

# MCQ BANK — DAILY NEWSPAPER PIPELINE

13 May 2026 | 100 MCQs | 10 Topics | CLAT Gurukul / Civils Gyani / Judiciary Gurukul

## 1. PM Modi: Iran war 'great risks' — fuel/gold/travel cuts (Q1-Q10)

- Q1.** Approximately what share of India's crude oil imports pass through the Strait of Hormuz?
- (A) About 25%
  - (B) About 35%
  - (C) About 50%
  - (D) About 75%
- Q2.** Which agreement governs civil-nuclear cooperation between India and the United States?
- (A) Indo-US 123 Agreement
  - (B) Nuclear Suppliers Group Pact
  - (C) Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
  - (D) Wassenaar Arrangement
- Q3.** Which body has reduced India's FY27 GDP growth forecast from 6.7% to 6.2%, citing the West Asia conflict?
- (A) IMF
  - (B) Moody's
  - (C) UBS Securities
  - (D) World Bank
- Q4.** What is India's strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) buffer in approximate days of net imports?
- (A) ~9.5 days
  - (B) ~30 days
  - (C) ~60 days
  - (D) ~90 days
- Q5.** Which of the following ports forms part of India's strategic outreach to Iran?
- (A) Bandar Abbas
  - (B) Chabahar
  - (C) Bushehr
  - (D) Jask
- Q6.** The recent attack at Fujairah that injured three Indian nationals occurred in which country?
- (A) Iran
  - (B) UAE
  - (C) Oman
  - (D) Saudi Arabia
- Q7.** Lal Bahadur Shastri's 1965 austerity appeal is famously remembered by which slogan?
- (A) Garibi Hatao
  - (B) Jai Jawan Jai Kisan
  - (C) Karo ya Maro
  - (D) Sampurna Kranti
- Q8.** The Phalcon AWACS and Barak-8 missile system are part of India's defence cooperation with which country?
- (A) United States
  - (B) Russia
  - (C) France
  - (D) Israel
- Q9.** A sustained \$10 rise in Brent crude is estimated to widen India's Current Account Deficit by approximately:
- (A) 0.05% of GDP
  - (B) 0.10% of GDP
  - (C) 0.3–0.4% of GDP
  - (D) 1.0% of GDP

**Q10.** The last time a Prime Minister invoked nationwide voluntary austerity at this scale was during which crisis?

- (A) 1962 China war
- (B) 1971 Bangladesh War
- (C) 1991 Balance of Payments crisis
- (D) 2008 Global Financial Crisis

## 2. April CPI 3.48% — SBI & Moody's flag West Asia spillover (Q11-Q20)

- Q11.** What was India's retail (CPI) inflation rate in April 2026?  
(A) 2.98%  
(B) 3.40%  
(C) 3.48%  
(D) 4.10%
- Q12.** Under the Flexible Inflation Targeting framework, what is the RBI's tolerance band?  
(A) 2–4%  
(B) 2–6%  
(C) 3–5%  
(D) 4–8%
- Q13.** How many members does the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) have?  
(A) 4  
(B) 5  
(C) 6  
(D) 8
- Q14.** Which category has the highest weight in India's CPI basket?  
(A) Housing  
(B) Food & beverages  
(C) Fuel & light  
(D) Transport
- Q15.** What is the IMD's first long-range forecast for the 2026 southwest monsoon?  
(A) 104% of LPA — above normal  
(B) 100% of LPA — normal  
(C) 96% of LPA — below normal  
(D) 88% of LPA — deficient
- Q16.** The current repo rate set by the RBI is:  
(A) 5.00%  
(B) 5.50%  
(C) 6.00%  
(D) 6.50%
- Q17.** Approximately how many basis points does each \$1 sustained rise in Brent crude add to India's CPI?  
(A) 3–4 bps  
(B) 10 bps  
(C) 25 bps  
(D) 50 bps
- Q18.** Core CPI in India typically excludes which two categories?  
(A) Housing and transport  
(B) Food and fuel  
(C) Health and education  
(D) Clothing and footwear
- Q19.** Under the RBI Act, if CPI breaches the tolerance band for how many consecutive quarters must the RBI report to Parliament?  
(A) 1 quarter  
(B) 2 quarters  
(C) 3 quarters  
(D) 4 quarters
- Q20.** Which agency computes India's CPI?  
(A) RBI  
(B) NSO under MoSPI  
(C) NITI Aayog  
(D) Ministry of Finance

