

CLAT GURUKUL

GK CHRONICLE

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS DIGEST

MAY 2026

MONTHLY DIGEST

Part I • 1–15 May 2026

64 Topics • 210 Practice MCQs • Notes-Style Coverage



EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the May 2026 edition of the CLAT Gurukul GK Chronicle. Every month our editorial desk reads the national dailies cover to cover, then does the harder work: cutting the noise. A single story that ran for twenty days appears here once, told in full — so you revise the development, not the repetition.

Each entry is written the way CLAT actually tests it. The story gives you the facts; the CLAT Focus box beside it gives you the exam scaffolding — the constitutional and statutory provisions in play, the organisations and bodies involved, the static-GK linkages a paper-setter loves to draw, and the common error that trips students in the hall. Read the story for understanding, then commit the CLAT Focus box to memory.

This issue distils May 2026's most important national and world affairs into a curated set of stories across polity, law, international relations, the economy, the environment, science, defence, culture, sport and more, followed by a full question bank to test yourself. Read it with a pen. Mark every miss. Those misses are your revision list for the month.

— CLAT GURUKUL EDITORIAL DESK

HOW TO USE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Read each story once for context, then re-read the **CLAT Focus** box — exam-ready material: the provisions, organisations, static-GK linkages, and the common error a paper-setter is likely to exploit.
- 2 Attempt the **Question Bank** section-by-section after finishing that section's stories, not all at once at the end of the month.
- 3 Check your answers against the **Answer Key** and log every miss — misses are your personal revision list.
- 4 Scan the QR codes on the back cover to download this issue as a PDF or to hear an audio explainer for any story.

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KEY TOPICS IN FOCUS

POLITY & GOVERNANCE	Governor's Discretion on the Floor Test — WB & TN
LEGAL & JUDICIARY	SC on a Minor Rape Survivor's Pregnancy — Push to Reform the MTP Act
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	India-Vietnam Ties Elevated to Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
ECONOMY & BUSINESS	Rupee Breaches 95, Then 100/USD — Forex Under Siege
ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY	Below-Normal Monsoon 2026: El Niño Meets a Negative IOD
SCIENCE, TECH & HEALTH	GalaxEye 'Drishti': World's First Private OptoSAR Satellite

SECTION 01 / 11

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

Governor's Discretion on the Floor Test — WB & TN

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

Two governance flashpoints tested the **Governor's role**. In West Bengal, a CM who lost her own seat but claims a legislative majority raised twin questions: the **Article 164(4)** six-month window for a non-member minister, versus the mandatory **floor test** when a party's majority is doubted (**SR Bommai**). In Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court held the **Governor** could demand proof of majority **before** swearing in a claimant, reaffirming limited discretion under **Article 164**.

QUICK FACTS

- **Article 164(4)**: a minister who is not a member of the legislature must become one within **six consecutive months**.
- Loss of a party's majority triggers a **mandatory floor test** — established in **SR Bommai v Union of India (1994)**.
- SC affirmed a Governor may seek proof of majority in a **hung-assembly** situation before administering oath.
- SC also questioned the **2023 law** that replaced the CJI with a Cabinet Minister on the Election Commissioner selection committee.

MUST KNOW

- **Article 163**: the Governor acts on the **aid and advice** of the Council of Ministers, except where the Constitution requires discretion.
- **Nabam Rebia (2016)**: the Governor's discretion is limited; he cannot act on his own on floor tests / summoning against ministerial advice arbitrarily.
- **Shamsher Singh (1974)**: the Governor is a **constitutional head** bound by the Cabinet's advice as a rule.
- **Trust vote** = motion to confirm a CM's majority; **composite floor test** = rival claimants prove majority simultaneously.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The floor test is conducted on the floor of the Assembly, usually by a **pro-tem Speaker**, often by division/voting.
- **Article 356** (President's Rule) was heavily circumscribed by **SR Bommai**.
- **Article 361** grants the Governor immunity from court process for acts done in office.
- The **Tenth Schedule** (anti-defection) interacts with floor tests when whips are issued.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT loves the Governor's discretionary vs aid-and-advice distinction and the **SR Bommai** floor-test rule. Expect assertion-reason and case-matching on **Article 164(4)** and **Bommai**.

PROVISIONS

Article 163, Article 164, Article 164(4), Article 174, Article 356, Article 361, Tenth Schedule

BODIES & CASES

SR Bommai v Union of India (1994), **Nabam Rebia v Deputy Speaker (2016)**, **Shamsher Singh v State of Punjab (1974)**, **Election Commission of India**

Common Error: Confusing the **Article 164(4)** six-month cushion (for a non-member CM) with the immediate floor test when a majority is lost — these are two separate rules, not one.

SECTION 02 / 11

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

SC on a Minor Rape Survivor's Pregnancy — Push to Reform the MTP Act

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

The **Supreme Court** declined a plea seeking a judicial direction to terminate the advanced pregnancy of a **15-year-old rape survivor**, holding that beyond the 24-week ceiling the decision belongs to a statutory **Medical Board** under **§3(2B) of the MTP Act 1971**, not to courts. A bench led by **CJI Surya Kant** stressed that an unwanted pregnancy cannot be forced on a woman and urged Parliament to raise or remove the gestational limit for minor and statutory-rape cases.

QUICK FACTS

- The **Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act 2021** raised the outer limit to **24 weeks** for seven categories under **Rule 3B** (including minors and rape survivors).
- Beyond 24 weeks, **§3(2B)** routes the case to a **Medical Board**, which assesses foetal viability and risk to the woman.
- **CJI Surya Kant** asked Parliament to amend the MTP Act to lift the ceiling for **minor rape survivors** and statutory-rape cases.
- The Court invoked reproductive autonomy under **Article 21** as a dignity-based ground distinct from the three statutory exceptions (rape/incest, foetal abnormality, risk to life).

MUST KNOW

- MTP's 24-week cap has **THREE** statutory escape routes; the SC treats **Article 21** dignity/autonomy as a fourth, judge-made ground.
- Beyond 24 weeks the gatekeeper is a **Medical Board**, not a High Court — courts only step in on the Board's report.
- **POCSO §19** mandatory reporting conflicts with a survivor's confidentiality; the SC has repeatedly read it down for minors seeking termination.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The MTP Act 1971 was itself amended in 2021; the pre-2021 outer limit was 20 weeks.
- **Suchita Srivastava v. Chandigarh Administration (2009)** held reproductive choice is part of personal liberty under **Article 21**.
- **K.S. Puttaswamy v. UOI (2017)** located bodily autonomy within the fundamental right to privacy.
- **X v. NCT of Delhi (2022)** extended abortion access up to 24 weeks to unmarried women too.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT loves the MTP viability-vs-autonomy balance: which body decides beyond 24 weeks, and how Article 21 supplies a dignity ground the statute does not name.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, MTP Act 1971 §3, MTP Act 1971 §3(2B), MTP Act 1971 §5, MTP (Amendment) Act 2021, Rule 3B, POCSO Act 2012 §19

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Suchita Srivastava v. Chandigarh Administration (2009), K.S. Puttaswamy v. UoI (2017), X v. NCT of Delhi (2022), X v. Union of India (2023)

Common Error: Students assume a court can directly 'order' a late-term termination; beyond 24 weeks the decision is the Medical Board's under §3(2B), with the court only acting on its opinion.

SC: Acid-Ingestion Victims Are Covered by the RPwD Act

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

The **Supreme Court** purposively read the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act 2016** to cover victims forced to **consume acid**, even where there is no external scarring. The bench held that damage to the mouth, throat, oesophagus and gastrointestinal tract counts as a **specified disability**, and that limiting protection to visible scars was arbitrary under **Article 14** and an affront to dignity under **Article 21**.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **Justice Surya Kant** and **Justice Joymalya Bagchi**; petitioners **Shaheen Mallya** and **Tanu Khan**.
- Internal organ damage from ingested acid now qualifies as a **'specified disability'** under the RPwD Act 2016.
- The 'visible external scar' requirement was struck down as **arbitrary (Article 14)** and violative of **dignity (Article 21)**.
- The Court applied a **beneficial-statute**, purposive reading to expand the Schedule's coverage.

MUST KNOW

- 'Specified disability' is a **Schedule-based list** under the RPwD Act — courts can read it expansively in beneficial-statute mode.
- The RPwD Act 2016 **replaced** the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 and aligned Indian law with the **UNCRPD (2007)**.
- The ruling links a welfare statute directly to **Articles 14 and 21**, a classic 'read-down to save constitutionality' move.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The RPwD Act 2016 recognises **21 disabilities** (up from 7 under the 1995 Act), including acid-attack survivors.
- **Laxmi v. Union of India (2014)** led to regulation of acid sales and a victim-compensation scheme.
- India ratified the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** in 2007.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Tests the beneficial-construction principle: a rights statute read broadly, with an arbitrary sub-classification struck down under Article

14.

PROVISIONS

Article 14, Article 21, RPwD Act 2016 §2 (specified disability)

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Laxmi v. Union of India (2014), UNCRPD (2007)

Common Error: Confusing the RPwD Act 2016 with the older Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 — the 1995 Act stands repealed and recognised only 7 disabilities.

SC: A Medical-Negligence Claim Survives the Complainant's Death

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

The **Supreme Court** held that a **medical-negligence claim does not automatically die with the complainant**. A bench of **Justices J.K. Maheshwari and Atul S. Chandurkar**, deciding a case arising from a 1990 eye surgery, ruled that claims for **financial (pecuniary) loss survive** and can be pursued by legal heirs, while purely personal **pain-and-suffering claims abate** on death. It also extended the **eggshell-skull (thin-skull) rule** to the quantum of medical-negligence damages.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **Justices J.K. Maheshwari and Atul S. Chandurkar**; the dispute arose from an **eye surgery in 1990**.
- **Pecuniary (financial) loss** claims survive death; purely **non-pecuniary** pain-and-suffering claims abate.
- The **thin-skull rule** (take the victim as you find them) was applied to compute negligence damages.
- Where the doctor dies during proceedings, **estate liability is capped at the value of the estate**.

MUST KNOW

- Distinguish clearly: **pecuniary claim SURVIVES** the complainant's death; **non-pecuniary claim ABATES** — a favourite examiner contrast.
- The **thin-skull rule** is a **quantum (damages) rule**, not a duty/breach test; **Bolam** supplies the standard of care.
- The Court read **Order 22 CPC** (abatement) together with the **Fatal Accidents Act 1855** to allow heirs to continue the claim.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Jacob Mathew v. State of Punjab (2005)** is the leading Indian authority on the standard for medical negligence.
- The **Bolam test** (from English law) asks whether the doctor acted as a responsible body of medical opinion would.
- **Smith v. Leech Brain (1962)** is the classic thin-skull-rule tort case.
- Medical negligence complaints are also cognisable under the **Consumer Protection Act 2019**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Blends tort quantum doctrine (thin-skull) with civil-procedure survival of actions — CLAT can test which head of damages survives death.

PROVISIONS

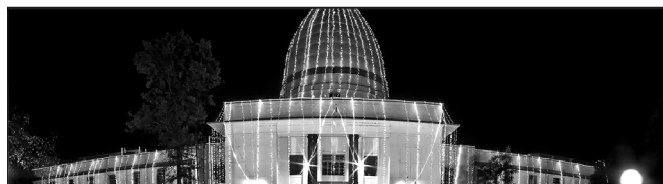
Article 21, Order 22 CPC (abatement), Fatal Accidents Act 1855, Consumer Protection Act 2019

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Jacob Mathew v. State of Punjab (2005), Bolam v. Friern Hospital, Smith v. Leech Brain (1962)

Common Error: Treating the thin-skull rule as deciding liability; it only fixes the extent of damages once negligence is already established via the Bolam/Jacob Mathew standard.

passage that shifts proof onto the accused signals an Article 21 violation.

SC: Arrest Is a Last Resort, Not a Pro-Forma Step

Hearing **Pawan Khara's anticipatory-bail plea** in a defamation FIR filed over remarks about the Assam CM's wife, the **Supreme Court** observed that the **Gauhati High Court** had wrongly '**shifted the burden onto the accused**' and that its order 'appears erroneous'. The Court reiterated that **arrest is not a pro-forma step**: investigators must act with objectivity and record reasons before depriving a person of liberty under **Article 21**.

QUICK FACTS

- Case: **Pawan Khara's** anticipatory-bail plea in an Assam defamation FIR.
- The SC faulted the High Court for **reversing the burden onto the accused**.
- Arrest must be preceded by **recorded, objective reasons** — it cannot be automatic.
- The ruling continues the **Joginder Kumar–Arnesh Kumar–D.K. Basu** line of arrest safeguards.

MUST KNOW

- **Anticipatory bail** was §438 CrPC and is now **§482 BNSS 2023**.
- **Arnesh Kumar v. State of Bihar (2014)** requires a §41A CrPC notice and a checklist before arrest in offences up to 7 years.
- The presumption of innocence and personal liberty under **Article 21** mean the State, not the accused, carries the burden.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **D.K. Basu v. State of West Bengal (1997)** laid down 11 arrest/detention guidelines.
- **Joginder Kumar v. State of U.P. (1994)** held that arrest cannot be routine merely because it is lawful.
- The **BNSS 2023** replaced the CrPC 1973 from 1 July 2024.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Reinforces that personal liberty under Article 21 makes arrest an exception; examiners test who bears the burden and the arrest-safeguard case line.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, §438 CrPC / §482 BNSS 2023 (anticipatory bail), §41A CrPC / BNSS notice

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Gauhati High Court, Joginder Kumar v. State of U.P. (1994), Arnesh Kumar v. State of Bihar (2014), D.K. Basu v. State of W.B. (1997)

Common Error: Assuming a lawful power to arrest means a duty to arrest — the safeguards require objective, recorded reasons; a

Sikkim Becomes India's First Fully Paperless State Judiciary

On **1 May 2026**, **CJI Surya Kant** inaugurated **Sikkim** as India's first fully **paperless state judiciary**. All **19 courts** now run on the **e-Courts Project Phase III** backbone (₹7,210 crore), with e-filing, virtual hearings, digital evidence and AI-assisted cause-list scheduling live. A small pending docket (~7,000 cases) let Sikkim leapfrog larger states, making it a model for other hill states.

QUICK FACTS

- Inaugurated by **CJI Surya Kant** on **1 May 2026**.
- All **19 courts** in the state are now paperless.
- Runs on **e-Courts Project Phase III** (outlay ₹7,210 crore).
- Features: e-filing, virtual hearings, digital evidence, **AI-assisted cause-list** scheduling.

