure implications.
- Minority rights and cultural autonomy debates.
- Political and social sensitivity.

Significance

- Balances Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles.
- Raises debate on secularism vs pluralism.
- Tests constitutional morality and social reform agenda.

Passive Euthanasia

Why in News?

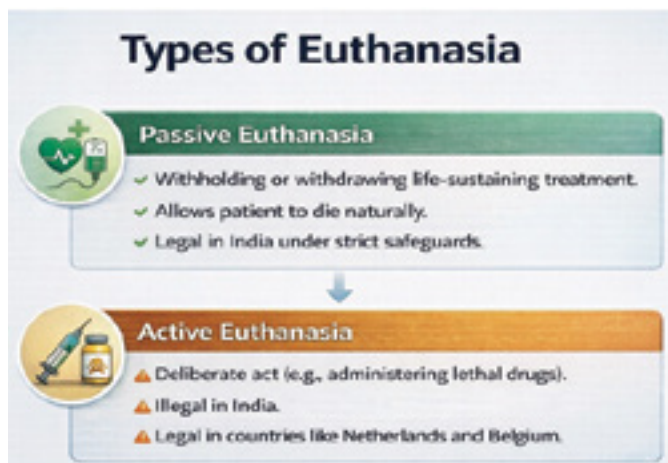
In *Harish Rana vs Union of India (2026)*, the Supreme Court allowed the withdrawal of life support for a patient in a long-term vegetative state for over 12 years. This **marked the first application of the modified passive euthanasia guidelines**. The decision was based on the **“best interest of the patient”** principle and supported by medical consensus.

What is Euthanasia?

Euthanasia refers to intentionally hastening a patient’s death to relieve suffering.

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Legal Evolution in India

Aruna Shanbaug Case (2011)

- SC allowed passive euthanasia under strict safeguards.
- Required High Court approval.

Common Cause Judgment (2018)

- Recognised **Right to Die with Dignity under Article 21**.
- Legalised passive euthanasia.
- Recognised **Advance Medical Directives (Living Will)**.
- Laid down detailed procedural guidelines.

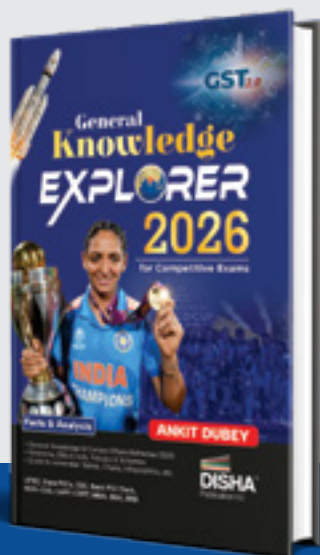
Modified Guidelines (2023)

- Formation of **Primary and Secondary Medical Boards**.
- Simplified process for withdrawal of life support.

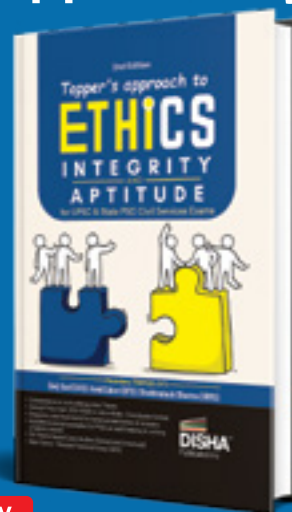
Key Directions in 2026 Judgment

- Waiver of 30-day waiting period in exceptional cases.
- Emphasis on patient's best interest.

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- Directed Parliament to enact comprehensive end-of-life care law.
- High Courts to ensure magistrates are informed when life support withdrawal is approved.

Constitutional & Ethical Dimensions

- Linked to **Article 21 – Right to Life and Personal Liberty**.
- Balances autonomy, dignity, and sanctity of life.
- Raises ethical debates on end-of-life care.

Significance

- Strengthens procedural clarity on passive euthanasia.
- Advances jurisprudence on right to die with dignity.
- Highlights need for statutory framework on end-of-life decisions.