### 3. India-Vietnam Enhanced CSP — \$25 bn trade by 2030 (Q21-Q30)

- Q21.** On 12 May 2026, India and Vietnam upgraded their bilateral relationship to which tier?
- (A) Strategic Partnership
  - (B) Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
  - (C) Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
  - (D) Special Strategic Partnership
- Q22.** Which of the following countries does NOT hold the Enhanced CSP tier with India?
- (A) Russia
  - (B) Japan
  - (C) Australia
  - (D) UAE
- Q23.** BrahMos is a joint-venture supersonic cruise missile developed by India with which country?
- (A) Israel
  - (B) France
  - (C) Russia
  - (D) United States
- Q24.** The first foreign export customer of the BrahMos missile was:
- (A) Vietnam
  - (B) Indonesia
  - (C) Philippines
  - (D) Thailand
- Q25.** Vietnam's bilateral trade with India, as of FY 2025-26, stood at approximately:
- (A) \$6 billion
  - (B) \$10 billion
  - (C) \$16 billion
  - (D) \$25 billion
- Q26.** India's 'Act East Policy' was so renamed (from Look East) in which year?
- (A) 2004
  - (B) 2010
  - (C) 2014
  - (D) 2019
- Q27.** Which Indian company-VinFast consortium will co-invest in a \$1.5 bn fab unit in Da Nang?
- (A) Reliance
  - (B) Adani
  - (C) Tata
  - (D) Mahindra
- Q28.** UNCLOS, referenced in the India-Vietnam joint statement, was concluded in which year?
- (A) 1958
  - (B) 1973
  - (C) 1982
  - (D) 1994
- Q29.** Vietnam first attained 'Strategic Partner' status with India in which year?
- (A) 1995
  - (B) 2003
  - (C) 2007
  - (D) 2014
- Q30.** Which type of submarine is India set to transfer to Vietnam under the new agreement?
- (A) Scorpène-class
  - (B) Arihant-class
  - (C) Kilo-class
  - (D) Sindhughosh-class

#### 4. 816-seat Lok Sabha proposal + 273 women-reserved seats (Q31-Q40)

- Q31.** The proposed expansion of the Lok Sabha is from 543 to how many seats?  
(A) 650  
(B) 750  
(C) 816  
(D) 888
- Q32.** The Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam is which Constitutional Amendment?  
(A) 101st  
(B) 103rd  
(C) 105th  
(D) 106th
- Q33.** Under which article is Lok Sabha seat re-allocation after every Census mandated?  
(A) Article 80  
(B) Article 81  
(C) Article 82  
(D) Article 83
- Q34.** Article 81 of the Constitution caps the maximum strength of the Lok Sabha at:  
(A) 530 members  
(B) 545 members  
(C) 550 members  
(D) 888 members
- Q35.** Which two Constitutional Amendments froze the seat-allocation exercise until the first Census after 2026?  
(A) 42nd and 84th  
(B) 44th and 86th  
(C) 52nd and 91st  
(D) 73rd and 74th
- Q36.** Of the proposed 273 women-reserved Lok Sabha seats, approximately how many will be SC seats?  
(A) 26  
(B) 47  
(C) 84  
(D) 120
- Q37.** The new Parliament building, inaugurated in May 2023, has a Lok Sabha chamber capacity of:  
(A) 545  
(B) 650  
(C) 750  
(D) 888
- Q38.** Which article protects delimitation orders from being challenged in court?  
(A) Article 226  
(B) Article 329  
(C) Article 356  
(D) Article 368
- Q39.** Which two states stand to gain the highest absolute increase in Lok Sabha seats under this proposal?  
(A) Maharashtra and Karnataka  
(B) Uttar Pradesh and Bihar  
(C) West Bengal and Tamil Nadu  
(D) Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan
- Q40.** The 106th Amendment provides for women's reservation in which legislative bodies?  
(A) Only Lok Sabha  
(B) Only state legislative assemblies  
(C) Lok Sabha + state legislative assemblies  
(D) All houses including Rajya Sabha & Council

## 5. CJI Surya Kant — Judicial Infra Committee, ₹40-50k cr (Q41-Q50)

**Q41.** Who is the current Chief Justice of India (as of May 2026)?

- (A) D.Y. Chandrachud
- (B) Sanjiv Khanna
- (C) Surya Kant
- (D) B.V. Nagarathna

**Q42.** Approximately how many cases are pending across all Indian courts as of April 2026?

- (A) 2.1 crore
- (B) 3.5 crore
- (C) 5.1 crore
- (D) 7.0 crore

**Q43.** Article 247 of the Indian Constitution empowers:

- (A) President to appoint additional judges
- (B) Parliament to establish additional courts
- (C) State legislatures to set up tribunals
- (D) Governor to constitute commissions

**Q44.** Article 50, related to judicial independence, falls under:

- (A) Fundamental Rights
- (B) Directive Principles of State Policy
- (C) Fundamental Duties
- (D) Emergency Provisions

**Q45.** Who heads the newly-constituted Judicial Infrastructure Advisory Committee?

- (A) Justice Sanjiv Khanna
- (B) Justice B.V. Nagarathna
- (C) Justice Hima Kohli
- (D) Justice K.V. Vishwanathan

**Q46.** The CSS-IDFJ funding pattern between the Centre and (non-NE) states is:

- (A) 50:50
- (B) 60:40
- (C) 75:25
- (D) 90:10

**Q47.** What is the name of the AI chatbot piloted by the Supreme Court for assisting users with case-related queries?

- (A) Su Sahay
- (B) Nyay Bot
- (C) Adalat AI
- (D) Vidhi Mitra

**Q48.** The funding ask sought by the new committee for judicial infrastructure over 5 years is approximately:

- (A) ₹5,000–10,000 cr
- (B) ₹20,000–25,000 cr
- (C) ₹40,000–50,000 cr
- (D) ₹1,00,000 cr

**Q49.** The e-Courts Mission Mode Project is administered by which ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Law and Justice — Department of Justice
- (B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (C) Ministry of Electronics & IT
- (D) Ministry of Personnel

**Q50.** The 15th Finance Commission recommended an outlay of approximately how much for judicial infrastructure in its report period?