MUST KNOW

- Digitisation advances access to justice under **Article 39A** (free legal aid, a Directive Principle).
- Virtual hearings must still respect the **open-court principle** — **Article 145(4)** requires judgments to be pronounced in open court.
- The **e-Courts Project** is a Mission Mode e-governance project under the Department of Justice and the SC's e-Committee.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Article 39A** was inserted by the **42nd Amendment (1976)**.
- **Hussainara Khatoon v. State of Bihar (1979)** read the right to free legal aid into Article 21.
- The **Information Technology Act 2000** gives legal recognition to electronic records and digital evidence.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Links judicial technology to access-to-justice DPSPs; CLAT may frame it as e-governance advancing Article 39A without diluting the open-court rule.

PROVISIONS

Article 39A, Article 145(4), Article 21, Information Technology Act 2000

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court e-Committee, Department of Justice (e-Courts Project)

Common Error: Assuming virtual/paperless hearings dilute the open-court principle — **Article 145(4)'s public-pronouncement requirement** still applies.

SC Quashes a 35-Year-Old Case — Speedy Trial Under Article 21



A bench of **Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Ujjal Bhuyan** invoked **Article 21** to quash a **35-year-old case** pending in Prayagraj since 1991 against **Kailash Chandra Kapri**, arising from a non-cognizable food-quality dispute. The Court rebuked subordinate courts, saying 'no court bothers to follow the guidelines on speedy trial' laid down in **Hussainara Khattoon** and reiterated in **A.R. Antulay**.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Ujjal Bhuyan**.
- The case had been pending since **1991** in **Prayagraj** — a **non-cognizable food-quality dispute**.
- Accused: **Kailash Chandra Kapri**.
- The Court held the delay itself violated the **Article 21** right to a speedy trial.

MUST KNOW

- The right to a **speedy trial** was first read into Article 21 in **Hussainara Khattoon v. State of Bihar (1979)** — the case that birthed legal aid in India.
- **A.R. Antulay v. R.S. Nayak (1992)** laid down (and cautioned against rigid) time-based speedy-trial guidelines.
- **Common Cause v. Uol (1996)** directed discharge in certain petty cases pending beyond fixed periods.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Maneka Gandhi v. Uol (1978)** made Article 21 'procedure' fair, just and reasonable — the base for speedy-trial jurisprudence.
- **Article 39A** (legal aid) was added by the 42nd Amendment 1976.
- The **BNSS 2023** (replacing CrPC §309) sets tighter trial timelines but is rarely enforced.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Classic Article 21 fundamental-rights question: speedy trial as an unenumerated right and the foundational cases that established it.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 39A, CrPC §309 / BNSS 2023 (trial timelines)

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, **Hussainara Khattoon v. State of Bihar (1979)**, **A.R. Antulay v. R.S. Nayak (1992)**, **Common Cause v. Uol (1996)**

Common Error: Attributing the speedy-trial right to a statute; it is judge-made under Article 21, first in **Hussainara Khattoon (1979)**, not a codified guarantee.

The **Supreme Court** discharged then-MoS Finance **Anurag Thakur** and MP **Parvesh Verma** in proceedings over their 2020 speeches at an anti-CAA protest site at **Rithala, Delhi**, where the slogan 'Desh ke gaddaron ko, goli maaro saalon ko' was raised. The Court reasoned that the word 'gaddar' (traitor) had no fixed target group, narrowing what counts as criminal **hate speech** and reaffirming the high bar between **Article 19(1)(a)** free speech and its **19(2)** limits.

QUICK FACTS

- Accused discharged: **Anurag Thakur** (then MoS Finance) and MP **Parvesh Verma**.
- Origin: **2020 anti-CAA protest** speeches at **Rithala, Delhi**.
- The Court held 'gaddar' did not point to any identifiable community, so no offence was made out.
- The judgment tightens the threshold for prosecuting political speech as hate speech.

MUST KNOW

- Post-1 July 2024, hate-speech offences moved from **IPC §§153A, 153B, 295A** to **BNS §§196, 197, 299**.
- **§295A / BNS §299** requires **deliberate and malicious intent (mens rea)** — accidental or ambiguous words fall short.
- Free speech under **Article 19(1)(a)** can only be curbed by the reasonable restrictions listed in **Article 19(2)** (e.g., public order, incitement).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Ramji Lal Modi v. State of U.P. (1957)** upheld §295A, reading in the requirement of malicious intent.
- **Pravasi Bhalai Sangathan v. Uol (2014)** asked the Law Commission to study hate-speech regulation.
- **Amish Devgan v. Uol (2020)** framed the tests for criminal hate speech.
- **Shreya Singhal v. Uol (2015)** struck down §66A IT Act on free-speech grounds.

CLAT / Legal Lens

The 19(1)(a) vs 19(2) balance plus the mens rea requirement for hate-speech offences — a recurring free-speech theme in CLAT.

PROVISIONS

Article 19(1)(a), Article 19(2), IPC §§153A, 153B, 295A → BNS §§196, 197, 299

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, **Ramji Lal Modi (1957)**, **Pravasi Bhalai Sangathan (2014)**, **Amish Devgan (2020)**, **Shreya Singhal (2015)**

Common Error: Citing the old IPC sections for post-1-July-2024 offences — hate speech is now under **BNS §§196, 197 and 299**, and **§295A/§299** needs deliberate malicious intent.

SC Narrows Hate-Speech Law — the 'Goli Maaro' Discharge

LEGAL & JUDICIARY



A rare **9-judge bench** led by **CJI Surya Kant** began hearing the **Sabarimala reference**, examining how far courts can reform religious practice without legislation. **SG Tushar Mehta**, for the Centre, argued that **Articles 25–26** protect denominational autonomy and that restructuring an **essential religious practice** is a parliamentary, not judicial, function. The reference flows from the 2019 review of the 2018 Sabarimala verdict and bundles seven questions on faith-versus-rights.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **9 judges** led by **CJI Surya Kant** (incl. Justices Nagarathna, Sundresh, Amanullah, Masih, Varale, Mahadevan, Bagchi).
- **SG Tushar Mehta** argued courts cannot reform faith without legislation.
- Core clash: **Articles 25–26** denominational autonomy vs individual equality/entry rights.
- The reference arises from the **2019 Sabarimala Review of Indian Young Lawyers Assn. v. Kerala (2018)**.

MUST KNOW

- A **9-judge bench** is convened only on a reference of a substantial question of constitutional interpretation under **Article 145(3)**.
- The **Essential Religious Practices (ERP)** doctrine is **judge-made** — from **Shirur Mutt (1954)** — not statutory.
- **Article 25** protects individual freedom of religion; **Article 26** protects a religious denomination's right to manage its own affairs.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The 2018 verdict allowed women of all ages entry to the **Sabarimala Ayyappa temple** in Kerala.
- The **Kerala Hindu Places of Public Worship (Authorisation of Entry) Act 1965** and its rules governed the entry restriction.
- The 2019 review framed **7 questions**, also touching mosque entry and Parsi-Dawoodi Bohra practices.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Prime constitutional-law material: Articles 25–26, the ERP doctrine's judicial origin, and when a 9-judge bench is set up (Article 145(3)).

PROVISIONS

Article 25, Article 26, Article 32, Article 145(3)

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India (9-judge bench), **Shirur Mutt (1954)**, **Indian Young Lawyers Assn. v. Kerala (2018)**, **Sabarimala Review (2019)**

Common Error: Thinking the 'essential religious practice' test is statutory — it is a court-created doctrine from **Shirur Mutt (1954)**.

(mandated by **Anoop Baranwal (2023)**) with a Cabinet Minister, and the Court is weighing whether Baranwal's committee was a permanent norm or an interim fix.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **Justices Datta and Sharma**.
- Selection panel under the **2023 Act: PM + Leader of Opposition + a Union Cabinet Minister**.
- **Anoop Baranwal (2023)** had ordered a **PM + LoP + CJI** committee pending legislation.
- The core question: was Baranwal a **permanent constitutional norm** or an interim measure?

MUST KNOW

- **Article 324** vests superintendence of elections in the Election Commission; appointments were long made by the President on the government's advice.
- The Court is testing the panel's neutrality against **Article 14** and basic-structure free-and-fair-election principles.
- Removal asymmetry: the **CEC** can be removed only like a Supreme Court judge (parliamentary process); other **ECs** are removed on the **CEC's recommendation**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **T.N. Seshan v. UoI (1995)** strengthened the ECI's independence.
- **Anoop Baranwal v. UoI (2023)** was a 5-judge Constitution Bench ruling on CEC/EC appointments.
- **Article 329** bars courts from interfering in electoral matters except by election petition.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Independence of a constitutional body: whether a ruling-side-heavy selection panel offends Article 14 and free-and-fair-election basic structure.

PROVISIONS

Article 324, Article 329, Article 14, CEC/EC Act 2023

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Election Commission of India, **Anoop Baranwal v. UoI (2023)**, **T.N. Seshan v. UoI (1995)**

Common Error: Swapping the removal rules — the **CEC** is removed like a SC judge, while other **ECs** are removed only on the **CEC's recommendation**.

SC Questions the 2023 CEC Appointment Act

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

A **Supreme Court** bench of **Justices Datta and Sharma** asked why the panel that selects the **Chief Election Commissioner** under the **CEC/EC Act 2023** is composed of the **PM + Leader of Opposition + a Cabinet Minister** — a **2:1 ruling-side majority** with no neutral member such as the CJI. The 2023 Act had replaced the CJI

Jharkhand HC: Custodial Killings Are the 'Worst Crime'



A Division Bench of the **Jharkhand High Court (CJ Sonak and Justice Ansari)** ordered fresh probes in over **260 of 427 custodial deaths** recorded between 2018 and 2026, holding that inquiries conducted by **Executive Magistrates instead of Judicial Magistrates** are invalid under **Section 176(1-A) of the BNSS**. Calling custodial death the 'worst crime', the Court reinforced the constitutional safeguards around detention.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **CJ Sonak and Justice Ansari**, Jharkhand High Court.
- Fresh probes ordered in over **260 of 427** custodial deaths (2018–2026).
- BNSS §176(1-A)** mandates a **Judicial Magistrate** inquiry into custodial deaths.
- Inquiries by **Executive Magistrates** were held invalid.

MUST KNOW

- Only a **Judicial Magistrate** inquiry satisfies **BNSS §176(1-A)** — an Executive Magistrate probe does not.
- Article 22(2)** requires an arrested person to be produced before a magistrate within **24 hours**.
- Custodial death engages the **Article 21** right to life and the State's duty to protect detainees.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- D.K. Basu v. State of West Bengal (1997)** laid down arrest and custody safeguards.
- Nilabati Behera v. State of Orissa (1993)** established compensation for custodial death as a public-law remedy.
- The **BNSS 2023** replaced the CrPC 1973 from 1 July 2024; the earlier provision was CrPC §176.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Custodial-death safeguards: mandatory judicial-magistrate inquiry, the 24-hour production rule, and public-law compensation under Article 21.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 22(2), BNSS §176(1-A)

BODIES & CASES

Jharkhand High Court, D.K. Basu v. State of W.B. (1997), Nilabati Behera v. State of Orissa (1993)

Common Error: Accepting an Executive Magistrate's inquiry as valid — **BNSS §176(1-A)** requires a **Judicial Magistrate** for custodial-death cases.

SECTION 03 / 11

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**India-Vietnam Ties Elevated to Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership****INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

During Vietnamese Communist Party General Secretary To Lam's state visit (5–7 May 2026), marking a decade of the 2016 **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership**, India and Vietnam signed 13 MoUs and elevated ties to an **Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (ECSP)** — only India's second such elevation with an ASEAN nation. Deals spanned semiconductors, ISRO-Vietnam space cooperation, rare earths and a Rs 5,800-crore **BrahMos** deal, with a \$25B trade target by 2030.

QUICK FACTS

- General Secretary To Lam** (paramount leader, Communist Party of Vietnam) visited India 5–7 May 2026, marking the **10th anniversary** of

the 2016 CSP (elevated in Hanoi).

- Ties raised to **Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (ECSP)** — India's 2nd such tier with an ASEAN state.
- 13 MoUs** signed: digital tech, pharma, space (ISRO-Vietnam), rare-earth minerals, renewable energy.
- Bilateral **trade target \$25B by 2030**; Vietnam eyeing a **Rs 5,800-crore BrahMos** missile order.
- India backs a **UNCLOS-based** resolution of the South China Sea dispute and a Code of Conduct.

MUST KNOW

- Partnership hierarchy (learn the ladder): **Strategic Partnership < Comprehensive Strategic Partnership < Enhanced CSP**.
- Vietnam is an **ASEAN member but NOT a Quad member**; it anchors India's **Act East** South China Sea balancing.
- The **2016 South China Sea Arbitration (Philippines v China)** under UNCLOS Annex VII is binding, though China rejects it.
- Act East (2014, Modi)** is defence+strategic; **Look East (1991, Narasimha Rao)** was trade-focused.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Vietnam capital **Hanoi**; largest city Ho Chi Minh City; currency Vietnamese dong.
- BrahMos** is an India-Russia joint-venture supersonic cruise missile (named after Brahmaputra + Moskva).
- ASEAN-India FTA** in goods signed 2010; ASEAN HQ at Jakarta, founded 1967 (Bangkok Declaration).
- UNCLOS 1982 sets the **EEZ at 200 nautical miles** from the baseline.
- To Lam** is CPV **General Secretary** (Vietnam's top leader); the ceremonial **President is Luong Cuong** — a common office mix-up.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the partnership-tier ladder and India's Act East posture; the SCS arbitration links treaty law (UNCLOS Annex VII) to a live geopolitical dispute.

PROVISIONS

UN Charter Art. 51, UNCLOS 1982 (EEZ = 200 nm), UNCLOS Art. 3, 55–75

BODIES & CASES

India-Vietnam CSP 2016, PCA 2016 (Philippines v China), ASEAN-India FTA 2010, DOC 2002

Common Error: Students confuse Look East (1991) with Act East (2014), and assume Vietnam is a Quad member — it is not.