Cabinet Approves Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna (BHAVYA)

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet has approved the **Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojna (BHAVYA)** with an allocation of ₹33,660 crore to develop **100 plug-and-play industrial parks** across India, aimed at accelerating manufacturing-led growth and advancing the vision of *Viksit Bharat* and *Atmanirbhar Bharat*.

Key Features of BHAVYA

1. Scale and Investment

- Total allocation: ₹33,660 crore.
- Development of **100 industrial parks**.
- Park size: **100–1000 acres**.
- Financial support: Up to ₹1 crore per acre for infrastructure.

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2. Infrastructure Components

Core Infrastructure

- Internal roads and underground utilities.
- Drainage and common treatment facilities.
- ICT and administrative systems.

Value-Added Infrastructure

- Ready-built factory sheds.
- Built-to-suit units and testing labs.
- Warehousing facilities.

Social Infrastructure

- Worker housing and support amenities.

Additional support for **external infrastructure (up to 25% of project cost)** to ensure seamless connectivity.

Ease of Doing Business Push

- Pre-approved land and ready infrastructure.
- Single-window clearance systems.
- Streamlined approvals.
- Challenge-mode project selection for high-quality proposals.

Alignment with National Initiatives

- Builds upon **National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP)**.
- Aligned with **PM GatiShakti** for multimodal connectivity.
- Promotes sustainable and green energy-based industrial ecosystems.

Expected Impact

1. Employment Generation

- Large-scale direct and indirect jobs.
- Benefits manufacturing, logistics, and services sectors.

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2. Investment & Industrial Growth

- Attracts MSMEs, startups, and global investors.
- Strengthens domestic supply chains.
- Promotes cluster-based regional industrialization.

Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026

Why in News?

Parliament has passed the **Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026**, introducing major changes to the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 to strengthen legal safeguards for the transgender community.

Key Features of the Amendment Bill

- Defines transgender persons to include socio-cultural identities such as **kinner, hijra, aravani, jogta**.
- Covers biological variations and individuals subjected to forced identity presentation (mutilation, hormonal procedures, etc.).
- **Excludes self-perceived gender identities** (e.g., a man identifying as a woman) and sexual orientations.
- Omits **Section 4(2)** of the 2019 Act, thereby removing legal recognition of self-determination.

Verification Authority

- Establishes a **Medical Board**, headed by a Chief Medical Officer or Deputy CMO.
- Assists authorities in verifying transgender identity.

Stronger Penal Provisions

- Introduces graded punishments for offences such as:
 - Abuse and violence

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- Forced labour
- Abduction
- Forcing transgender identity
- Penalties may extend up to **life imprisonment**.

National Council for Transgender Persons: Revised composition with rotational representation from States and UTs.

Key Concerns Associated

- **Loss of Agency:** Shifts the framework from self-identification to state-mandated medical recognition.
- **Exclusion due to narrow Definition:** Unlike the 2019 Act, the Bill effectively exclude trans-men, non-binary people, and gender-queer individuals from legal protection.
- **Violation of Privacy and Dignity:** Medical examinations to prove gender identities is seen as a violation of privacy and human dignity.
- **Medical Gatekeeping:** Potentially promotes a **Pathological approach** with verification by Medical Board, leading to **potential harassment**.
- **Lack of Consultation:** Bill passed without referring to a Standing Committee or consulting the transgender community.

Lok Sabha Passes Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC) Amendment Bill, 2025

Why in News?

The Lok Sabha has passed the **Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC) Amendment Bill, 2025**, aimed at reducing procedural delays, maximizing value for stakeholders, and aligning India's insolvency framework with global best practices.

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Background

- The Bill amends the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016**.
- Initially referred to a **Select Committee**.
- Focused on improving efficiency and resolution outcomes.

Key Highlights of the Amendment

Creditor-Initiated Insolvency Resolution Process (CIIRP)

- Replaces the underutilized fast-track process.
- Allows out-of-court initiation by creditors.
- Expected to reduce delays and litigation.