- (A) ₹15,000 cr
- (B) ₹25,000 cr
- (C) ₹40,000 cr
- (D) ₹50,000 cr

## 6. SC Collegium — 9 advocates for Calcutta HC (Q51-Q60)

- Q51.** Under which article are High Court judges appointed by the President?  
(A) Article 124  
(B) Article 217  
(C) Article 226  
(D) Article 233
- Q52.** The Collegium system was first crystallised in which case?  
(A) S.P. Gupta v. Union of India (1981) — First Judges  
(B) Second Judges Case (1993)  
(C) Third Judges Case (1998)  
(D) NJAC Case (2015)
- Q53.** The NJAC (99th Constitutional Amendment) was struck down by the Supreme Court in which year?  
(A) 2013  
(B) 2014  
(C) 2015  
(D) 2018
- Q54.** What is the retirement age for a High Court judge in India?  
(A) 62 years  
(B) 65 years  
(C) 67 years  
(D) 70 years
- Q55.** Who is the Chief Justice of India heading the Collegium as of May 2026?  
(A) Sanjiv Khanna  
(B) Surya Kant  
(C) B.R. Gavai  
(D) B.V. Nagarathna
- Q56.** What is the sanctioned strength of judges at the Calcutta High Court?  
(A) 54  
(B) 62  
(C) 72  
(D) 94
- Q57.** For HC judge appointments, the Collegium consists of:  
(A) CJI alone  
(B) CJI + 2 senior-most SC judges  
(C) CJI + 4 senior-most SC judges  
(D) CJI + Law Minister
- Q58.** The 99th Constitutional Amendment that sought to replace the Collegium was passed in which year?  
(A) 2010  
(B) 2013  
(C) 2014  
(D) 2015
- Q59.** The 2015 NJAC verdict struck down the amendment for violating which doctrine?  
(A) Doctrine of Pleasure  
(B) Basic Structure Doctrine  
(C) Doctrine of Severability  
(D) Doctrine of Eclipse
- Q60.** The document that governs the procedural interaction between the Collegium and the Executive on appointments is called:  
(A) Memorandum of Action  
(B) Memorandum of Procedure (MoP)  
(C) Code of Judicial Conduct  
(D) Bar-Bench Charter

## 7. SWM Rules 2026 — federalism critique, 74th Amendment (Q61-Q70)

- Q61.** The Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026 are issued under which parent legislation?
- (A) Indian Forest Act, 1927
  - (B) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
  - (C) Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
  - (D) Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- Q62.** Solid waste management is included in which Schedule of the Constitution?
- (A) 10th Schedule
  - (B) 11th Schedule (Panchayats)
  - (C) 12th Schedule (Municipalities)
  - (D) Concurrent List
- Q63.** The 74th Constitutional Amendment was passed in:
- (A) 1985
  - (B) 1989
  - (C) 1992
  - (D) 2003
- Q64.** India generates approximately how much solid waste per day?
- (A) ~50,000 tonnes
  - (B) ~1.62 lakh tonnes
  - (C) ~3 lakh tonnes
  - (D) ~5 lakh tonnes
- Q65.** Which Indian city has consistently topped the Swachh Bharat Mission rankings since 2017?
- (A) Bhopal
  - (B) Indore
  - (C) Surat
  - (D) Mysuru
- Q66.** The Environment (Protection) Act was passed in which year?
- (A) 1972
  - (B) 1981
  - (C) 1986
  - (D) 2010
- Q67.** Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) holds whom accountable for post-consumer product waste?
- (A) The consumer
  - (B) The retailer
  - (C) The producer/brand owner
  - (D) The ULB
- Q68.** The federalism objection to the new SWM Rules is rooted in which constitutional principle?
- (A) Doctrine of Pith and Substance
  - (B) Doctrine of Subsidiarity
  - (C) Doctrine of Repugnancy
  - (D) Doctrine of Eclipse
- Q69.** Approximately how many waste pickers operate informally in India?
- (A) ~50,000
  - (B) ~5 lakh
  - (C) ~1.5 – 4 million
  - (D) ~10 million
- Q70.** The central pollution regulator under the new SWM Rules is:
- (A) NGT
  - (B) MoEFCC alone
  - (C) CPCB
  - (D) State Pollution Control Boards