India-Bangladesh Restore Full-Scale Visa Operations**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

India and Bangladesh restored full **visa operations** after a near-collapse during the Yunus interim regime — monthly issuances had crashed from **69,684 (2024) to 5,197 (early 2026)**. The thaw followed the Tarique Rahman government taking charge, with new High Commissioner Dinesh Trivedi and Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman driving the deal. Tourist, medical and business categories all resumed, reviving people-to-people and healthcare-tourism ties.

QUICK FACTS

- Visa issuances fell from **69,684/month (2024)** to **5,197 (early 2026)** before restoration.
- Thaw followed the **Tarique Rahman** government replacing the **Yunus** interim regime.
- New Indian HC **Dinesh Trivedi** and Bangladesh FM **Khalilur Rahman** brokered the deal.
- **Tourist, medical and business** visa categories all resumed.

MUST KNOW

- Consular/visa relations are governed by the **Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (VCCR) 1963**.
- The **Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) 1974/2015** needed the **100th Constitutional Amendment** because transferring territory affects **Article 1**.
- Bangladesh and India share a **4,096-km land border** — India's longest with any neighbour.
- India and Bangladesh are both **SAARC** members (SAARC Charter 1985).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Bangladesh capital **Dhaka**; currency taka; independence 1971.
- The **100th CA Act (2015)** operationalised the India-Bangladesh LBA, exchanging enclaves.
- Treaties are made under **Article 253** (Parliament's power to implement international agreements).
- SAARC (1985) HQ is at **Kathmandu, Nepal**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT links the LBA to the 100th Amendment: an executive accord alone could not cede territory because it touches Article 1 — parliamentary amendment was required.

PROVISIONS

Article 1, Article 73, Article 253, VCCR 1963, 100th CA Act

BODIES & CASES

SAARC (1985), Land Boundary Agreement 1974/2015

Common Error: Assuming a pure executive treaty can transfer Indian territory; it cannot — a constitutional amendment was needed for the LBA.

Nepal Objects to Kailash Mansarovar Yatra via Lipulekh Pass

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Nepal's Foreign Ministry (3 May) formally objected to the **Kailash Mansarovar Yatra** route via the **Lipulekh pass**, calling it 'Nepali territory' under the **Sugauli Treaty 1816**. Kathmandu insists **Limpiyadhura, Lipulekh and Kalapani** lie east of the **Mahakali (Kali) river** and are integral to Nepal. India's MEA rejected the claim as 'neither justified nor based on historical facts and evidence.' The Yatra is scheduled June-August 2026.

QUICK FACTS

- Nepal objected on **3 May 2026** to the Yatra route via **Lipulekh**.
- Disputed tri-junction area: **Limpiyadhura, Lipulekh, Kalapani** — east

of the Mahakali river.

- Nepal's claim rests on the **Sugauli Treaty 1816** (with British India).
- India's MEA called the claim '**neither justified nor based on historical facts.**'
- Lipulekh is a **trijunction** pass linking India, Nepal and Tibet (China).

MUST KNOW

- The dispute turns on the **source of the Mahakali/Kali river**: Nepal claims Limpiyadhura source, India argues the watershed line.
- Nepal published a 2020 map showing these areas after India's 2019 political map — a recurring flashpoint.
- River boundaries are conventionally fixed by the **thalweg** (deepest channel) principle.
- **Lipulekh** is a strategic trade/pilgrimage pass into Tibet.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Treaty of Sugauli (1816)** ended the Anglo-Nepalese War; the Kali river was set as the western boundary.
- The **India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship 1950** governs open-border relations.
- Kailash Mansarovar lies in **Tibet (China)**; Mount Kailash is sacred to Hindus, Buddhists, Jains and Bon.
- **VCLT 1969 Art 31** governs treaty interpretation (ordinary meaning, context, object).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can frame this as treaty interpretation (VCLT Art 31) plus boundary-determination principles (watershed vs river-source), testing how colonial-era treaties bind successor states.

PROVISIONS

Sugauli Treaty 1816, VCLT 1969 Art 31, Article 73, Article 253

BODIES & CASES

India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship 1950

Common Error: Confusing the *thalweg* (river-channel) rule with the *source-of-river* dispute; the *Kalapani* row is about the river's **SOURCE**, not its channel.

US-Iran Nuclear MoU, 60-Day Ceasefire and the Strait of Hormuz



The US and Iran advanced a **14-point MoU**: Iran accepts an enrichment moratorium and snap **IAEA** inspections; the US lifts sanctions and releases ~\$50B frozen funds; both ease **Strait of Hormuz** transit, later extending a ceasefire 60 days. Iran created a statutory agency to regulate Hormuz — through which ~21% of global petroleum trade passes. India is directly exposed, with a large share of crude imports transiting the strait.

QUICK FACTS

- Draft **14-point MoU**: enrichment moratorium + snap **IAEA** inspections in exchange for sanctions relief and ~\$50B frozen-fund release.
- A **60-day ceasefire** extension was agreed pending sign-off; Washington talks continued in Vienna.
- Iran created a new agency to **regulate Strait of Hormuz** passage.

- ~21% of world petroleum trade transits Hormuz; India routes a large share of crude imports through it.
- Iran currently enriches to ~60% vs the JCPOA cap of 3.67%.

MUST KNOW

- **P5+1 = US, UK, France, Russia, China + Germany** — an ad-hoc negotiating group, NOT a UN body; Germany is NOT a UNSC permanent member.
- The **JCPOA 2015** was endorsed by **UNSC Resolution 2231**; the NPT and IAEA Statute anchor the non-proliferation regime.
- Under **UNCLOS Art 38**, the Strait of Hormuz is an **international strait** where **transit passage is non-suspendable**.
- **Transit passage** (international straits) differs from **innocent passage** (territorial sea) — different rights and duties.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Strait of Hormuz** connects the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman; bordered by Iran and Oman (Musandam).
- The **Caroline test** for self-defence requires necessity 'instant, overwhelming, leaving no choice of means.'
- **Jus cogens** (peremptory norms, VCLT Art 53) — e.g. the prohibition of genocide — cannot be derogated.
- IAEA HQ is at **Vienna**; the NPT entered force in 1970.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT fuses treaty law (NPT/JCPOA), UNSC authority, and the law of the sea (transit vs innocent passage) into one high-yield IR passage.

PROVISIONS

NPT Art. III & IV, UN Charter Art 2(4), 41, 51, UNCLOS 1982 Art 38 (transit passage), VCLT 1969 Art 53

BODIES & CASES

IAEA, UNSC Res. 2231 (2015), JCPOA 2015, ICJ South Africa v Israel (2024)

Common Error: Calling P5+1 a UN body or thinking Germany is a UNSC permanent member; and confusing non-suspendable transit passage with innocent passage.

MUST KNOW

- India is an **Observer (NOT a Member)** of the **Arctic Council**; only the 8 Arctic states are members.
- **EFTA is not the EU**: EFTA = Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein.
- India signed **CEPA with the UAE (2022)** and **TEPA with EFTA (2024)** — distinct trade deals.
- **Nordic (5) ≠ Scandinavian (3)**: Nordic adds Iceland and Finland.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Arctic Council (Ottawa Declaration 1996)** has 8 members; India joined as Observer in 2013.
- India released its **Arctic Policy in 2022**; its research station **Himadri** is at Svalbard, Norway.
- **UNCLOS Art 234** covers ice-covered areas; treaty implementation is under **Article 253**.
- EU capitals visited: The Hague (Netherlands), Rome (Italy); Oslo is Norway's capital.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests membership categories (Observer vs Member) and the EFTA/EU distinction, plus how FTAs sit within WTO Art XXIV.

PROVISIONS

Article 253, UNCLOS 1982 Art 234, WTO Art XXIV (FTAs), VCDR 1961

BODIES & CASES

Arctic Council (1996), EFTA, India-UAE CEPA 2022, India-EFTA TEPA 2024

Common Error: Calling India an Arctic Council 'Member' (it is only an Observer) and confusing EFTA with the EU.

PM Modi's 5-Nation Europe Tour (UAE, Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Italy)

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PM Modi undertook a **five-nation tour (15-20 May 2026)** covering the **UAE, Netherlands, Sweden, Norway and Italy**, with the Norway leg hosting the **3rd India-Nordic Summit** at Oslo on 19 May. The agenda spanned defence, semiconductors, green hydrogen, **Arctic cooperation** and resilient supply chains. The trip, postponed in 2025 after Operation Sindoor, resumed India's outreach to Europe's high-tech and Arctic economies.

QUICK FACTS

- Itinerary: **UAE (15 May), Netherlands (15-17), Sweden (17-18), Norway (18-19), Italy (19-20)**.
- Norway leg hosted the **3rd India-Nordic Summit** at Oslo on 19 May.
- Agenda: defence, semiconductors, green hydrogen, **Arctic cooperation**, supply-chain resilience.
- Trip had been **postponed in 2025 post-Operation Sindoor**.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

President Trump landed in Beijing for a **3-day summit (13-15 May)** with President Xi Jinping — the first US state visit to China since his 2017 trip. The agenda spanned Iran mediation, Taiwan, the '5 Bs' and '3 Ts' (Taiwan, Tariffs, Tech), against a **90-day tariff truce expiring Aug 12**. Treasury Secretary Bessent, Elon Musk and Nvidia's Jensen Huang joined, underscoring the tech-and-trade stakes.

QUICK FACTS

- Trump-Xi summit in **Beijing, 13-15 May 2026** — first US state visit to China since 2017.
- Agenda: Iran mediation, Taiwan, the '5 Bs' and '3 Ts' (**Taiwan, Tariffs, Tech**).
- The **90-day tariff truce (Feb 2026)** expires **Aug 12**.
- Delegation included Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, Elon Musk and Nvidia's Jensen Huang.

MUST KNOW

- **Section 301 of the US Trade Act 1974** lets the President unilaterally impose tariffs — used since 2018.
- The **WTO Appellate Body is paralysed** because the US blocks judge appointments, so tariff disputes stall.

- The **Marrakesh Agreement 1994** established the WTO.
- Taiwan is central to the 'One China' question — the US maintains 'strategic ambiguity.'

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- China capital **Beijing**; Xi Jinping is President; currency renminbi (yuan).
- The WTO is headquartered in **Geneva**.
- **VCDR 1961** governs diplomatic relations for state visits.
- The last US presidential state visit to China before this was Trump's own 2017 trip.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can test how unilateral tariff powers (Section 301) collide with the crippled WTO dispute mechanism.

PROVISIONS

Section 301 US Trade Act 1974, UN Charter Art 2(4), WTO Marrakesh Agreement 1994, VCDR 1961

BODIES & CASES

WTO (Appellate Body paralysed), UNCLOS 1982

Common Error: Assuming the WTO can still adjudicate tariff appeals — its Appellate Body is non-functional as the US blocks judges.

of Arbitration (**Art IX**).

- The **Permanent Indus Commission** is the treaty's standing bilateral body.
- **UN Charter Art 33** lists peaceful-settlement means (negotiation, mediation, arbitration).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests whether 'abeyance' is a recognised treaty status (it is not) and links suspension to VCLT grounds — material breach and fundamental change of circumstances.

PROVISIONS

IWT 1960 Arts III, IV, IX, XII, VCLT 1969 Arts 26, 60, 62, UN Charter Art 33

BODIES & CASES

World Bank (broker), Permanent Indus Commission

Common Error: Saying India 'terminated' or 'abrogated' the IWT — it only put it 'in abeyance'; an informal status VCLT does not codify.

SECTION 04 / 11

ECONOMY & BUSINESS**One Year of the Indus Waters Treaty in Abeyance**

A year after India, responding to the April 2025 **Pahalgam terror attack**, kept the **Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) 1960** 'in abeyance', it is using the suspension to complete long-delayed projects on the **western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab)** — which supply 70%+ of Pakistan's irrigation. The IWT, brokered by the World Bank in 1960, had survived multiple wars until this unprecedented pause.

QUICK FACTS

- India kept the **IWT in abeyance** after the **April 2025 Pahalgam attack** — over a year on.
- Western rivers (**Indus, Jhelum, Chenab**) allotted to Pakistan; eastern (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India.
- Western rivers supply **70%+ of Pakistan's irrigation**.
- India is using the pause to advance **long-delayed western-river projects**.

MUST KNOW

- India did NOT 'terminate' the treaty — it placed it in '**abeyance**', a status treaty law does not formally define.
- The **IWT (1960)** was brokered by the **World Bank** and signed by Nehru and Ayub Khan at Karachi.
- **VCLT 1969 Arts 60 & 62** (material breach / fundamental change) are the closest legal hooks for suspension.
- Eastern rivers = India; western rivers = Pakistan (with limited Indian non-consumptive use).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The IWT splits six rivers of the Indus system between India and Pakistan.
- Its dispute mechanism runs Commissioner → Neutral Expert → Court

Rupee Breaches 95, Then 100/USD — Forex Under Siege

The **rupee** hit a 4-year low of **95.12/USD** on 30 April 2026 and breached **100 intraday on 18 May**, down ~12% in a year. Triggers: the **Hormuz/West Asia conflict** pushing **Brent to \$126**, an FPI outflow of ~\$20bn, and a **twin deficit** (CAD ~3.2%, fiscal ~5.8%). The **RBI** deployed roughly **\$41bn** over six months defending the currency, drawing reserves down sharply.

QUICK FACTS

- Rupee closed **95.12/USD** (30 Apr), touched **95.33** all-time low, then breached **100 intraday** on 18 May.
- **Forex reserves** fell ~\$38bn in two months of the conflict (peak ~\$691bn, ~10 months' import cover).
- **BoP** swung from +\$9bn surplus (FY23) to a ~-\$5bn deficit; DXY ~108, Brent ~\$126.
- Morgan Stanley's 2013 '**Fragile Five**' (INR, IDR, BRL, ZAR, TRY) tag was revived for India's twin-deficit vulnerability.
- RBI intervened via **spot dollar sales** and a tightened forward book under a **managed-float** regime.

MUST KNOW

- India runs a **managed float**: RBI curbs volatility, it does NOT defend any specific level.
- The **1991 BoP crisis** was resolved via an **IMF SAP — Article 360** (financial emergency) has NEVER been invoked.
- Defending the rupee by selling dollars **drains reserves**; it does not reverse the trade deficit.
- **FPI** is governed by **SEBI (FPI) Regulations 2019** read with **FEMA 1999**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Forex reserves = foreign currency assets + **gold** + **SDRs** + IMF reserve position.
- India has **partial capital-account convertibility**; the Tarapore-II roadmap was paused after 2008.
- The '2013 taper tantrum' (Fed QE rollback) was the original Fragile Five trigger.
- RBI's FX intervention power flows from **RBI Act 1934, §17**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can pair a currency-crisis passage with governance law — testing whether a rupee slide can trigger Article 360, and which regulator (SEBI/RBI) governs FPI and FX.