Group Insolvency Framework

- Introduces a **voluntary group insolvency mechanism**.
- Enables joint resolution of interconnected corporate group entities.
- Recognizes economic interdependence within business groups.

Cross-Border Insolvency Framework

- Establishes basic structure for cross-border insolvency.
- Facilitates access to overseas assets.
- Aligns with international insolvency standards.

Clean Slate Principle Reinforced

- Once resolution plan is approved, prior claims are extinguished unless specified.
- Provides clarity and certainty to resolution applicants.

Strict Timelines for Adjudication

- NCLT must admit CIRP cases within **14 days** upon proof of default.
- NCLAT to dispose of appeals within **3 months**.
- Liquidation to be completed in **180 days** (extendable by 90 days).

Institutional & Procedural Changes

- No automatic appointment of Resolution Professional.
- Enhanced role of the **Committee of Creditors (CoC)** in decision-making.

Elimination of Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)

Why in News?

In the Lok Sabha, the Union Home Minister stated that, except for one individual, the entire top leadership of Maoists has been eliminated in the past two years. The government aims to make all LWE-affected districts **Naxal-free by March 2026** through an integrated strategy of **Dialogue, Security, and Coordination**.

Multi-Pronged Strategy Against LWE

SAMADHAN Strategy: It encompasses the entire strategy for security operations, ranging from short-term policy to long-term policy formulated at different levels.

Development Interventions

- **Special Central Assistance (SCA)** for most affected districts.
- Infrastructure and public service gap-filling.
- Schemes such as:
 - **Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan**
 - **Aspirational District Programme**

Surrender & Rehabilitation Policy

- Financial assistance to surrendered cadres.
- Monthly stipend for vocational training.

- Reintegration into mainstream society.

Strengthened Security & Technology Use

- Drone surveillance and satellite imaging.
- AI-based analytics and mobile data tracking.
- Modernized policing infrastructure.

Financial Crackdown

- Enforcement under **Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)**.
- Targeting funding networks and illegal finances.

About Naxalism / LWE

- Origin: **Naxalbari movement (1967), West Bengal**.
- Aim: Armed rebellion against the Indian State; parallel governance.
- Spread: “Red Corridor” across central and eastern India.
- Causes:
 - Socio-economic marginalization.
 - Poor implementation of **Forest Rights Act (FRA)** and **PESA Act**.
 - Governance deficits in tribal regions.

India Census 2027

Why in News?

India has officially launched **Phase 1 of Census 2027 from April 1, 2026**, marking the beginning of the country’s **first fully digital census exercise**. This will be the **16th Census overall and 8th after Independence**, conducted after a gap of over a decade due to the postponement of Census 2021.

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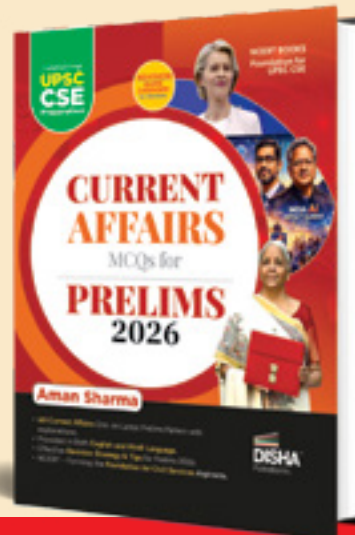
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What's New in Census 2027?

1. Fully Digital Enumeration

- Enumerators are using **mobile applications instead of paper schedules**.
- Real-time data uploading to secure central servers.
- Built-in validation checks to reduce manual errors.

2. Self-Enumeration Portal

- Citizens can submit details online before enumerator visits.
- Available in **16 Indian languages**.
- Aims to improve participation, transparency, and accuracy.

Phase 1: House Listing & Housing Census (April–September 2026)

This phase focuses on:

- Housing conditions and structure
- Access to water, sanitation, electricity
- Household assets and amenities
- Socio-economic living conditions

Enumeration structure:

- 15 days self-enumeration window
- 30 days door-to-door verification

Phase 2: Population Enumeration (February 2027)

Will collect:

- Demographic data (age, sex, marital status)
- Education, occupation
- Migration details
- Fertility indicators
- **Caste data (official inclusion confirmed)**

Why Census 2027 is Crucial Now?