## 8. Cabinet — Mission for Cotton Productivity ■5,659 cr (Q71-Q80)

**Q71.** The Mission for Cotton Productivity, recently approved by the Cabinet, has a total outlay of approximately:

- (A) ■1,000 cr
- (B) ■2,500 cr
- (C) ■5,659 cr
- (D) ■10,000 cr

**Q72.** India's current cotton yield is approximately:

- (A) 170 kg/ha
- (B) 470 kg/ha
- (C) 700 kg/ha
- (D) 1,200 kg/ha

**Q73.** Bt cotton — India's main GM cotton variant — was commercially introduced in:

- (A) 1995
- (B) 2002
- (C) 2010
- (D) 2014

**Q74.** The three states that account for ~65% of India's cotton acreage are:

- (A) Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan
- (B) UP, MP, Bihar
- (C) Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana
- (D) AP, Karnataka, TN

**Q75.** The MSP for long staple cotton (2025-26) under CCI procurement is approximately:

- (A) ■4,500/quintal
- (B) ■6,200/quintal
- (C) ■7,521/quintal
- (D) ■9,800/quintal

**Q76.** ELS cotton, where India is a net importer, has a fibre length greater than:

- (A) 20 mm
- (B) 26 mm
- (C) 32 mm
- (D) 40 mm

**Q77.** PM MITRA Parks, complementing this Mission, were announced in:

- (A) 2015
- (B) 2018
- (C) 2021
- (D) 2024

**Q78.** Pink bollworm — the main pest challenge in cotton — is being countered through which technique?

- (A) Sterile Insect Technique (SIT)
- (B) Genetic recombination
- (C) Cross-pollination
- (D) Soil sterilisation

**Q79.** The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) reports to which ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Agriculture
- (B) Ministry of Textiles
- (C) Ministry of Commerce
- (D) Ministry of Rural Development

**Q80.** Under the HDPS approach in the Mission, planting density is raised to approximately:

- (A) 50,000 plants/ha
- (B) 80,000 plants/ha
- (C) 1.6–2.5 lakh plants/ha
- (D) 5 lakh plants/ha

## 9. India-Oman CEPA — first GCC FTA early implementation (Q81-Q90)

- Q81.** The India-Oman CEPA, signed in December 2025, is India's first FTA with a member of:
- (A) ASEAN
  - (B) BIMSTEC
  - (C) Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
  - (D) SCO
- Q82.** How many countries make up the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)?
- (A) 5
  - (B) 6
  - (C) 7
  - (D) 8
- Q83.** The Indian Navy has logistics access to which Omani port since 2018?
- (A) Salalah
  - (B) Sohar
  - (C) Duqm
  - (D) Muscat
- Q84.** Approximately how many Indians live and work in Oman?
- (A) ~100,000
  - (B) ~3 lakh
  - (C) ~8 lakh
  - (D) ~25 lakh
- Q85.** India-Oman bilateral trade in FY 2024-25 stood at approximately:
- (A) \$5 bn
  - (B) \$10.6 bn
  - (C) \$25 bn
  - (D) \$45 bn
- Q86.** India's first Gulf CEPA — signed 2022 — was with which country?
- (A) Saudi Arabia
  - (B) UAE
  - (C) Qatar
  - (D) Bahrain
- Q87.** The IMEC corridor announced at G20 New Delhi (2023) connects India to:
- (A) South Africa via Mauritius
  - (B) Europe via the Middle East
  - (C) Central Asia via Iran
  - (D) ASEAN via Bay of Bengal
- Q88.** A 'Totalisation Agreement' helps Indian workers abroad by:
- (A) Securing visa-free travel
  - (B) Eliminating double social-security contributions
  - (C) Reducing income tax abroad
  - (D) Granting dual citizenship
- Q89.** The GCC accounts for approximately what share of India's crude oil imports?
- (A) ~20%
  - (B) ~35%
  - (C) ~50%
  - (D) ~75%
- Q90.** Under the Oman CEPA, approximately what share of bilateral tariff lines are being liberalised?
- (A) 50%
  - (B) 70%
  - (C) 85%
  - (D) 95%