PROVISIONS

Article 360 (financial emergency), RBI Act 1934, §17, RBI Act 1934, §45U, FEMA 1999, FRBM Act 2003

BODIES & CASES

Reserve Bank of India (RBI), SEBI, IMF (Article IV consultations), Morgan Stanley 'Fragile Five' (2013)

Common Error: Assuming a falling rupee triggers Article 360 'financial emergency' — it has never been invoked; the 1991 crisis was an IMF-programme fix, not a constitutional emergency.

- Remaining OPEC+ decision-makers cited: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Algeria, Kazakhstan, Russia, Oman.
- India's crude basket is dominated by West Asian and Russian grades.
- The **IEA** (Paris) mandates a 90-day import-cover reserve for members.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A favourite CLAT overlap of IR + Economy + Maritime Law: identify OPEC's legal nature and the UNCLOS regime governing an international strait like Hormuz.

PROVISIONS

UNCLOS 1982, Art 38 (transit passage), UNCLOS 1982, Art 44, OPEC Statute 1960, Petroleum Act 1934

BODIES & CASES

OPEC (Vienna, est. 1960), OPEC+, International Energy Agency (IEA)

Common Error: Calling OPEC a UN agency, or applying 'innocent passage' (Art 17) to Hormuz — a strait used for international navigation attracts the non-suspendable 'transit passage' regime (Art 38).

UAE Exits OPEC After 60 Years; Brent Spikes to \$126

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

The **UAE** formally quit both **OPEC** and **OPEC+** on 1 May 2026 after ~60 years, citing production-quota disputes, leaving seven members in monthly output decisions. **Brent crude** spiked to a 4-year high of **\$126/barrel**, worsened by the **Strait of Hormuz** war-closure (which carries ~20% of global oil, ~33% of LNG). India's import bill is projected to swell **~Rs 2.4 lakh crore**, cascading into CAD and rupee pressure.

QUICK FACTS

- UAE** exited OPEC and OPEC+ on **1 May 2026** after 60 years; seven members now set monthly quotas.
- OPEC+ on 3 May approved a 3rd straight output rise — **+188,000 bpd for June**.
- Brent** peaked at **\$126/bbl** (vs ~\$108 the prior week).
- Strait of Hormuz** handles **~20% of world oil** and **~33% of LNG** flows.
- India imports **~85% of crude**; every \$10 rise in Brent adds **~\$15bn** to the import bill.

MUST KNOW

- OPEC** is NOT a UN body — it is a permanent intergovernmental org (founded **1960, Baghdad**; HQ **Vienna**).
- OPEC+** is a coordination forum, not a treaty body.
- India's **Strategic Petroleum Reserve** holds only **~9 days** of crude, far short of the IEA's 90-day member norm.
- A Hormuz blockade could be argued as a breach of **UNCLOS transit passage** rights.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- OPEC founding members: Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela.

Gold/Silver Duty Hiked to 15%; Sugar Exports Banned

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

The **Finance Ministry** raised **customs duty on gold and silver** imports to **15%** on 14 May 2026 after FY26 gold imports hit **\$71.97bn** and the rupee slid to 95.71/USD — a bid to curb the import bill and defend reserves (down ~\$38bn since the Feb 28 conflict). Simultaneously, the **DGFT banned sugar exports till 30 September** under the **FTDR Act** to cool domestic food inflation.

QUICK FACTS

- Gold/silver **customs duty raised to 15%** under the Customs Act.
- FY26 **gold imports** = **\$71.97bn**; rupee at **~95.71/USD**.
- Forex reserves down **~\$38bn** since the 28 Feb conflict.
- DGFT** banned **sugar exports till 30 Sept** under the FTDR Act.
- Gold is India's **2nd-largest import** after crude; each 1% duty hike yields **~Rs 4,000 cr** but spurs smuggling/hawala.

MUST KNOW

- Customs duty** is a Union subject — **Entry 83, List I** (Union List).
- DGFT** operates under the **FTDR Act 1992**; its notifications carry statutory force.
- Export bans/curbs are effected via FTDR notifications, not fresh legislation.
- Higher gold duty can perversely boost **smuggling and hawala** channels.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- DGFT (Directorate General of Foreign Trade) sits under the Commerce Ministry.
- The **Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)** is governed by an RBI Master Direction under FEMA.
- AIDC (Agriculture Infrastructure & Development Cess) was introduced by the Finance Act 2021.
- The Gold Monetisation Scheme (2015) aims to unlock idle household gold.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Tests the constitutional locus of customs (Union List) and the statutory source of trade-restriction powers (FTDR Act) — a governance + economy crossover.

PROVISIONS

Customs Act 1962, §3, §12, FTDR Act 1992, Entry 83, List I (Union List), FEMA 1999, Finance Act 2021 (AIDC)

BODIES & CASES

Ministry of Finance, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), CBIC

Common Error: Assuming an export ban needs Parliament — DGFT can impose it by notification under the FTDR Act 1992, which has statutory force.

Moody's Ratings, S&P Global, Fitch Ratings, SEBI

Common Error: Reading 'Baa3' as junk — it is the **LOWEST** investment-grade notch, not speculative grade; junk begins one notch below at Ba1/BB+.

April WPI Jumps to 8.3% — A 42-Month High**ECONOMY & BUSINESS**

India's **Wholesale Price Index** rose **8.3% YoY in April 2026**, the highest in 42 months, driven by energy: crude oil +12%, LPG +10%, ATF +12.5%. Retail **CPI** inched up only to **3.48%** (from 3.4%), staying within the RBI's tolerance band — a widening WPI-CPI gap reflecting the energy shock feeding producer prices faster than consumer prices.

QUICK FACTS

- **WPI +8.3% YoY** in April — a **42-month high**.
- Energy drove it: oil +12%, LPG +10%, **ATF +12.5%**.
- **CPI** edged up to **3.48%** (from 3.4%), still within target.
- WPI is a producer-price gauge; CPI reflects household inflation.

MUST KNOW

- The **MPC targets CPI at 4% ±2%** — NOT WPI.
- A WPI spike alone does not, by law, trigger a rate hike.
- WPI has **no services component**; CPI does (a key structural difference).
- WPI base year is **2011-12** (India).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- WPI is released by the **Office of the Economic Adviser, DPIIT**.
- CPI is released by the **NSO (MoSPI)**.
- The RBI's inflation mandate flows from **RBI Act §45ZA/45ZB**.
- The MPC has six members (three RBI, three government-nominated).

CLAT / Legal Lens

Tests the statutory basis of India's inflation-targeting framework and the CPI-vs-WPI distinction that paper-setters love to exploit.

PROVISIONS

RBI Act 1934, §45ZA, RBI Act 1934, §45ZB, FRBM Act 2003

BODIES & CASES

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), RBI, DPIIT (Office of the Economic Adviser), NSO / MoSPI

Common Error: Concluding that a WPI breach forces an RBI rate hike — the MPC's flexible inflation target is defined on **CPI (4% ±2%)**, not WPI.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS**Moody's Cuts India's Growth Forecast to 6%**

Moody's Ratings trimmed India's GDP growth forecast to **6%** for both 2026 (from 6.8%) and 2027 (from 6.5%) — its first major cut since the West Asia conflict — citing the war, energy-price spikes and FII outflows. India retains Moody's **Baa3** sovereign rating, the lowest rung of investment grade (one notch above speculative/junk).

QUICK FACTS

- **Moody's** cut 2026 growth to **6%** (from 6.8%) and 2027 to **6%** (from 6.5%).
- Cited: the West Asia war, energy-price spikes, and **FII outflows**.
- India's sovereign rating held at **Baa3** (lowest investment grade).
- Baa3 sits one notch above speculative grade, equivalent to S&P/Fitch **BBB-**.

MUST KNOW

- The '**Big Three**' rating agencies are **Moody's, S&P and Fitch**.
- In India, credit rating agencies are regulated by **SEBI (CRA) Regulations 1999**.
- **Baa3 (Moody's) = BBB- (S&P/Fitch)** = the floor of investment grade.
- A sovereign downgrade below investment grade raises external borrowing costs.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **FRBM Act 2003** targets fiscal discipline (deficit glide-path), relaxed in the pandemic.
- Rating agencies are US SEC-registered **NRSROs**.
- Baa3 is investment grade; Ba1 and below are 'speculative'/junk.
- FII/FPI flows are SEBI-regulated under the FPI Regulations 2019.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT may test who regulates rating agencies in India (SEBI) and the ranking of grades — mixing economy with the regulatory-law framework.

PROVISIONS

SEBI Credit Rating Agencies Regulations 1999, FRBM Act 2003, SEBI Act 1992, FEMA 1999

BODIES & CASES**PM's Austerity Push + GoM Shields Supply Chains****ECONOMY & BUSINESS**

On 11 May 2026 at Vadodara, **PM Modi** urged citizens to revert to 'Covid-era' habits — work from home, online classes, car-pool, use the metro, cut foreign travel and gold buying, shift to natural farming — to relieve pressure on the rupee and reserves. India's **gold import bill doubled to \$72bn** in two years and **LRS foreign-travel spend hit \$15bn** (Apr–Feb). **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** chaired a **Group of Ministers** on supply-chain shielding amid the West Asia crisis.

QUICK FACTS

- PM Modi framed the West Asia conflict as the '**biggest crisis of this decade**'.
- Gold import bill doubled to ~\$72bn** in two years.
- LRS foreign-travel outflow ~\$15bn** (Apr–Feb 2026).
- A **Group of Ministers** under Rajnath Singh reviewed supply-chain resilience.
- India held **~60 days of crude** cover as a buffer.

MUST KNOW

- The appeals invoke **Fundamental Duties** (Article 51A) — moral, non-justiciable obligations.
- The **LRS** (Liberalised Remittance Scheme) is an RBI Master Direction under FEMA, capping resident outward remittance.
- Curbing gold and travel outflows is a demand-side defence of the rupee.
- A **GoM** is an ad hoc Cabinet mechanism, not a constitutional body.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Article 51A** (Fundamental Duties) was inserted by the **42nd Amendment, 1976** (Swaran Singh Committee).
- Originally 10 duties; the **11th** was added by the **86th Amendment, 2002** (education of children 6–14).
- DPSPs relevant here: Art 47 (nutrition/public health), Art 48A (environment).
- The LRS annual limit is set by RBI (USD 250,000 per resident individual).

CLAT / Legal Lens

A civics + economy crossover: austerity appeals map to non-justiciable Fundamental Duties (Art 51A) and the constitutional-amendment history behind them.

PROVISIONS

Article 51A (Fundamental Duties), Article 47, Article 48A, FEMA 1999, 42nd Amendment 1976, 86th Amendment 2002

BODIES & CASES

Group of Ministers (GoM), RBI, Ministry of Finance

Common Error: Treating Fundamental Duties as legally enforceable or miscounting them — there are 11 (10 original + 1 added in 2002), and they are non-justiciable.

Private Capex Jumps 67% — CII Flags Investment Revival



India's **private capital expenditure** surged **67% YoY to Rs 7.7 lakh crore** in September 2025, signalling 'a decisive revival in the investment cycle', per a **CII** (Confederation of Indian Industry) report analysing 1,200 companies via CMIE Prowess. **Manufacturing** accounted for nearly half at ~Rs 3.8 lakh crore — evidence of the long-awaited turn in the private investment cycle.

QUICK FACTS

- Private capex **+67% YoY to Rs 7.7 lakh crore** (Sept 2025).
- Study by **CII**, covering **1,200 companies** via CMIE Prowess.
- Manufacturing ~Rs 3.8 lakh crore** — nearly half the total.
- Framed as a 'decisive revival' in the investment cycle.

MUST KNOW

- Capex** (capital expenditure) creates assets; **revex** (revenue expenditure) is recurring operating cost.
- The Budget classifies spending as **Capital vs Revenue**, and Plan/Non-Plan was scrapped in 2017-18.
- A private-capex revival eases the burden on public/government capex to drive growth.
- The 'twin balance sheet' problem was addressed partly via the **IBC 2016**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- CII** is a leading industry association (est. 1895), alongside FICCI and ASSOCHAM.
- CMIE Prowess** is a corporate-financials database.
- The **MPC** composition is set by RBI Act §45ZB.
- Capital expenditure has a higher fiscal multiplier than revenue expenditure.

CLAT / Legal Lens

An economy-literacy check: distinguish capital from revenue expenditure and read a capex-revival passage without conflating it with government spending.

PROVISIONS

Companies Act 2013, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code 2016, RBI Act 1934, §45ZB

BODIES & CASES

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), CMIE

Common Error: Treating capex as government spending only, or confusing capital expenditure with recurring revenue expenditure.

SECTION 05 / 11

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Below-Normal Monsoon 2026: El Niño Meets a Negative IOD



The **IMD's** First Long-Range Forecast pegged the 2026 SW monsoon at **92% of LPA** (below-normal), later revised down to **90%** — India's driest in a decade and near the '**deficient**' threshold. Drivers: a developing **El Niño** (Pacific warming that suppresses

Indian rainfall) plus a **negative Indian Ocean Dipole**. NCMRWF and Skymet concur; kharif sowing, MSP procurement and RBI inflation projections are all at risk.

QUICK FACTS

- IMD calls a monsoon '**normal**' at 96–104% of LPA; **below-normal** 90–96%; **deficient** <90%; **excess** >110%.
- The **1971–2020 LPA** for June–September rainfall is **87 cm**.
- **El Niño** (warm phase of ENSO) weakens the monsoon ~60% of the time; **La Niña** strengthens it.
- A **negative IOD** (warm pole shifting east toward the Bay of Bengal) is unfavourable for Indian rainfall.
- Silver lining: adequate **foodgrain stocks** and reservoir levels cushion the deficit.