1. Delayed Data Gap

India has not conducted a Census since 2011. Updated population data is critical for:

- Welfare targeting (PDS, health, housing schemes)
- Delimitation exercise (expected post-2026)
- Fiscal devolution under Finance Commission
- Urban planning and infrastructure development

2. Governance & Policy Impact

- Supports evidence-based policymaking.
- Aligns with Digital India mission.
- Enables integration with welfare databases.

Global Crackdown on Social Media Use by Children

Why in News

A growing number of countries in March 2026 have imposed or proposed **age-based restrictions on social media**, following Australia's landmark ban on children under 16. Governments cite concerns over mental health, cyberbullying, and digital addiction among minors.

Overview

- Global shift towards regulating children's digital exposure
- Focus on **age-based bans, parental control, and screen-time limits**
- Mix of **strict bans (Indonesia, Australia)** and **regulatory frameworks (UK, Brazil)**

Major Country-Wise Developments

- **Australia:** Under-16 ban (Dec 2025); strict enforcement and heavy penalties
- **Indonesia:** Under-16 ban (March 2026); focuses on child safety and online risks

- **France:** Under-15 ban approved; enforcement expected by Sept 2026
- **Austria:** Announced under-14 ban (March 2026)
- **Spain:** Planning under-16 restrictions
- **Malaysia:** Under-16 ban implemented with eKYC verification
- **India:** Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh announced under-16 ban
- **United Kingdom:** No full ban; focuses on Online Safety Act and protections
- **Brazil:** Parental linkage required for under-16; limits addictive features
- **New Zealand:** Proposed law to ban social media for under-16; mandates age verification, under parliamentary consideration

Common Reasons Behind Restrictions

- Rising **mental health issues (anxiety, depression)**
- Increase in **cyberbullying and online scams**
- Growing **digital addiction and reduced academic focus**
- Exposure to harmful or explicit content

Challenges in Implementation

- Difficulty in accurate **age verification systems**
- Use of **VPNs and fake identities**
- Compliance issues with global tech companies
- Risk of **over-surveillance and privacy concerns**

The 2026 Iran War: A Strategic Flashpoint in West Asia

Why in News?

The outbreak of the **2026 Iran War**, triggered by Operation *Epic Fury* launched by the US and Israel, has significantly escalated

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tensions in West Asia, disrupted global energy markets, and raised concerns over nuclear stability and regional security.

Around one-fifth of global oil trade passes through the Strait of Hormuz, making it one of the most geopolitically sensitive energy routes on Earth.



Background & Timeline

- **28 February 2026:** US–Israel launched Operation *Epic Fury* targeting Iran's nuclear and missile infrastructure.
- Supreme Leader **Ali Khamenei was killed**, leading to leadership transition.
- Iran retaliated with missile and drone strikes on Israel, US bases, and Gulf infrastructure.
- Temporary closure of the **Strait of Hormuz** disrupted global oil flows.
- **7–8 April 2026:** A temporary two-week conditional ceasefire was announced after intensive diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalation.
- **Mojtaba Khamenei assumed leadership** amid fragile stability.

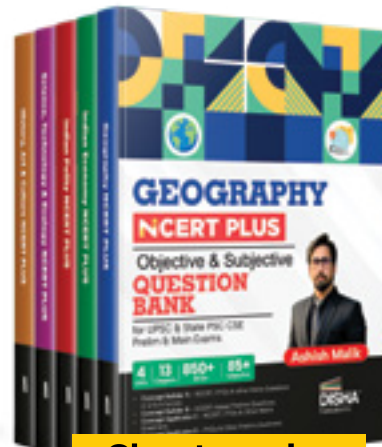
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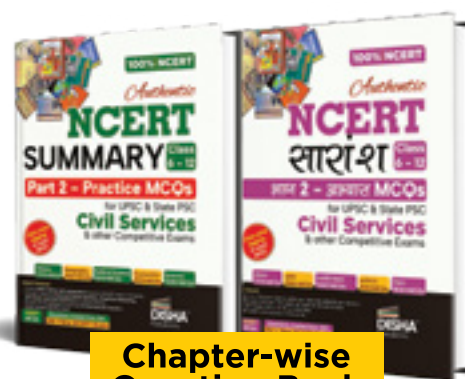
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Notes