## 10. Madras HC restrains TVK MLA — TN trust vote (Q91-Q100)

- Q91.** The anti-defection law in India is contained in which Schedule of the Constitution?  
(A) Eighth Schedule  
(B) Ninth Schedule  
(C) Tenth Schedule  
(D) Eleventh Schedule
- Q92.** Which Constitutional Amendment inserted the Tenth Schedule?  
(A) 42nd  
(B) 44th  
(C) 52nd  
(D) 73rd
- Q93.** Under the Tenth Schedule, the deciding authority on disqualification of a legislator is:  
(A) Election Commission  
(B) President / Governor  
(C) Supreme Court  
(D) Speaker / Chairperson of the House
- Q94.** The landmark judgment that held Speaker's decisions under the Tenth Schedule are judicially reviewable is:  
(A) Kesavananda Bharati (1973)  
(B) Kihoto Hollohan v. Zachillhu (1992)  
(C) S.R. Bommai (1994)  
(D) Indira Gandhi v. Raj Narain (1975)
- Q95.** Article 179 of the Indian Constitution deals with:  
(A) Composition of the Lok Sabha  
(B) Vacation of the office of Speaker (state)  
(C) Powers of the Election Commission  
(D) Anti-defection grace period
- Q96.** The Representation of People Act, governing election conduct and disputes, was enacted in:  
(A) 1947  
(B) 1951  
(C) 1956  
(D) 1976
- Q97.** The new political party TVK (Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam) was launched by actor Vijay in:  
(A) October 2022  
(B) February 2024  
(C) January 2025  
(D) March 2026
- Q98.** The total strength of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly (excluding any nominated members) is:  
(A) 200  
(B) 224  
(C) 234  
(D) 250
- Q99.** In Mohinder Singh Gill v. Chief Election Commissioner (1978), the Supreme Court ruled on:  
(A) Reservations in elections  
(B) Election Commission's plenary powers and judicial review of election conduct  
(C) Anti-defection law  
(D) Voter eligibility
- Q100.** In the Tamil Nadu trust-vote arithmetic described, the TVK + Independents tally is:  
(A) 113  
(B) 117  
(C) 119  
(D) 121

## ANSWER KEY

Q No. : Ans	Q No. : Ans	Q No. : Ans	Q No. : Ans	Q No. : Ans
Q1: C	Q2: A	Q3: C	Q4: A	Q5: B
Q6: B	Q7: B	Q8: D	Q9: C	Q10: C
Q11: C	Q12: B	Q13: C	Q14: B	Q15: C
Q16: B	Q17: A	Q18: B	Q19: C	Q20: B
Q21: C	Q22: C	Q23: C	Q24: C	Q25: C
Q26: C	Q27: C	Q28: C	Q29: C	Q30: C
Q31: C	Q32: D	Q33: C	Q34: C	Q35: A
Q36: B	Q37: D	Q38: B	Q39: B	Q40: C
Q41: C	Q42: C	Q43: B	Q44: B	Q45: B
Q46: B	Q47: A	Q48: C	Q49: A	Q50: D
Q51: B	Q52: B	Q53: C	Q54: A	Q55: B
Q56: C	Q57: B	Q58: C	Q59: B	Q60: B
Q61: B	Q62: C	Q63: C	Q64: B	Q65: B
Q66: C	Q67: C	Q68: B	Q69: C	Q70: C
Q71: C	Q72: B	Q73: B	Q74: C	Q75: C
Q76: C	Q77: C	Q78: A	Q79: B	Q80: C
Q81: C	Q82: B	Q83: C	Q84: C	Q85: B
Q86: B	Q87: B	Q88: B	Q89: C	Q90: D
Q91: C	Q92: C	Q93: D	Q94: B	Q95: B
Q96: B	Q97: B	Q98: C	Q99: B	Q100: C

# EXPLANATIONS

## 1. PM Modi: Iran war 'great risks' — fuel/gold/travel cuts

- Q1.** Ans: **(C)** About 50%. Roughly 50% of India's crude oil and 60% of its LNG, plus nearly 100% of its LPG, pass through the Strait of Hormuz.
- Q2.** Ans: **(A)** Indo-US 123 Agreement. The Indo-US 123 Agreement (named after Section 123 of the US Atomic Energy Act) is the bilateral framework enabling civilian nuclear trade between the two countries.
- Q3.** Ans: **(C)** UBS Securities. UBS Securities cut India's FY27 GDP growth forecast to 6.2% from 6.7%, terming the conflict 'a historically large energy shock'.
- Q4.** Ans: **(A)** ~9.5 days. India holds about 9.5 days of net imports across three SPR sites — well short of the IEA-recommended 90-day buffer.
- Q5.** Ans: **(B)** Chabahar. India has invested in the Chabahar port in Iran — a strategic outlet that bypasses Pakistan and offers connectivity to Afghanistan and Central Asia.
- Q6.** Ans: **(B)** UAE. Fujairah is one of the seven emirates of the United Arab Emirates and a major bunkering and oil-storage hub.
- Q7.** Ans: **(B)** Jai Jawan Jai Kisan. Shastri coined 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan' during the 1965 India-Pakistan war, urging citizens to support soldiers and farmers.
- Q8.** Ans: **(D)** Israel. Phalcon AWACS (airborne early warning) and Barak-8 (long-range surface-to-air missile) are flagship Indian defence acquisitions from Israel.
- Q9.** Ans: **(C)** 0.3–0.4% of GDP. RBI and finance ministry analyses estimate that every \$10 sustained rise in Brent widens India's CAD by 0.3–0.4% of GDP.
- Q10.** Ans: **(C)** 1991 Balance of Payments crisis. The 1991 Balance of Payments crisis, which forced India to airlift gold and undertake LPG (Liberalisation, Privatisation, Globalisation) reforms, was the last such moment.