MUST KNOW

- El Niño/La Niña are the two active phases of **ENSO** (El Niño–Southern Oscillation); the third is 'neutral'.
- **Wet-Bulb Temperature** of ~35°C (WBGT) is the human-survivability limit; a 40°C wet-bulb day in Delhi can feel like 50°C+.
- IMD's **Heat Wave** criterion: ≥40°C (plains)/30°C (hills) with a 4.5–6.4°C departure for 2 consecutive days.
- **Western Disturbances** are extra-tropical storms from the Mediterranean carried by the westerly jet stream.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- IMD (India Meteorological Department) founded **1875**; HQ New Delhi; under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- The **National Monsoon Mission** drives India's dynamical forecasting.
- India's **Updated NDC (2022)**: cut emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030.
- Disaster relief runs via the **Disaster Management Act 2005** and NDMA-notified disasters (drought included).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT pairs **Art 48A** (DPSP — protect environment) with **Art 51A(g)** (fundamental duty) as the environment duo, and links climate stress to the **Art 21** right to a healthy environment.

PROVISIONS

Article 48A, Article 51A(g), Article 21, Disaster Management Act 2005, National Food Security Act 2013

BODIES & CASES

India Meteorological Department (1875), NDMA, UNFCCC (1992), Paris Agreement (2015)

Common Error: Assuming El Niño always means a weak monsoon — the correlation is ~60%, not deterministic; a positive IOD can offset it.

Santa Marta Roadmap: 50+ Nations Pledge Fossil-Fuel Phase-Out



At the **Santa Marta (Colombia)** climate conference, **50+ countries** — led by France, the EU bloc and Pacific island states — signed a roadmap to phase out fossil fuels on 2030–2050 timelines. It is the

first formal phase-out compact since the **UNFCCC (1992)**, building on COP28's 'transition away' language. The **US, China, India and Saudi Arabia** were notably absent.

QUICK FACTS

- Signatories: **France, EU, Pacific island states** among 50+; timelines **2030–2050**.
- Absentees: **US, China, India, Saudi Arabia** — the largest emitters/producers.
- Builds on the **COP28 (Dubai)** 'transition away from fossil fuels' text.
- Described as the first formal phase-out compact since the **UNFCCC** was ratified in 1992.

MUST KNOW

- India's coal defence rests on **CBDR-RC** (Common But Differentiated Responsibilities & Respective Capabilities).
- The **UNFCCC (1992)** was adopted at the Rio Earth Summit; the **Paris Agreement (2015)** is its key protocol-era treaty.
- 'Phase-out' vs 'phase-down' of coal is a recurring COP negotiation flashpoint (Glasgow 2021).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **COP** = Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC; COP28 was in the UAE, COP26 in Glasgow.
- CBDR-RC gives developing nations more **carbon space** — grounding India's stance in equity, not denial.
- Colombia hosts key biodiversity/climate diplomacy; it also hosted COP16 (biodiversity, 2024).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the treaty lineage (UNFCCC → Kyoto → Paris) and the **CBDR-RC** principle that justifies differentiated obligations for developing states.

PROVISIONS

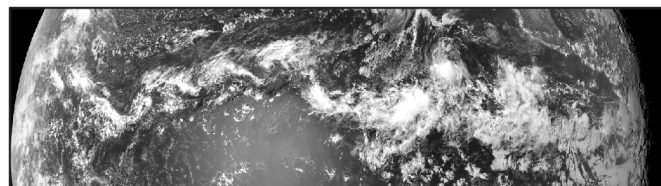
Article 48A, Article 51A(g), National Green Tribunal Act 2010

BODIES & CASES

UNFCCC (1992), Paris Agreement (2015), COP28

Common Error: Treating the Santa Marta roadmap as legally binding — it is a voluntary political compact, and India is not a signatory.

High Seas Treaty (BBNJ) Enters Into Force



The **BBNJ Agreement** (UN treaty on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction) entered into force in **January 2026** after crossing **60 ratifications**. It is the first legally binding law for conserving the **high seas** — the ~60% of the ocean surface beyond any nation's jurisdiction. Core tools: **Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)**, mandatory environmental impact assessments, and equitable sharing of **Marine Genetic Resources**.

QUICK FACTS

- Adopted **2023**; entered into force **January 2026** after **60 ratifications**.
- Covers biodiversity **beyond national jurisdiction** — roughly **60% of the ocean surface**.

- Introduces high-seas **MPAs**, mandatory **EIAs**, and benefit-sharing of marine genetic resources.
- It is an implementing agreement under **UNCLOS 1982**.

MUST KNOW

- The **EEZ** extends 200 nautical miles; BBNJ governs the **area BEYOND** the EEZ.
- India ratified **UNCLOS in 1995**; India's EEZ is about **2.37 million sq km**.
- Treaties are implemented domestically via Parliament's power under **Article 253**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- UNCLOS 1982** is the 'constitution for the oceans'; it created the EEZ and continental-shelf regime.
- BBNJ is nicknamed the '**High Seas Treaty**'.
- Art 51(c)** (DPSP) directs the State to foster respect for international law and treaty obligations.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT links treaty-implementation (**Art 253**) and the DPSP duty to respect international law (**Art 51(c)**) to the ratification-vs-force distinction.

PROVISIONS

Article 253, Article 51(c), UNCLOS 1982, BBNJ Agreement 2023

BODIES & CASES

United Nations, UNCLOS regime

Common Error: Confusing the EEZ (within national jurisdiction) with the high seas — BBNJ applies only BEYOND the EEZ.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- CSE** (Centre for Science and Environment) is a Delhi-based think tank led historically by Anil Agarwal/Sunita Narain.
- The **Ramsar Convention (1971)** protects wetlands of international importance; India joined in 1982.
- The **NGT Act 2010** created a specialised green tribunal for speedy environmental adjudication.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the environmental-principle stack — Absolute Liability, Precautionary Principle, Polluter Pays and Public Trust — usually via MC Mehta and Vellore Citizens.

PROVISIONS

Article 48A, Article 51A(g), National Green Tribunal Act 2010

BODIES & CASES

Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), MC Mehta v UoI (1987), Vellore Citizens (1996), Ramsar Convention (1971)

Common Error: Equating Absolute Liability with Strict Liability — MC Mehta's rule has NO exceptions (unlike Rylands v Fletcher).

Kuno Setback: Four Cheetah Cubs Die, Project Cheetah at a Crossroads



Four cubs of the Botswana-origin cheetah **KGP12** were found dead at **Kuno National Park (MP)**, taking Project Cheetah's toll to **13 mortalities** since the September 2022 translocation. A nearby lion population is suspected, though officials say overall mortality stays below the **IUCN 50% protocol threshold**. India is the first country to reintroduce cheetahs after the species was declared **extinct here in 1952**.

QUICK FACTS

- 4 cubs** died; total Project Cheetah mortalities now **13** since Sept 2022.
- Cheetahs sourced from **Namibia (2022)** and **South Africa (2023)**.
- World's first **inter-continental large-carnivore translocation**.
- The **Asiatic cheetah** survives only in Iran (~12 left).

MUST KNOW

- The cheetah was declared **extinct in India in 1952**; last seen in present-day Chhattisgarh.
- IUCN Red List: cheetah is '**Vulnerable**' globally but '**Critically Endangered**' in Asia.
- Cheetahs are **Schedule I** under the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 — the highest protection tier.
- Kuno is in **Madhya Pradesh**, the 'Cheetah State'.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- CITES Appendix I** bans international commercial trade in cheetahs.
- T N Godavarman v UoI (1996)** gave 'forest' its broad dictionary meaning and created continuing-mandamus forest governance.
- The **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1992)** was adopted at the Rio Earth Summit.

State of India's Environment 2026: Seven of Nine Planetary Boundaries Breached



The **CSE's State of India's Environment (SoIE) 2026** reported that **7 of 9 planetary boundaries** have been breached. India recorded **extreme weather on 99% of days in 2025**, causing **4,419 deaths**. On the positive side, India's **Ramsar sites** grew from 26 (2014) to **98 (2026)**, though forest cover stands at **25.17%** against the National Forest Policy 1988 target of **33%**.

QUICK FACTS

- 7 of 9 planetary boundaries** now breached, per SoIE 2026.
- Extreme weather on **99% of days** in India in 2025; **4,419 deaths**.
- Ramsar sites**: 26 (2014) → **98 (2026)** — the world's largest network in Asia.
- Forest cover **25.17%** vs the **33%** National Forest Policy 1988 target.

MUST KNOW

- MC Mehta v UoI (1987)** established **Absolute Liability** (no exceptions) in the Oleum Gas leak case.
- Vellore Citizens (1996)** imported the **Precautionary Principle** and **Polluter Pays** into Indian law.
- The **Public Trust Doctrine** holds the State a trustee of natural resources (MC Mehta / Kamal Nath).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests Schedule-I status under WPA 1972, IUCN categories, and the extinct-1952 fact around Project Cheetah.

PROVISIONS

Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 (Schedule I), Forest Conservation Act 1980, Indian Forest Act 1927

BODIES & CASES

Kuno National Park, IUCN Red List, CITES, T N Godavarman v UoI (1996), CBD (1992)

Common Error: Saying African and Asiatic cheetahs are the same population — Project Cheetah used AFRICAN cheetahs; the Asiatic subspecies survives only in Iran.

Article 244 (Fifth Schedule), Forest Rights Act 2006, Forest Conservation Act 1980, PESA Act 1996, CAMPA Act 2016

BODIES & CASES

Forest Advisory Committee, Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan

Common Error: Believing compensatory afforestation legally cancels the ecological harm — it does not compensate biodiversity or tribal livelihood loss.

Hasdeo Arand: 4.48 Lakh Trees vs Tribal Forest Rights

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

RVUNL sought Forest Advisory Committee clearance to fell **4.48 lakh trees** in the **Hasdeo Arand** forest (Surguja, Chhattisgarh) for the **Parsa coal block** expansion. Hasdeo is India's densest coal-bearing, biodiversity-rich forest, home to **Schedule-I species** (elephants, leopards, sloth bears). The **Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan** and tribal communities have protested for over three years.

QUICK FACTS

- **4.48 lakh trees** proposed for felling for the Parsa coal block.
- Clearance sought from the **Forest Advisory Committee (FAC)** under the FCA 1980.
- Hasdeo hosts **Schedule-I** wildlife — elephants, leopards, sloth bears.
- Applicant is **RVUNL** (Rajasthan Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd).

MUST KNOW

- The **Forest Rights Act 2006** requires **Gram Sabha consent** before diverting forest land.
- **PESA 1996** extends self-governance to Fifth Schedule (tribal) areas — Hasdeo lies in such an area.
- **Compensatory afforestation** (planting elsewhere) does NOT restore lost biodiversity, micro-climate or livelihoods.
- The **CAMPA Act 2016** governs how afforestation funds are collected and spent.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Fifth Schedule (Art 244)** governs administration of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes.
- The **Forest (Conservation) Act 1980** requires Central clearance to divert forest land for non-forest use.
- Coal-bearing land can be acquired under the **Coal Bearing Areas Act 1957**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT links Gram Sabha consent (FRA 2006 + PESA) and Fifth Schedule protection to the forest-diversion clearance process under FCA 1980.

PROVISIONS

Rs 37,500-Crore Push for Surface Coal Gasification



The Union Cabinet cleared the **Scheme for Promotion of Surface Coal Gasification** at **Rs 37,500 crore**, targeting **100 MT of coal gasification by 2030** across 25 projects (12 syngas + 13 downstream). It aims to cut **LNG and urea import** dependence and support the **Net Zero by 2070** pledge made at COP-26 Glasgow, while raising the coal-vs-clean-energy debate.

QUICK FACTS

- Outlay **Rs 37,500 crore**; target **100 MT coal gasification by 2030**.
- **25 projects** — 12 syngas + 13 downstream.
- Aims to reduce **LNG and urea import** dependence.
- Supports India's **Net Zero by 2070** (announced at COP-26, Glasgow).

MUST KNOW

- Coal is on the **State List (Entry 23)**, but the Union regulates it via **Entry 54, List I** (mines of national interest).
- The **Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act 2015** reopened commercial mining after the **Coalgate** cancellation.
- India's **2070 Net Zero** is not legally binding under the Paris Agreement's bottom-up NDC design.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Syngas** (synthesis gas) from coal can substitute imported natural gas for fertiliser/chemicals.
- The **MMDR Act 1957** is the parent statute for mines and minerals.
- **Manohar Lal Sharma v UoI (2014)** cancelled 214 coal-block allocations in the Coalgate case.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests coal's List entries (State Entry 23 vs Union Entry 54) and the Coalgate cancellation that led to the CMSP Act 2015.

PROVISIONS

Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act 2015, MMDR Act 1957, Coal Bearing Areas Act 1957, Environment Protection Act 1986

BODIES & CASES

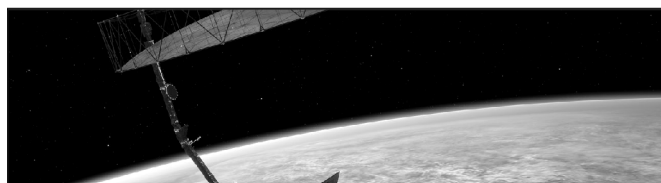
Union Cabinet, UNFCCC / Paris Agreement (2015), Manohar Lal Sharma v UoI (2014)

Common Error: Calling Net Zero 2070 a binding treaty target — NDCs are 'nationally determined' effort pledges, not enforceable cuts.

SECTION 06 / 11

SCIENCE, TECH & HEALTH

GalaxEye 'Drishti': World's First Private OptoSAR Satellite



Bengaluru-based, IIT Madras-incubated startup **GalaxEye** launched its '**Drishti**' satellite on 3 May 2026 aboard a **SpaceX Falcon 9** from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California, as a payload on the Korean **CAS500-2** mission. Drishti is claimed to be the world's first satellite fusing **optical** and **Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR)** imaging on one platform — branded '**OptoSAR**' — letting it image through clouds and darkness while ground-truthing via optical sensors.

QUICK FACTS

- Launched **3 May 2026** on **SpaceX Falcon 9** from **Vandenberg Space Force Base**, California.
- World's first **OptoSAR** platform — combines **optical + SAR** imaging simultaneously.
- **SAR** uses microwave radar, so it works through **clouds, smoke and at night**; optical needs daylight/clear sky.
- Built by **GalaxEye**, an **IIT Madras-incubated** deep-tech startup.
- Congratulated by **PM Modi**, **VP Radhakrishnan** and **EAM Jaishankar**.