Chapter-wise
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Strategic Importance of the Strait of Hormuz

- Connects Persian Gulf–Gulf of Oman–Arabian Sea.
- Handles nearly 20% of global oil trade.

Importance for India

- ~40% crude imports.
- 50%+ LNG imports.
- ~90% LPG imports.

Disruption caused oil price spikes, shipping insurance escalation, and inflationary pressures.

Geopolitical Implications

- Escalation of US–Iran rivalry.
- Revival of proxy conflicts (e.g., Lebanon).
- Risks to the **NPT framework** and nuclear deterrence stability.
- Increased militarisation in West Asia.
- Strategic recalibration by China and Russia.

Implications for India

- Energy security vulnerability.
- Pressure on **Current Account Deficit (CAD)**.
- Risk to Indian diaspora in Gulf region.
- Need for diversification of energy sources and renewable transition.
- Reinforces India's policy of **strategic autonomy**.

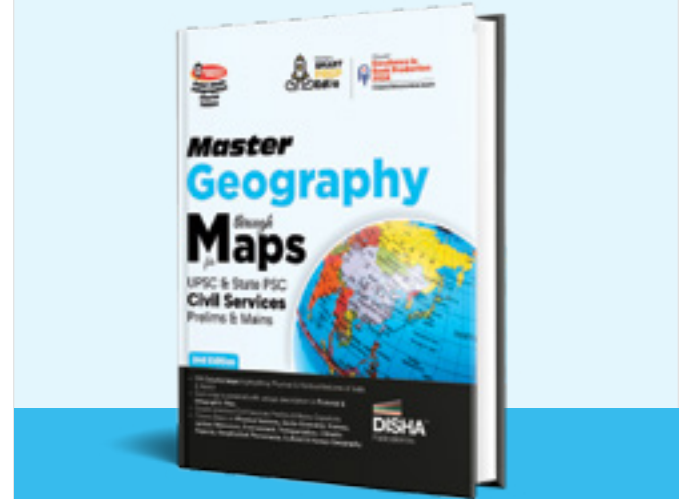
Way Forward

- Strengthen energy diversification and strategic reserves.
- Enhance diplomatic engagement in West Asia.
- Promote multilateral conflict resolution mechanisms.
- Accelerate renewable energy transition to reduce import dependence.

Conclusion

The 2026 Iran War underscores how regional conflicts can quickly evolve into global crises, linking geopolitics, energy

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security, and nuclear stability. For India, it highlights the necessity of balancing strategic autonomy with proactive diplomacy and economic resilience.

President Appoints New Governors

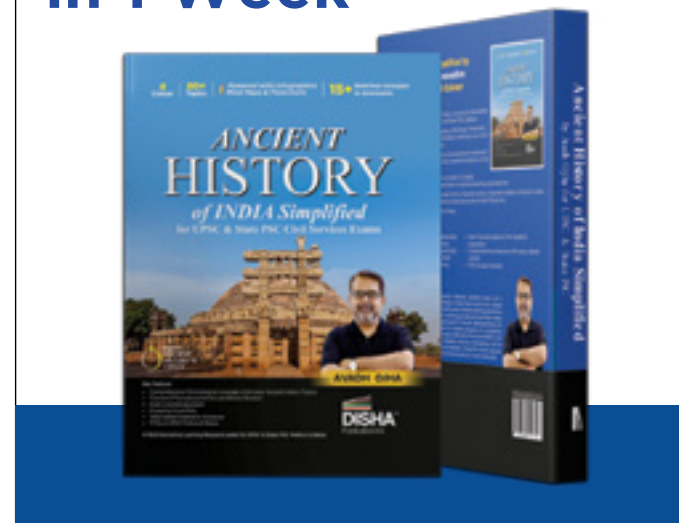
Why in News?