## 2. April CPI 3.48% — SBI & Moody's flag West Asia spillover

- Q11.** Ans: **(C)** 3.48%. CPI inflation rose to 3.48% in April 2026 from 3.40% in March, driven mainly by food prices.
- Q12.** Ans: **(B)** 2–6%. RBI targets CPI at 4% with a tolerance band of 2–6% under the framework notified in 2016.
- Q13.** Ans: **(C)** 6. MPC is a 6-member body: 3 nominated by the RBI Governor and 3 by the Government of India. The Governor casts the tie-breaking vote.
- Q14.** Ans: **(B)** Food & beverages. Food & beverages carry the highest weight at 45.86%, making food-price movements dominant in headline CPI.
- Q15.** Ans: **(C)** 96% of LPA — below normal. IMD projects monsoon at 96% of LPA, 4 percentage points below normal, raising kharif food-inflation risk.
- Q16.** Ans: **(B)** 5.50%. The MPC held the repo rate at 5.50% in its April 2026 meeting and is expected to remain on hold in June.
- Q17.** Ans: **(A)** 3–4 bps. Each \$1/barrel sustained rise in Brent lifts CPI by 3–4 bps via direct (LPG, kerosene) and indirect (transport, fertiliser) channels.
- Q18.** Ans: **(B)** Food and fuel. Core CPI excludes the volatile food and fuel categories to capture underlying price pressure.
- Q19.** Ans: **(C)** 3 quarters. Per the RBI Act amendments of 2016, three consecutive quarters of breach triggers a mandatory accountability report to Parliament.
- Q20.** Ans: **(B)** NSO under MoSPI. The National Statistical Office (NSO), under the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, computes and releases India's CPI.

## 3. India-Vietnam Enhanced CSP — \$25 bn trade by 2030

- Q21.** Ans: **(C)** Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. India and Vietnam moved to the Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (ECSP) tier — India's highest bilateral category.
- Q22.** Ans: **(C)** Australia. As of May 2026, only Russia, Japan, UAE and now Vietnam hold the Enhanced CSP tier with India.
- Q23.** Ans: **(C)** Russia. BrahMos is the Indo-Russian joint-venture supersonic cruise missile, with speeds of Mach 2.8–3.0.
- Q24.** Ans: **(C)** Philippines. The Philippines became the first export customer of BrahMos in 2022, with deliveries beginning in 2024.
- Q25.** Ans: **(C)** \$16 billion. Bilateral trade crossed \$16 billion in FY 2025-26; the new target is \$25 billion by 2030.
- Q26.** Ans: **(C)** 2014. PM Modi renamed the policy 'Act East' in 2014 to signal deeper engagement beyond economic ties.
- Q27.** Ans: **(C)** Tata. A Tata-VinFast consortium will co-invest in the \$1.5 billion semiconductor fabrication unit in Da Nang.
- Q28.** Ans: **(C)** 1982. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea was concluded in 1982 and entered into force in 1994.
- Q29.** Ans: **(C)** 2007. India and Vietnam established a Strategic Partnership in 2007, upgraded to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2016.

**Q30.** Ans: (C) Kilo-class. India will transfer an additional Kilo-class submarine to Vietnam — a Russian-origin diesel-electric platform widely operated by both navies.

#### 4. 816-seat Lok Sabha proposal + 273 women-reserved seats

**Q31.** Ans: (C) 816. The government proposal expands the Lok Sabha to 816 seats, with 273 reserved for women.

**Q32.** Ans: (D) 106th. The Women's Reservation Act, 2023 is the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act.

**Q33.** Ans: (C) Article 82. Article 82 mandates re-adjustment of seats among states after every Census.

**Q34.** Ans: (C) 550 members. Article 81 caps Lok Sabha at 550 (530 from states + 20 from UTs). This will need to be amended for 816 seats.

**Q35.** Ans: (A) 42nd and 84th. The 42nd Amendment (1976) and 84th Amendment (2001) collectively froze re-allocation till the first Census taken after 2026.

**Q36.** Ans: (B) 47. 47 of the 273 women-reserved seats will be SC; 26 will be ST seats — proportional to current SC/ST reservation.

**Q37.** Ans: (D) 888. The new Parliament's Lok Sabha chamber was built with 888-seat capacity, designed for exactly this delimitation.

**Q38.** Ans: (B) Article 329. Article 329(a) bars judicial interference in matters relating to the delimitation of constituencies.

**Q39.** Ans: (B) Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. UP (80 → 128, gain of 48) and Bihar (40 → 70, gain of 30) gain the most, reflecting their higher population growth.

**Q40.** Ans: (C) Lok Sabha + state legislative assemblies. The Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam reserves 1/3rd of seats in the Lok Sabha and state Legislative Assemblies — NOT in Rajya Sabha or state Legislative Councils.

#### 5. CJI Surya Kant — Judicial Infra Committee, ■40-50k cr

**Q41.** Ans: (C) Surya Kant. Justice Surya Kant assumed office as Chief Justice of India in late 2025.

**Q42.** Ans: (C) 5.1 crore. Total pendency stands at ~5.1 crore — about 4.9 cr at district/subordinate courts + 60 lakh at HCs + ~80,000 at the SC.