MUST KNOW

- **SAR** = all-weather, day-night radar imaging; **optical** = passive, sunlight-dependent — Drishti's novelty is doing both together.
- Private space launches still make **India internationally liable** as the 'launching state' — hence **IN-SPACe** authorisation is mandatory.
- **IN-SPACe** (2020) is the single-window promoter/regulator for private space activity; **ISRO** remains the operational agency.
- Distinguish agencies: **NSIL** (commercial arm), **IN-SPACe** (authoriser/regulator), **ISRO** (R&D/launch).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **IN-SPACe** HQ: Ahmedabad; **ISRO** HQ: Bengaluru (founded 1969).
- **Indian Space Policy 2023** formally opened space to private non-governmental entities (NGEs).
- SAR heritage in India: ISRO's **RISAT** series and the joint ISRO-NASA **NISAR** mission.
- Vandenberg is a **US Space Force** base used mainly for polar/Sun-synchronous launches.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests why a purely private launch still triggers India's state responsibility: under the **Liability Convention 1972** the 'launching state' is liable for damage, which is the constitutional/treaty basis for compulsory **IN-SPACe** authorisation.

PROVISIONS

Article 73, Outer Space Treaty 1967, Liability Convention 1972, Indian Space Policy 2023, Telecommunications Act 2023

BODIES & CASES

IN-SPACe (2020), **ISRO** (1969), **NewSpace India Ltd (NSIL)**, **GalaxEye**

*Common Error: Assuming a private company bears international liability — under the OST/Liability Convention it is the **State** (India) that is internationally liable, not the private operator.*

Axiom-4: Shubhanshu Shukla Becomes First Indian at the ISS



IAF Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla completed **Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4)** to the **International Space Station** aboard a **SpaceX Crew Dragon**, becoming the **first Indian to visit the ISS** and only the **second Indian in space** after **Rakesh Sharma** (1984, Soyuz T-11, Salyut-7). The roughly **18-day** flight logged about **282 orbits** and ran microgravity experiments feeding directly into India's **Gaganyaan** human-spaceflight programme.

QUICK FACTS

- **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla (IAF)** — first Indian aboard the **ISS**.
- Flew on the **Axiom-4** commercial mission via **SpaceX Crew Dragon**.
- Mission span **~18 days, ~282 orbits**; microgravity experiments for **Gaganyaan**.
- Second Indian in space after **Rakesh Sharma (1984)**, who flew on a Soviet **Soyuz T-11** to **Salyut-7**.
- Axiom Space runs private astronaut missions to the ISS in partnership with **NASA**.

MUST KNOW

- **Gaganyaan** is ISRO's crewed mission; success would make India the **4th country** with independent human spaceflight after **USSR/Russia, USA** and **China**.
- China's first taikonaut was **Yang Liwei** (2003, **Shenzhou-5**) — a common comparison point.
- Rakesh Sharma's famous line 'Saare Jahan Se Achha' is frequently quoted in GK papers.
- Distinguish 'first Indian in space' (Rakesh Sharma) from 'first Indian at the ISS' (Shukla).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **ISRO** founded **1969**; Gaganyaan launch vehicle is the human-rated **LVM3 (HLVM3)**.
- The **ISS** orbits at **~400 km**; partners include **NASA, Roscosmos, ESA, JAXA** and **CSA**.
- India's four Gaganyaan astronaut-designates were drawn from the **IAF**.
- **Kalpana Chawla** and **Sunita Williams** flew as US astronauts (Indian-origin), distinct from Indian-citizen spaceflights.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Human spaceflight sits under India's obligation to 'foster respect for international law' (**Art 51(c)**) and the **Outer Space Treaty 1967** principle that outer space is the province of all mankind.

PROVISIONS

Article 51(c), Outer Space Treaty 1967

BODIES & CASES

ISRO (1969), **Axiom Space**, **NASA**, **Gaganyaan** programme

Common Error: Calling Shukla the 'first Indian in space' — that is **Rakesh Sharma (1984)**; Shukla is the first Indian at the ISS.

India Semiconductor Mission 2.0: 12 New Fabs Cleared



The Union Cabinet approved **12 semiconductor plants** under **India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) 2.0**, with over **Rs 76,000 crore** of investment. Anchors include **Tata Electronics** (Dholera fab), the **HCL-Foxconn JV** (Uttar Pradesh) and **Micron** (Sanand, Gujarat ATMP). On 15 May 2026 the Cabinet added two more units — a **Mini/Micro-LED on GaN** plant and a packaging unit — while India's first **Advanced 3D Packaging Unit** broke ground in Odisha on 5 May. Technology is scaling from **110nm to 28nm**.

QUICK FACTS

- **12 fabs** approved under **ISM 2.0**; total investment **Rs 76,000+ crore**.
- Key projects: **Tata Electronics** (Dholera), **HCL-Foxconn** (UP), **Micron** (Sanand ATMP, Gujarat).
- Cumulative ISM commitments now cross **Rs 3,900 crore** (Budget 2026-27 added Rs 1,000 cr).
- India targets **\$65 billion** chip production by **2032**; currently imports **~\$24 billion/yr**.
- Node scaling from **110nm → 28nm**; first **3D packaging unit** broke ground in **Odisha** (5 May 2026).

MUST KNOW

- **ATMP** = Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging — the back-end stage where Micron's Sanand plant operates.
- **'Fab'** = fabrication (front-end wafer manufacturing); packaging/testing is back-end — CLAT-style GK loves this distinction.
- ISM is anchored by the **MeitY**; states (TN, Gujarat, UP) have their own semiconductor SOPs.
- Semiconductors are on the **Union List** via industry/technology entries — centre-led policy under **Article 246**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **ISM** launched 2021 with a \$10 bn incentive outlay; nodal ministry **MeitY**.
- 'nm' (nanometre) denotes transistor/process node — smaller nm = denser, more advanced chips.
- Gujarat's **Dholera** is a greenfield smart city / special investment region for the Tata fab.
- **GaN** (Gallium Nitride) is a wide-bandgap semiconductor used for LEDs and power electronics.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT frames this as centre-state economic federalism: chip policy is centrally driven (**Art 246** Union competence), while states compete with incentive SOPs — testing legislative-list and cooperative-federalism understanding.

PROVISIONS

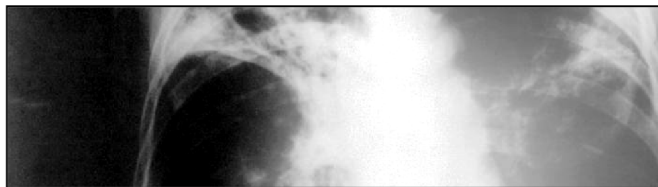
Article 246, Article 73

BODIES & CASES

India Semiconductor Mission / MeitY, Tata Electronics, Micron Technology, HCL-Foxconn JV

Common Error: Confusing a 'fab' (front-end wafer fabrication) with 'ATMP/packaging' (back-end) — Micron's Sanand plant is packaging/testing, not a wafer fab.

Delhi Detects 12,000+ TB Cases in a Six-Week Drive



Between **24 March and 4 May 2026**, Delhi detected over **12,000 TB cases** through an intensive **Ayushman Arogya Mandir 2.0** screening drive. Health teams ran **224 camps** in slums, JJ colonies, homeless shelters, de-addiction centres and old-age homes, screening **71,603 people** with **handheld portable X-ray** machines; **1,333** were sputum-positive (~11%). India carries about **27% of the global TB burden**, and the national elimination target has been revised to **2030**.

QUICK FACTS

- Over **12,000 TB cases** detected in Delhi, **24 Mar-4 May 2026**.
- **224 camps**; **71,603** screened via **handheld portable X-ray**; **1,333** sputum-positive (11%).
- Run under **Ayushman Arogya Mandir 2.0** (rebranded Health & Wellness Centres).
- India bears **~27%** of the world's TB burden — the highest of any country.
- National elimination target moved from **2025 to 2030**.

MUST KNOW

- **Elimination** (<1 case per million population) is NOT **eradication** (zero cases globally) — India aims to **eliminate** TB, not eradicate it.
- TB is caused by **Mycobacterium tuberculosis**; the flagship programme is the **National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP)**.
- WHO's global framework is the **End TB Strategy**; the world target is 2030 (SDG-3).
- The **Epidemic Diseases Act 1897** and public-health powers link to Art 21 and Art 47 duties.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **World TB Day** is **24 March**; 2026 drive began on that date.
- NTEP was formerly the **Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP)**, renamed in 2020.
- **Ni-kshay** is India's TB patient tracking portal; **Ni-kshay Mitra** supports nutrition.
- TB elimination is a **SDG-3** health target (Good Health and Well-being).

CLAT / Legal Lens

Public-health drives engage the **right to health under Art 21** and the **Directive Principle (Art 47)** duty to raise public health — a favourite for DPSP-meets-fundamental-rights questions.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 47, Epidemic Diseases Act 1897, National Health Policy 2017

BODIES & CASES

National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP), WHO End TB Strategy, Ayushman Arogya Mandir

Common Error: Writing that India wants to 'eradicate' TB by 2030 — the correct word is **eliminate** (<1 per million); eradication means global zero.

MoRTH, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, National Policy on Biofuels 2018

Common Error: Confusing **ethanol blending** with **biodiesel** — different feedstocks and policy frames; also, 'E20' means 20% ethanol, not 20% petrol.

E85/E100 Ethanol Blends Notified for a Flex-Fuel Future



The **Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH)** issued a draft notification on **3 May 2026** recognising **85% (E85)** and **100% (E100)** ethanol-blended petrol as automotive fuels under the **Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989** — the next step beyond the **E20** (20% ethanol) mandate already in force from **April 2026**. **Flex-fuel vehicles** can run on E85/E100, though compatibility for post-April-2023 fleets is partial. At **~Rs 60.73/litre**, ethanol undercuts petrol and cuts crude imports.

QUICK FACTS

- **MoRTH** draft (3 May 2026) recognises **E85 and E100** under the **CMVR 1989**.
- Builds on the **E20** mandate live since **April 2026**.
- **Flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs)** can burn variable ethanol-petrol blends.
- Ethanol **~Rs 60.73/litre** vs petrol **~Rs 89/l** ex-refinery — cuts crude import bill.
- **E20** was reached about **5 years ahead** of the original schedule.

MUST KNOW

- **E20** = 20% ethanol + 80% petrol; the number after 'E' is the ethanol percentage.
- Ethanol blending is part of the **Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme** under the **National Policy on Biofuels 2018**.
- Ethanol is a **biofuel** from sugarcane/grain — do NOT confuse it with **biodiesel** (from vegetable oils/animal fats).
- Blending advances energy security (**Art 48A/51A(g)** environment duties) and farmer income.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The EBP Programme is run by the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas**, while vehicle rules sit with **MoRTH**.
- India imports over **85%** of its crude oil — blending reduces this dependence.
- Feedstocks: **sugarcane, C-heavy/B-heavy molasses, maize and damaged foodgrains**.
- **Brazil** is the global flex-fuel/ethanol pioneer (Proálcool programme).

CLAT / Legal Lens

Links the **DPSP/fundamental duty to protect the environment (Art 48A, 51A(g))** with subordinate legislation — how the **CMVR 1989** under the **Motor Vehicles Act 1988** operationalises fuel-emission policy.

PROVISIONS

Article 48A, Article 51A(g), Article 246, Motor Vehicles Act 1988, Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989, Environment (Protection) Act 1986

BODIES & CASES

SECTION 07 / 11

DEFENCE & SECURITY

Operation Sindoor at One Year — China's 'Live-Lab' Backing of Pakistan



A year after **Operation Sindoor** (May 7, 2025) — India's strikes on **nine terror sites** in Pakistan and PoK following the **Pahalgam attack** (Apr 22, 2025; 26 killed) — an **AVIC** engineer publicly confirmed **China gave Pakistan on-site military support**, treating the four-day conflict as a 'live lab'. Beijing synchronised **PLA** technical inputs and **PAF radar** feeds at the **DGMO** level and plans to sell Pakistan the **J-35** stealth jet.

QUICK FACTS

- Operation Sindoor: **May 7, 2025**, struck **9 terror targets** in Pakistan + PoK after the Pahalgam attack.
- India signed **Rs 30,000+ crore** in fast-track defence contracts; restructuring around **loitering munitions, S-400, BrahMos, Hammer** and standoff weapons.
- **UNSC 1267 Sanctions Committee** designated **The Resistance Front (TRF)**, a Lashkar-e-Taiba proxy.
- China's **AVIC** engineer Zhang Yujia confirmed active support; Pakistan flew **J-10CE** jets against Indian **BrahMos-A** and **SCALP-EG** strikes.
- Disclosure confirms China's plan to sell the **J-35** stealth fighter to Pakistan.

MUST KNOW

- The three 'new normals' of Sindoor: India **will respond**; a **nuclear overhang** won't deter conventional response; a **ceasefire need not be pre-negotiated**.
- **Co-belligerency** — China's active support can strip its **neutral-power** status under **Hague Convention V (1907)**.
- India invoked the inherent right of **self-defence under Article 51 of the UN Charter** against non-state terror actors.
- **TRF** is a **LeT** proxy; the 1267 listing is UN-level, distinct from India's UAPA banning.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **AVIC** = Aviation Industry Corporation of China; developer of Chengdu (J-10/J-20) platforms.
- **S-400 Triumf** is a Russian long-range SAM system; **BrahMos** is an Indo-Russian supersonic cruise missile.
- **Simla Agreement 1972** and **Lahore Declaration 1999** frame India-Pakistan bilateralism.
- The **UNSC 1267 Committee** maintains the **ISIL (Da'esh)** & **Al-Qaeda** sanctions list.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT loves layering IR with Public International Law — link 'co-belligerency' to neutrality under Hague V and the Article 51 self-defence claim for the full IHL combo.

PROVISIONS

Article 51 UN Charter (self-defence), Article 2(4) UN Charter, Hague Convention V 1907, Geneva Conventions Additional Protocol I 1977, UAPA 1967, AFSPA 1958, Simla Agreement 1972

BODIES & CASES

UNSC 1267 Sanctions Committee, The Resistance Front (TRF), AVIC (China), Strategic Forces Command

Common Error: Confusing Article 51 (right of self-defence) with Article 51 of the Indian Constitution (promotion of international peace) — the story is about the UN Charter, not the DPSP.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT pairs data-based GK (rank, %, figures) with the constitutional basis — defence as a Union subject and the emergency-power link.

PROVISIONS

Article 246, Seventh Schedule List I Entry 1, Article 352, DAP 2020

BODIES & CASES

SIPRI (Stockholm), DRDO, HAL

Common Error: Ranking order — India is 5th, NOT 3rd or 4th; and China is 2nd (not Russia). Also don't confuse 'spending' rank with 'arms import' rank.