President **Droupadi Murmu** has approved a major gubernatorial reshuffle, appointing **nine new Governors and Lieutenant Governors** across multiple States and Union Territories. The changes were announced on **March 6, 2026**,

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and will take effect upon assumption of office.

Key Appointments and Transfers

State/Union Territory	New Appointee	Previous Role/Note
West Bengal	RN Ravi	Formerly Governor of Tamil Nadu
Delhi (L-G)	Taranjit Singh Sandhu	Former Indian Ambassador to the US
Bihar	Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain (Retd)	Retired Army Commander (15 Corps)
Ladakh (L-G)	Vinai Kumar Saxena	Formerly L-G of Delhi
Tamil Nadu	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar	Additional Charge (current Kerala Governor)
Maharashtra	Jishnu Dev Varma	Formerly Governor of Telangana
Telangana	Shiv Pratap Shukla	Formerly Governor of Himachal Pradesh
Himach Pradesh	Kavinder Gupta	Formerly L-G of Ladakh
Nagaland	Nand Kishore Yadav	Former Speaker of Bihar Assembly

Constitutional Framework

- Governors appointed under **Article 155** by the President.
- Hold office at the **pleasure of the President (Article 156)**.
- Act as constitutional heads of States.
- Lieutenant Governors appointed for Union Territories under constitutional/statutory provisions.

Balendra "Balen" Shah Sworn in as Nepal's Youngest Prime Minister

Why in News?

Balendra Shah, popularly known as "Balen", was sworn in on **March 27, 2026**, as Nepal's **47th Prime Minister**, becoming the **youngest PM in the country's history at 35**. He represents the **Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP)** and assumed office following a historic electoral mandate.

Historic Electoral Mandate

- General Elections held on **March 5, 2026**.
- RSP secured **182 out of 275 seats** in the House of Representatives.
- Traditional parties suffered major setbacks:
 - Nepali Congress: 38 seats
 - CPN-UML: 25 seats
- Balen defeated veteran leader **K.P. Sharma Oli** in Jhapa. This marks a decisive shift away from Nepal's established political forces.

Rise of a Reformist Leader

- Former **rapper, engineer, and youth icon**.
- Gained prominence as **Kathmandu Mayor**, building a reformist image.
- First leader from the **Madhes region** to hold the Prime Minister's office.

Role of Youth-Led Protests

His victory followed **Gen-Z protests in 2025**, triggered by:

- Corruption and nepotism
- Social media restrictions
- Governance accountability issues

These protests led to the fall of the previous government and paved the way for political transformation.



Cultural Significance of Oath Ceremony

The swearing-in ceremony reflected Nepal's plural traditions:

- **Shankhanad (conch blowing)**
- Vedic hymn recitations
- Buddhist chants by Lamas

Significance

- Indicates generational shift in South Asian politics.
- Reflects growing youth participation in democratic processes.
- Signals potential policy recalibration in Nepal's domestic and foreign affairs.

The Great Fragmentation

- Global order shifting towards fragmentation with rising conflicts and declining peace.
- Multilateralism weakening, replaced by unilateral groupings and geopolitical rivalries.
- Militarisation increasing, reducing diplomacy and diverting resources from development goals.
- Need for cooperation, diplomacy, institutional reforms, and balanced global governance.