**Q43.** Ans: (B) Parliament to establish additional courts. Article 247 empowers Parliament to provide for additional courts for the better administration of laws made by it.

**Q44.** Ans: (B) Directive Principles of State Policy. Article 50 is a Directive Principle of State Policy directing the State to separate the judiciary from the executive in public services.

**Q45.** Ans: (B) Justice B.V. Nagarathna. Justice B.V. Nagarathna — slated to become India's first woman CJI in 2027 — heads the committee.

**Q46.** Ans: (B) 60:40. CSS-IDFJ follows a 60:40 Centre-State funding pattern for general states; 90:10 for NE & hill states.

**Q47.** Ans: (A) Su Sahay. The 'Su Sahay' chatbot has been piloted at the Supreme Court as part of e-Courts Phase III.

**Q48.** Ans: (C) ■40,000–50,000 cr. The committee will work towards ■40,000–50,000 crore over 5 years from central + state governments.

**Q49.** Ans: (A) Ministry of Law and Justice — Department of Justice. The Department of Justice under the Ministry of Law and Justice administers the e-Courts MMP since 2007.

**Q50.** Ans: (D) ■50,000 cr. The 15th Finance Commission recommended ~■50,000 crore for judicial infrastructure; only a fraction was utilised due to capacity constraints.

#### 6. SC Collegium — 9 advocates for Calcutta HC

**Q51.** Ans: (B) Article 217. Article 217 governs the appointment, tenure, conditions, and removal of judges of a High Court.

**Q52.** Ans: (B) Second Judges Case (1993). The Second Judges Case (1993) ruled that 'consultation' means 'concurrence', laying the foundation of the Collegium.

**Q53.** Ans: (C) 2015. The Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association judgment in 2015 struck down the 99th Amendment 4:1.

**Q54.** Ans: (A) 62 years. Under Article 217(1), an HC judge holds office until 62 years of age. SC judges retire at 65.

**Q55.** Ans: (B) Surya Kant. Justice Surya Kant is the CJI heading the Collegium.

**Q56.** Ans: (C) 72. Calcutta HC has a sanctioned strength of 72 judges; current working strength is 45.

**Q57.** Ans: (B) CJI + 2 senior-most SC judges. For HC appointments the Collegium is the CJI plus the 2 senior-most SC judges, plus the Chief Justice of the HC concerned.

**Q58.** Ans: (C) 2014. The 99th Constitutional Amendment, providing for NJAC, was passed in 2014 and struck down in 2015.

**Q59.** Ans: (B) Basic Structure Doctrine. The 4:1 majority held that the NJAC violated 'judicial independence', part of the Basic Structure of the Constitution (Kesavananda Bharati, 1973).

**Q60.** Ans: (B) Memorandum of Procedure (MoP). The Memorandum of Procedure (MoP), pending revision since the NJAC verdict, governs Collegium-Executive interaction on judicial appointments.

#### 7. SWM Rules 2026 — federalism critique, 74th Amendment

- Q61.** Ans: **(B)** Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. *The SWM Rules 2026 derive their authority from the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 — India's umbrella environmental law.*
- Q62.** Ans: **(C)** 12th Schedule (Municipalities). *The 12th Schedule, inserted by the 74th Amendment, lists 18 functional items for ULBs, including solid waste management.*
- Q63.** Ans: **(C)** 1992. *The 74th Constitutional Amendment, 1992 inserted Part IX-A and constitutionally recognised municipalities.*
- Q64.** Ans: **(B)** ~1.62 lakh tonnes. *India generates ~1.62 lakh tonnes/day of solid waste; only 70% is collected.*
- Q65.** Ans: **(B)** Indore. *Indore has been the cleanest city in the SBM rankings since 2017, with a decentralised, ward-level model.*
- Q66.** Ans: **(C)** 1986. *The Environment (Protection) Act was enacted in 1986, in the aftermath of the Bhopal gas tragedy (1984).*
- Q67.** Ans: **(C)** The producer/brand owner. *EPR transfers responsibility for end-of-life waste back to the producer/brand owner — a 'polluter-pays' application.*
- Q68.** Ans: **(B)** Doctrine of Subsidiarity. *The principle of subsidiarity — that decisions belong at the lowest competent tier of governance — underpins the federalism critique.*
- Q69.** Ans: **(C)** ~1.5 – 4 million. *India's informal waste-picker workforce is estimated at 1.5–4 million, handling roughly 20% of recyclables.*
- Q70.** Ans: **(C)** CPCB. *The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) operates the digital traceability dashboard and pan-India compliance framework under the 2026 Rules.*