SIPRI 2026 — India Is the World's 5th-Largest Military Spender



The **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** reported global military spending hit a record **\$2.72 trillion**. India ranked **5th at \$92.1 billion**, an **8.9% year-on-year jump** — its steepest single-year rise in a decade, tied to the **Operation Sindoor** aftermath. The top five were the USA, China, Russia, Saudi Arabia and India.

QUICK FACTS

- Global military spending: record **\$2.72 trillion**.
- Top 5: **USA \$997bn → China \$314bn → Russia \$149bn → Saudi Arabia \$96bn → India \$92.1bn**.
- India's rise: **+8.9% YoY** — highest single-year jump in a decade.
- Domestic defence production: **Rs 1.27 lakh crore** (FY24); exports **Rs 21,083 crore**.
- Export target: **Rs 50,000 crore by 2029**.

MUST KNOW

- SIPRI** is headquartered in **Stockholm, Sweden** — remember the acronym expansion and its arms-transfer database.
- Defence is a **Union subject: List I, Entry 1** of the Seventh Schedule; Parliament alone legislates.
- India remains among the world's largest arms **importers** despite the spending rank — spending ≠ self-reliance.
- DAP 2020** (Defence Acquisition Procedure) governs capital procurement and 'Make in India' preference.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- DRDO** established **1958**; **HAL** (Hindustan Aeronautics) is India's premier aerospace PSU.
- Seventh Schedule **List I Entry 1** = 'Defence of India'; Entry 2 = armed forces.
- Article 352** permits a National Emergency on grounds including 'war' and 'external aggression'.
- SIPRI also publishes the annual **Yearbook** on armaments and disarmament.

NCB Operation White Strike — Rs 1,745 Crore Cocaine Bust



The **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)** seized **349 kg of cocaine** worth **Rs 1,745 crore** in Mumbai's Kalamoli-Bhiwandi corridor — the **largest cocaine bust of 2026**. The drugs were concealed in **imported industrial machinery from Ecuador**. **Operation White Strike** traced a Latin-America-to-India route routed through a **Dubai trans-shipment** hub.

QUICK FACTS

- Seizure: **349 kg cocaine**, value **Rs 1,745 crore** — 2026's biggest.
- Concealed in **industrial machinery imported from Ecuador**.
- Route: Latin America → **Dubai** trans-shipment → Mumbai.
- Invoked **NDPS Act 1985 Sections 8 and 27A**; **Section 37** bars bail without a 'reasonable grounds' finding.
- Customs Act 1962** and **PMLA 2002** also in play for smuggling and laundering.

MUST KNOW

- Section 37 NDPS** makes offences **cognizable and non-bailable**; the 'reasonable grounds' bar effectively **reverses the bail presumption**.
- The court must be satisfied the accused is **not guilty** AND unlikely to reoffend before granting bail.
- State of Punjab v Baldev Singh (1999)** laid down safeguards for search and seizure under NDPS.
- NCB** is the nodal drug-enforcement agency under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- NDPS Act 1985** = Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act; NCB was set up in **1986**.
- Section 27A** punishes financing illicit traffic and harbouring offenders.
- PMLA 2002** is enforced by the **Enforcement Directorate (ED)**.
- Cocaine is derived from the **coca plant**, largely sourced from the Andean region (Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests reverse-onus / stringent bail clauses (NDPS §37, UAPA, PMLA) as exceptions to the 'bail is the rule' principle.

PROVISIONS

NDPS Act 1985 Section 8, NDPS Act 1985 Section 27A, NDPS Act 1985 Section 37, Customs Act 1962, PMLA 2002

BODIES & CASES

Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), State of Punjab v Baldev Singh (1999), Enforcement Directorate

Common Error: Section 37 does not deny bail outright — it sets twin conditions the accused must satisfy; students wrongly say 'no bail is possible under NDPS'.

DRDO Runs a Record 1,200-Second Scramjet Combustor Test



On **May 9, 2026**, DRDO's Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad, successfully ground-tested an **active-cooled scramjet combustor for 1,200 seconds** — its longest run ever, up from a **700-second** January test. The **Scramjet Connect Pipe Test (SCPT)** facility validated the design, a key step toward **hypersonic cruise missiles**.

QUICK FACTS

- **1,200-second** active-cooled scramjet combustor ground test — DRDO's longest.
- Conducted by **DRDL, Hyderabad** at the **Scramjet Connect Pipe Test (SCPT)** facility.
- Follows a **700-second** test in January 2026.
- A **scramjet** is a supersonic-combustion ramjet — it burns fuel in a supersonic airflow.
- Enables sustained **hypersonic (Mach 5+)** airbreathing propulsion.

MUST KNOW

- **Hypersonic = Mach 5 or faster**; scramjets breathe atmospheric oxygen so they carry no oxidiser.
- **Hypersonic glide vehicles** are **manoeuvrable** — unlike ballistic missiles they don't follow a fixed arc.
- India joined the **MTCR (Missile Technology Control Regime)** in **2016**.
- The **Strategic Forces Command (2003)** manages India's nuclear-capable missiles.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **DRDO** founded **1958**; headquartered in **New Delhi**, under the Ministry of Defence.
- India earlier flight-tested the **HSTDV** (Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle) in 2020.
- **Ramjet vs Scramjet**: ramjet decelerates air to subsonic before combustion; scramjet keeps it supersonic.
- **MTCR** is a voluntary export-control regime, not a treaty.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Sci-tech GK questions test the hypersonic vs ballistic distinction and India's membership of export-control regimes (MTCR, Wassenaar, Australia Group).

PROVISIONS

Atomic Energy Act 1962, MTCR (India joined 2016)

BODIES & CASES

DRDO / DRDL Hyderabad, Strategic Forces Command, MTCR

Common Error: Hypersonic ≠ ICBM. ICBMs also travel at Mach 20+ but follow a predictable ballistic arc; hypersonic glide vehicles are manoeuvrable and low-altitude.

India Builds an 'Indian Palantir' — Homegrown AI for Defence

DEFENCE & SECURITY

After Western militaries used **Palantir-style AI** in recent conflicts, India's **Ministry of Defence** opened talks with **SarvamAI** and **BharatGen** — Indian **foundation-model** developers — to embed domestic AI into **defence intelligence, battlefield decision-making and reconnaissance**. The move aligns with the **IndiaAI Mission** and 'self-reliance' in strategic tech.

QUICK FACTS

- MoD in talks with **SarvamAI** and **BharatGen** to build an 'Indian Palantir'.
- Use cases: **defence intelligence, battlefield decision-making, reconnaissance**.
- **SarvamAI** and **BharatGen** are Indian **foundation-model** (LLM) developers.
- Backed by the **IndiaAI Mission** (Cabinet-approved March 2024).
- **Palantir** is a US data-analytics firm used in Western military targeting.

MUST KNOW

- **Foundation models** (LLMs, diffusion models) are general-purpose; **narrow AI** does one task; neither is **AGI**.
- The **Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023** governs personal-data processing, with wide exemptions for state security.
- **IT Act 2000 §69** empowers government interception/monitoring of information.
- Military AI raises IHL '**human-in-the-loop**' and accountability concerns for autonomous weapons.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **IndiaAI Mission** was approved with an outlay of about **Rs 10,300+ crore**.
- The **EU AI Act** is the world's first comprehensive AI law, using a risk-tiered approach.
- **DPDP Act 2023** creates the **Data Protection Board of India**.
- '**LAWS**' = Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems, debated at the UN CCW.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT links emerging-tech policy to the DPDP Act and IT Act surveillance powers, and to IHL debates on autonomous weapons.

PROVISIONS

IT Act 2000 §69, Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023, IndiaAI Mission 2024, EU AI Act (comparative)

BODIES & CASES

Ministry of Defence, SarvamAI, BharatGen, Data Protection Board of India

Common Error: A 'foundation model' is not 'AGI' and not 'narrow AI' — foundation models are broad, general-purpose systems; AGI (human-level general intelligence) does not yet exist.

Red Fort Blast — NIA Chargesheets 10, Flags AGuH Link



The **National Investigation Agency (NIA)** filed a **7,500-page chargesheet** in the **Patiala House special court** against **10 accused** in the Red Fort blast case. It alleges a **Faridabad lab** manufactured **TATP** explosive and **drone-borne IEDs** with links to **Al-Falah University**, and points to the **Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AGuH/AQIS)** module.

QUICK FACTS

- NIA filed a **7,500-page chargesheet** against **10 accused** at Patiala House court.
- Charges under **UAPA 1967 §§16-23**, **BNS**, **Arms Act 1959**, **Explosive Substances Act 1908** and **POCSO**.
- A **Faridabad lab** allegedly made **TATP** and **drone-borne IEDs**.
- Links traced to **Al-Falah University**.
- Module tied to **AGuH** — an Al-Qaeda subcontinent affiliate **banned in 2018**.

MUST KNOW

- AGuH ≠ JeM ≠ LeT:** AGuH is the Al-Qaeda subcontinent affiliate; JeM and LeT are separate Pakistan-based outfits.
- UAPA §§16-23** cover the terrorist act, funding, conspiracy and harbouring offences.
- The **NIA (est. 2008)** can investigate scheduled offences across states without state consent.
- BNS** (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita) 2023 replaced the IPC from July 2024.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- TATP** (triacetone triperoxide) is a peroxide-based improvised explosive, hard to detect.
- The **Red Fort** is a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Delhi built by Shah Jahan.
- Explosive Substances Act 1908** predates independence and is still in force.
- POCSO 2012** = Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the NIA's special jurisdiction and the UAPA scheme; distinguishing banned outfits (LeT, JeM, AGuH, IM) is a recurring GK map.

PROVISIONS

UAPA 1967 §§16-23, Schedule I, BNS §§111-113, Arms Act 1959, Explosive Substances Act 1908, POCSO 2012

BODIES & CASES

National Investigation Agency (NIA), AGuH / AQIS, Patiala House special court

Common Error: Conflating AGuH (Al-Qaeda affiliate) with Jaish-e-Mohammed or Lashkar-e-Taiba — they are distinct organisations with

different origins and ban dates.

NIA Arrests Hizbul Narco-Terror Kingpin Extradited From Portugal

DEFENCE & SECURITY

The **NIA** arrested **Iqbal Singh 'Shera'**, a Punjab-origin **Hizbul Mujahideen** narco-terror kingpin, after his **extradition from Portugal** — the same treaty route used for **Abu Salem in 2005**. He allegedly funnelled **heroin proceeds via hawala** to Kashmir militants; an **Interpol Red Notice** was issued in June 2021. He faces **UAPA**, **NDPS** and **PMLA** charges.

QUICK FACTS

- Accused: **Iqbal Singh 'Shera'**, a **Hizbul Mujahideen** narco-terror operative.
- Extradited from Portugal** via the **India-Portugal Extradition Treaty 1989**.
- Allegedly routed **heroin money through hawala** to Kashmir militants.
- Interpol Red Notice** issued **June 2021**.
- Charged under **UAPA 1967**, **NDPS Act 1985 §27A** and **PMLA 2002**.

MUST KNOW

- Portugal does not extradite** where the offence carries the **death penalty or life without remission** — India gives assurances.
- In **Abu Salem v Union of India (2011)** the Supreme Court upheld honouring extradition assurances (the 'rule of specialty').
- Extradition Act 1962** governs India's extradition process.
- '**Narco-terrorism**' links drug trafficking proceeds to funding terror — hence combined UAPA + NDPS + PMLA charges.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Hizbul Mujahideen** is a Kashmir-focused militant outfit founded in 1989.
- An **Interpol Red Notice** is a request to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending extradition — not an international arrest warrant.
- Hawala** is an informal, undocumented value-transfer system.
- Abu Salem** was extradited from Portugal in 2005 in the 1993 Mumbai blasts case.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A classic extradition question — the 'rule of specialty', death-penalty assurances, and the Abu Salem precedent are examiner favourites.

PROVISIONS

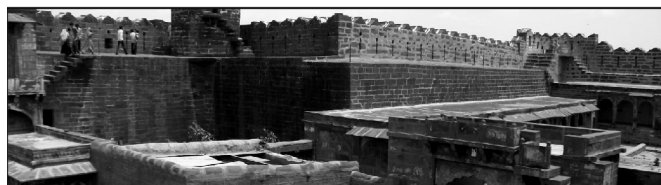
Extradition Act 1962, UAPA 1967 (§35 2019 Amendment), NDPS Act 1985 §27A, PMLA 2002, India-Portugal Extradition Treaty 1989

BODIES & CASES

NIA, Interpol, Abu Salem v Union of India (2011), Hizbul Mujahideen

Common Error: A **Red Notice** is **NOT** an arrest warrant and does not compel any country to act; and extradition to India can be conditioned on not imposing the death penalty.

National Technology Day — 28 Years Since Pokhran-II



India observes **National Technology Day** every **May 11**, marking three 1998 milestones: the **Pokhran-II 'Operation Shakti'** nuclear tests in Rajasthan (**3 devices on May 11, 2 on May 13**); the maiden flight of the indigenous **Hansa-3** light aircraft (NAL Bengaluru); and the successful test of the **Trishul** short-range missile. 2026 marks the **28th anniversary**.

QUICK FACTS

- **National Technology Day = May 11**, first observed in **1999**.
- **Pokhran-II / Operation Shakti: 3 devices May 11, 2 on May 13, 1998**, at Pokhran, Rajasthan.
- Same day: maiden flight of the **Hansa-3** aircraft (NAL Bengaluru).
- Also: successful **Trishul** short-range surface-to-air missile test.
- Then-PM **Atal Bihari Vajpayee** announced the tests; scientist **APJ Abdul Kalam** led the DRDO effort.

MUST KNOW

- India is a **de facto nuclear-weapons state** but NOT a 'nuclear-weapon state' under the **NPT** (only US, Russia, UK, France, China qualify).
- India has **not signed the NPT or CTBT**, calling them discriminatory.
- India follows a '**No First Use**' (NFU) nuclear doctrine (adopted 2003) with credible minimum deterrence.
- The **123 Agreement (Oct 2008)** and **IAEA safeguards (2008)** opened civil nuclear cooperation.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Pokhran-I (1974)** was codenamed '**Smiling Buddha**'; Pokhran-II (1998) was '**Operation Shakti**'.
- The **Atomic Energy Act 1962** governs India's nuclear programme; the **DAE** reports to the PM.
- The **US Hyde Act 2006** enabled the India-US civil nuclear deal.
- **Strategic Forces Command (2003)** operationally controls nuclear weapons.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests NPT/CTBT non-signatory status, NFU doctrine and the Pokhran I vs II codename/date distinction as static GK.