Awards & Honours

Awards & Honours	Details
Speaker of the Knesset Medal (Israel's highest parliamentary honour)	Awarded to Prime Minister Narendra Modi by Amir Ohana (Speaker of the Israeli Parliament) for his exceptional contribution to strengthening India–Israel relations.
60th Jnanpith Award (2025)	Awarded to R. Vairamuthu (Tamil poet, lyricist, and novelist). He is the third Tamil writer to receive this honour. The first Jnanpith Award was given to Malayalam writer G. Sankara Kurup in 1965.
BCCI Naman Awards 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best International Cricketer (Men) – Shubman Gill; • Best International Cricketer (Women) – Smriti Mandhana; • C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award – Rahul Dravid & Roger Binny; • Lifetime Achievement Award (Women) – Mithali Raj.
98th Academy Awards (Oscars) 2026	<p>Hosted by Conan O'Brien; organized by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Picture – <i>One Battle After Another</i> (most awards); • Best Actor – Michael B. Jordan (<i>Sinners</i>); • Best Actress – Jessie Buckley (<i>Hamnet</i>); • Best Director – Paul Thomas Anderson;

Sahitya Akademi Awards 2025

Language	Author	Work (Genre)
Hindi	Mamta Kalia	<i>Jite Ji Allahabad</i> (Memoir)
English	Navtej Sarna	<i>Crimson Spring</i> (Novel)
Maithili	Mahendra	<i>Dhatri Pat Sun Gaam</i> (Memoir)

Rajasthani	Jitendra Kumar Soni	<i>Bharkhama</i> (Stories)
Sanskrit	Mahamahopadhyaya Sadhu Bhadreshdas	<i>Prasthanachatushtaye Brahmaghosa</i> (Poetry)
Urdu	Pritpal Singh Betab	<i>Safar Jari Hai</i> (Poetry)

Sports

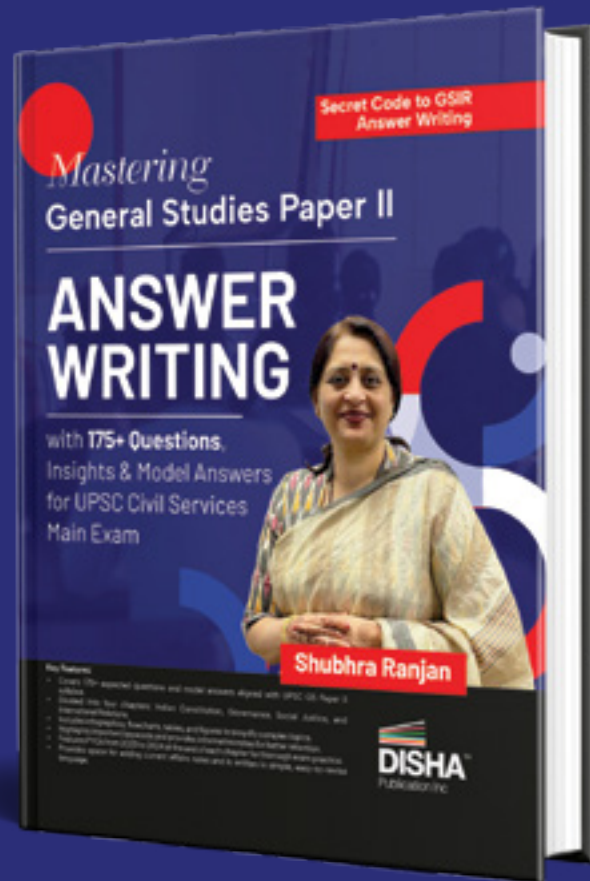
Events/Reports	Details
ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026	<p>Held from February 7 to March 8, 2026 in India and Sri Lanka.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total teams – 20; Matches – 55. Ambassador – Rohit Sharma. • Final at Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad. • Winner – India (defeated New Zealand by 96 runs; third title and first to defend successfully). • Runner-up – New Zealand. • Most Runs – Sahibzada Farhan (383); • Most Wickets – Jasprit Bumrah & Varun Chakravarthy (14 each). • Player of the Final – Jasprit Bumrah; • Player of the Series – Sanju Samson (record 24 sixes).
World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2026	<p>Held from March 11–13, 2026 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi.</p> <p>Participating athletes – 257; Countries – 8.</p> <p>Organized by Indian Paralympic Committee.</p> <p>Top countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India (75 gold, 69 silver, 64 bronze – total 208 medals) and • Russia (15 gold, 14 silver, 6 bronze – total 35 medals).
Asian Deaf Cricket Association T20 Asia Cup 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held from 19–25 February 2026 in Odisha, India. Organized by Asian Deaf Cricket Association (ADCA) in collaboration with Indian and Odisha Deaf Cricket Associations. First edition; participating teams – India, Sri Lanka, Nepal. Winner – India; Runner-up – Sri Lanka.
91st Ranji Trophy 2025–26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held from October 15, 2025 to February 28, 2026 across various cities in India. Winner – Jammu & Kashmir (first time) led by Paras Dogra; Runner-up – Karnataka led by Devdutt Padikkal. Bihar won the Plate Final by defeating Manipur.
Santosh Trophy (Football) 2025–26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held from December 15, 2025 to February 8, 2026 across 9 cities in India. Final at Dhakuakhana Stadium, Assam. Organized by All India Football Federation (AIFF). Participating teams – 38. Winner – Services (8th title; defeated Kerala 1–0). Runner-up – Kerala.