## 8. Cabinet — Mission for Cotton Productivity ■5,659 cr

- Q71.** Ans: **(C)** ■5,659 cr. *The MCP has an outlay of ■5,659.22 crore over FY 26-27 to FY 30-31.*
- Q72.** Ans: **(B)** 470 kg/ha. *India's cotton yield is 460–470 kg/ha vs the global average of ~800 kg/ha; the MCP targets 600 kg/ha by 2031.*
- Q73.** Ans: **(B)** 2002. *Bt cotton was approved by GEAC for commercial cultivation in March 2002.*
- Q74.** Ans: **(C)** Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana. *Maharashtra, Gujarat and Telangana together account for ~65% of cotton acreage.*
- Q75.** Ans: **(C)** ■7,521/quintal. *MSP for long staple cotton (2025-26) is ■7,521 per quintal.*
- Q76.** Ans: **(C)** 32 mm. *ELS (Extra-Long Staple) cotton has a fibre length exceeding 32 mm and is used for premium textiles.*
- Q77.** Ans: **(C)** 2021. *PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel) Parks were announced in 2021.*
- Q78.** Ans: **(A)** Sterile Insect Technique (SIT). *The SIT releases sterile male moths to disrupt reproduction, paired with pheromone-based monitoring.*
- Q79.** Ans: **(B)** Ministry of Textiles. *CCI is a PSU under the Ministry of Textiles, conducting MSP procurement under the Price Support Scheme.*
- Q80.** Ans: **(C)** 1.6–2.5 lakh plants/ha. *HDPS raises plant density from the current 80,000/ha to 1.6–2.5 lakh plants/ha, lifting yield 40–50%.*

## 9. India-Oman CEPA — first GCC FTA early implementation

- Q81.** Ans: **(C)** Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). *Oman is India's first FTA partner among the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council.*
- Q82.** Ans: **(B)** 6. *GCC has 6 members: Saudi Arabia, UAE, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain. Founded 1981.*
- Q83.** Ans: **(C)** Duqm. *India has Naval logistics access to Duqm port (on the Arabian Sea, outside the Hormuz chokepoint) since 2018.*
- Q84.** Ans: **(C)** ~8 lakh. *~800,000 Indians live and work in Oman — the third-largest Indian diaspora in the Gulf after UAE and Saudi Arabia.*
- Q85.** Ans: **(B)** \$10.6 bn. *Bilateral trade reached \$10.6 billion in FY 2024-25; the target is \$25 bn by 2030.*
- Q86.** Ans: **(B)** UAE. *India signed a CEPA with the UAE in February 2022 — the first comprehensive Gulf trade pact, now being upgraded to Enhanced CEPA.*
- Q87.** Ans: **(B)** Europe via the Middle East. *IMEC is the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor, a multimodal ports-rail-digital corridor announced at G20 New Delhi 2023.*
- Q88.** Ans: **(B)** Eliminating double social-security contributions. *A Totalisation Agreement eliminates double social-security contributions for workers posted to a partner country.*
- Q89.** Ans: **(C)** ~50%. *GCC nations together supply ~50% of India's crude oil imports.*
- Q90.** Ans: **(D)** 95%. *About 95% of bilateral tariff lines are liberalised, with sensitive items phased over 5-8 years.*

## 10. Madras HC restrains TVK MLA — TN trust vote

- Q91.** Ans: **(C)** Tenth Schedule. *The Tenth Schedule (inserted by the 52nd Amendment, 1985) contains anti-defection provisions.*

- Q92.** Ans: **(C)** 52nd. *The 52nd Constitutional Amendment, 1985 inserted the Tenth Schedule and is also called the Anti-Defection Law.*
- Q93.** Ans: **(D)** Speaker / Chairperson of the House. *The Speaker / Chairperson of the House is the deciding authority — subject to judicial review per Kihoto Hollohan.*
- Q94.** Ans: **(B)** Kihoto Hollohan v. Zachillhu (1992). *Kihoto Hollohan v. Zachillhu (1992) held the Speaker's decision is judicially reviewable on grounds of perversity, malafide, and procedural irregularity.*
- Q95.** Ans: **(B)** Vacation of the office of Speaker (state). *Article 179 deals with vacation, resignation and removal from the office of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker in state legislative assemblies.*
- Q96.** Ans: **(B)** 1951. *The Representation of the People Act was enacted in 1951; the 1950 Act covers preparation of electoral rolls.*
- Q97.** Ans: **(B)** February 2024. *Vijay launched TVK in February 2024 ahead of the 2024 general election and 2026 TN Assembly election.*
- Q98.** Ans: **(C)** 234. *The TN Legislative Assembly has 234 elected members; the AIADMK-DMK-led state has had this seat strength since 1974.*
- Q99.** Ans: **(B)** Election Commission's plenary powers and judicial review of election conduct. *Mohinder Singh Gill (1978) elaborated on the EC's plenary powers under Article 324 and the scope of judicial review during election conduct.*
- Q100.** Ans: **(C)** 119. *TVK has 117 seats plus 3 independents = 120; after the HC restrains one TVK MLA, the effective floor strength is 119.*

*Source: CLAT Gurukul / Civils Gyani / Judiciary Gurukul — Daily Newspaper Pipeline. For coaching use; cross-check rapidly evolving items against primary sources.*