Important Books for UPSC CSE



Step-by-Step Answer Writing for GS II

Mastering GENERAL STUDIES (PAPER-II) by Shubhra Ranjan is a comprehensive guide tailored for UPSC Civil Services Mains aspirants preparing for GS Paper II. It offers a detailed approach to mastering the essential skill of answer writing, which is crucial for succeeding in the UPSC Mains. Authored by one of India's leading educators with 25+ years of experience, the book offers over 175+ expected questions with model answers aligned with the UPSC syllabus. It is systematically divided into four chapters—Indian Constitution, Governance, Social Justice, and International Relations—with a focus on conceptual clarity and answer-writing skills.



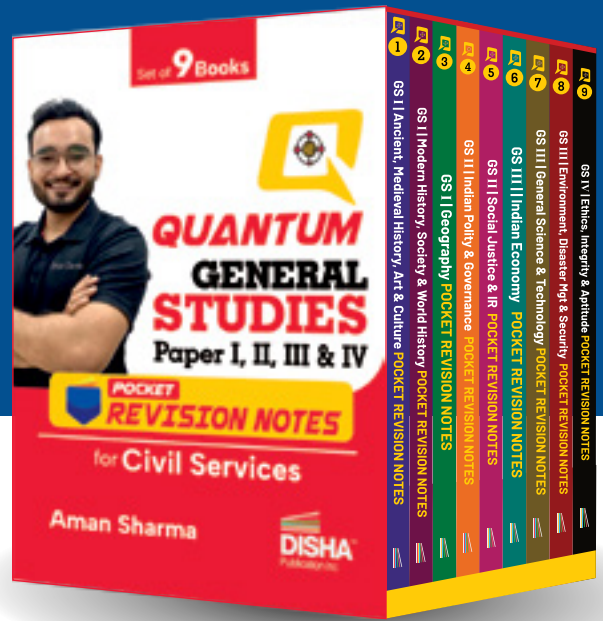
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- Use of infographics, tables, flowcharts, and figures to simplify complex topics.
- Highlighted keywords and informative notes for better retention.
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- Space for current affairs updates on each page.
- Written in simple, student-friendly language ideal for quick revision.

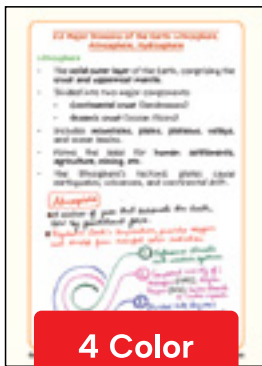


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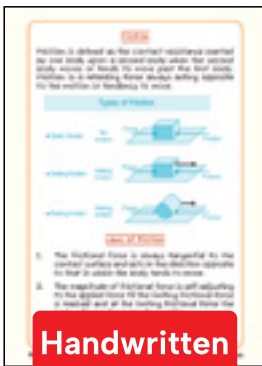
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