PROVISIONS

Atomic Energy Act 1962 §3, IAEA Safeguards 2008, 123 Agreement (Oct 2008), Hyde Act 2006 (US)

BODIES & CASES

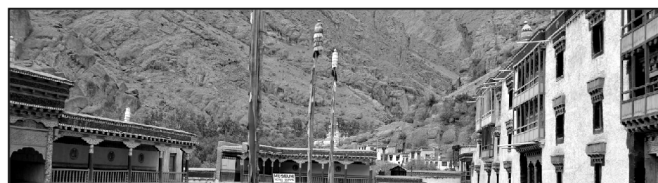
DRDO, Department of Atomic Energy, IAEA, Strategic Forces Command

Common Error: India is a *de facto* nuclear power but NOT an NPT 'nuclear-weapon state' — only the P5 hold that treaty status; and India is not an NPT/CTBT signatory.

SECTION 08 / 11

ART, CULTURE & HISTORY

Buddha Purnima 2026 — Tathagata Relics Exposed at Hemis, Ladakh



Buddha Purnima (Vesak) 2026 fell on **1 May**, marking the birth, enlightenment and **parinirvana** of Gautama Buddha on a single full-moon day. A **Sacred Exposition of Tathagata (holy) Relics** was inaugurated at **Hemis Monastery, Ladakh**, with relics drawn from the **Mulagandhakuti Vihara at Sarnath**, tied to the Dalai Lama's 90th-year felicitations.

QUICK FACTS

- Buddha was born at **Lumbini** (Nepal), attained enlightenment at **Bodh Gaya** (Bihar), gave his first sermon (**Dhammachakra Pravartana**) at **Sarnath**, and attained mahaparinirvana at **Kushinagar** (UP).
- **Vesak** is an international observance recognised by **UNGA Resolution 54/115 (1999)** — not just an Indian festival.
- The three main schools: **Theravada** (Sri Lanka, SE Asia), **Mahayana** (China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam) and **Vajrayana** (Ladakh, Bhutan, Tibet).
- **Hemis Monastery** is Ladakh's largest gompa, of the **Drukpa (Kagyu)** lineage; the relic exposition links Sarnath to the trans-Himalayan Buddhist belt.

MUST KNOW

- Sarnath's **Ashoka Lion Capital** is India's **State Emblem**; the **Dharma Chakra** from it sits on the national flag.
- Buddhism's **Four Noble Truths** and **Eightfold Path** were first preached at Sarnath.
- Bodh Gaya's **Mahabodhi Temple** is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** (inscribed 2002); Lumbini and Sanchi are also on the list.
- Buddha delivered his teachings largely in **Pali**, and the councils (Rajgir, Vaishali, Pataliputra, Kashmir) shaped the canon.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Sanchi Stupa** (Madhya Pradesh) was built by **Ashoka**; its gateways (toranas) are Buddhist art landmarks.
- The **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)**, founded 1861 under **Alexander Cunningham**, maintains Sarnath and Bodh Gaya.
- **Vesak** full moon also aligns with the Buddhist calendar year count; 2026 was cited as the 2569th year.
- Ladakh became a **Union Territory** (without legislature) on 31 October 2019 under the J&K Reorganisation Act 2019.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT pairs the religious-freedom cluster (Arts 25-26) with heritage protection (Art 49 DPSP + AMASR Act 1958) and static Buddhism geography. Relic diplomacy also touches cultural-property protection.

PROVISIONS

Article 25, Article 26, Article 29, Article 30, Article 49, Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958

BODIES & CASES

UNESCO World Heritage (Bodh Gaya, Lumbini, Sanchi), Archaeological Survey of India, UNGA Resolution 54/115 (1999)

Common Error: Students place the first sermon at Bodh Gaya — it was at **Sarnath**; enlightenment was at Bodh Gaya. Also, Lumbini is in **Nepal**, not India.

Common Error: Confusing the **Ghadar Party (1913, USA)** with the ship's 1914 voyage, or dating the Canadian apology wrongly — it came in **2016**, not at the centenary in 2014.

Komagata Maru 1914 — Racial Exclusion, Ghadar & the Freedom Struggle



The **Komagata Maru**, a Japanese steamship chartered by Sikh businessman **Gurdit Singh**, sailed from Hong Kong on **4 April 1914** and reached **Vancouver on 23 May 1914** with **376 passengers** (340 Sikhs, 24 Muslims, 12 Hindus). Canada denied entry under the **1908 'Continuous Journey Regulation'**, forcing the ship back. At **Budge Budge (Calcutta)** in Sept 1914 British police fired, killing about 20.

QUICK FACTS

- The **Continuous Journey Regulation, 1908** barred migrants who did not travel in one unbroken voyage from their country of origin — a device aimed squarely at Indians, who could only reach Canada via stop-overs.
- Of 376 aboard, only about two dozen (returning residents) were admitted; the rest were turned away after a two-month standoff.
- The episode fed directly into the **Ghadar movement** among the Indian diaspora on North America's west coast.
- Canadian PM **Justin Trudeau** issued a formal apology in the House of Commons in **May 2016**.

MUST KNOW

- Know **Gurdit Singh** by name — he chartered and led the voyage.
- The incident is a precursor in the debate on **racially discriminatory immigration/entry bans** under international law.
- The **Ghadar Party** was founded in **1913 (San Francisco)**; **Lala Har Dayal** and **Sohan Singh Bhakna** are associated leaders.
- British repression tightened via the **Defence of India Act 1915**, used against returning Ghadarites.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Budge Budge (Baj Baj) lies near **Calcutta** on the Hooghly; a memorial marks the firing.
- The **Ingress into India Ordinance 1914** was used to detain and restrict Komagata Maru returnees.
- The **Ghadar** paper was published from San Francisco in Urdu, Punjabi and other languages.
- The **Government of India Act 1919 (Montagu-Chelmsford)** followed the wartime repression era.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests this as both history (catalyst for Ghadar) and as an early example of **racially targeted entry laws** — a lens on equality and non-discrimination that later constitutional guarantees (Arts 14-15) repudiate.

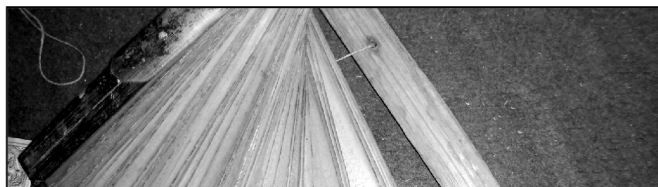
PROVISIONS

Continuous Journey Regulation 1908, Defence of India Act 1915, Ingress into India Ordinance 1914, Government of India Act 1919

BODIES & CASES

Ghadar Party (1913), Komagata Maru incident (1914)

Gyan Bharatam Mission — National Survey to Catalogue 1 Crore Manuscripts



The Union **Ministry of Culture** launched the **Gyan Bharatam Mission** (announced in the **Budget 2024-25**) for a **National Survey of Manuscripts**. A pilot ran in **Haryana** via the state Department of Archives, a mobile app went live, and the mission targets cataloguing **1 crore (10 million) manuscripts**. It builds on the **National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM), 2003** and the IGNCA repository.

QUICK FACTS

- Gyan Bharatam was announced in the **Union Budget 2024-25** and is run by the Ministry of Culture.
- Target: catalogue up to **1 crore manuscripts**; the NMM earlier estimated roughly **5 million (50 lakh)** locatable manuscripts.
- The pilot was conducted in **Haryana**; a dedicated **mobile app** supports field surveying.
- It extends the **National Mission for Manuscripts, set up in 2003** under the Ministry of Culture.

MUST KNOW

- The nodal cultural body is the **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)**, New Delhi.
- Manuscript protection links to **Article 49 (DPSP)** — duty of the State to protect monuments and objects of national importance — read with the **Fundamental Duty Art 51A(f)**.
- Relevant statutes: the **Antiquities and Art Treasures Act 1972** and the **Public Records Act 1993**.
- Courts read Art 49 with Art 51A(f) — e.g. the heritage-protection reasoning in the **M.C. Mehta (Taj Trapezium) case**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- India holds the world's largest manuscript collection — an estimated 10 million (on palm-leaf, birch bark, cloth, paper).
- The **AMASR Act 1958** governs monuments; the **Antiquities Act 1972** regulates antiquities and their export.
- IGNCA was established in **1987** in memory of Indira Gandhi.
- '**Manuscript**' (handwritten, over 75 years old, of scientific/historical/aesthetic value) is distinct from a 'record'.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT frames Art 49 as a **non-justiciable DPSP** that nonetheless reinforces the Fundamental Duty in Art 51A(f); the two are read together in heritage-protection jurisprudence.

PROVISIONS

Article 49, Article 51A(f), AMASR Act 1958, Antiquities and Art Treasures Act 1972, Public Records Act 1993

BODIES & CASES

Ministry of Culture, National Mission for Manuscripts (2003), IGNCA, M.C. Mehta v Union of India (Taj Trapezium)

Common Error: Calling Gyan Bharatam a brand-new body — it **extends the 2003 NMM**. Also, Art 49 is a **DPSP (non-justiciable)**, not a

fundamental right.

Somnath Amrut Mahotsav — 75 Years Since the Temple's Reconstruction



On **11 May 2026** the PM led the **Somnath Amrut Mahotsav** at the **Somnath temple, Veraval (Gujarat)**, marking **75 years** since its reconstruction — the temple was consecrated on **11 May 1951** by first President **Dr Rajendra Prasad**. The event invoked **Sardar Patel's** restoration vow, the **Pokhran nuclear tests (11 May 1998)** and the 1842 'gates of Somnath' episode of Lord Ellenborough.

QUICK FACTS

- Somnath was rebuilt post-Independence on the initiative of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**; the **Somnath Trust** was formed in **1949**.
- It was consecrated on **11 May 1951** by President **Rajendra Prasad** (Nehru had reservations about state involvement).
- 11 May is also **National Technology Day**, marking the **Pokhran-II** tests of 1998.
- In **1842** Governor-General **Lord Ellenborough** issued the 'Proclamation of the Gates', claiming to bring back Somnath's gates from Ghazni — the gates were later found to be of Egyptian/Arab origin, not Indian.

MUST KNOW

- Somnath is one of the **twelve Jyotirlinga** shrines of Shiva and is called the '**eternal shrine**'.
- It is on the **Arabian Sea** coast at **Prabhas Patan, Veraval**, in Gujarat's Gir Somnath district.
- The temple was famously raided by **Mahmud of Ghazni** in **1025-26 CE**.
- K.M. Munshi (author, minister) documented and championed the reconstruction.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act 1991** freezes the religious character of places of worship as on **15 August 1947**, exempting the Ayodhya dispute.
- In **M. Siddiq v Mahant Suresh Das (2019, Ayodhya)** the SC upheld the 1991 Act's constitutional validity.
- Somnath's reconstruction predates the 1991 Act and was a state-adjacent temple-trust project.
- National Technology Day was instituted in **1999** after Pokhran-II (Operation Shakti, 1998).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT uses Somnath to anchor the **Places of Worship Act 1991** — its §4 freezes religious character as on 15-08-1947, with Ayodhya carved out as an express exception.

PROVISIONS

Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act 1991 §3, §4, Government of India Act 1935, Indian Independence Act 1947

BODIES & CASES

Somnath Temple Trust (1949), M. Siddiq v Mahant Suresh Das (2019)

Common Error: Assuming the 1991 Act applies to Somnath's rebuild — the reconstruction was in **1951**, long before the Act, and the Act's cut-off is **15 August 1947**. Also, the 'gates of Somnath' were **NOT** genuinely Indian.

1857 Revolt @ 169 — From Company Rule to the Crown



On **10 May 1857**, sepoys at **Meerut** triggered the revolt that shook British India — often called the **First War of Independence**. Causes converged: the **Doctrine of Lapse**, the **greased-cartridge** crisis, economic exploitation and missionary zeal. Within 14 months the **Government of India Act 1858** abolished East India Company rule, and **Queen Victoria's Proclamation of 1 November 1858** promised religious non-interference and equality of opportunity in public services.

QUICK FACTS

- The revolt began at **Meerut** on **10 May 1857** and spread to Delhi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Jhansi and Bareilly.
- The **Government of India Act 1858** ended **East India Company** rule; India came under direct **Crown** administration (a **Secretary of State for India** + Viceroy).
- The **Queen's Proclamation (1 Nov 1858)** pledged non-interference in religion, ended the **Doctrine of Lapse**, and promised **equal opportunity in public service** irrespective of race or creed.
- Key leaders: **Bahadur Shah Zafar** (nominal figurehead), **Rani Lakshmi Bai**, **Tantia Tope**, **Nana Sahib**, **Begum Hazrat Mahal**, **Kunwar Singh**.

MUST KNOW

- The **Doctrine of Lapse** was pursued by **Lord Dalhousie**; the Governor-General during the revolt was **Lord Canning** (who became the **first Viceroy** in 1858).
- The Proclamation's equal-opportunity promise is treated as the '**first written pledge of equality of opportunity**' in Indian constitutional lineage — a precursor to **Article 16**.
- V.D. Savarkar's book styled 1857 as the 'First War of Independence'; British contemporaries called it a 'sepoy mutiny'.
- The **Enfield rifle cartridges**, rumoured to be greased with cow and pig fat, offended both Hindu and Muslim sepoys.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Indian Councils Act 1861** began (limited) Indian association with law-making after the revolt.
- The title '**Empress of India**' was conferred on Queen Victoria by the **Royal Titles Act 1876**.
- Bahadur Shah Zafar, the last Mughal, was exiled to **Rangoon (Burma)**.
- The Act of 1858 created the office of **Secretary of State for India** aided by the **Council of India** in London.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT loves the **Proclamation of 1858 → Article 16** lineage — frame it as the first written promise of equal opportunity in public employment, later constitutionalised.

PROVISIONS

Government of India Act 1858, Queen's Proclamation 1858, Indian Councils Act 1861 / 1892 / 1909, Government of India Act 1919 / 1935, Article 16

BODIES & CASES

East India Company, British Crown administration (Viceroy + Secretary of State)

*Common Error: Saying the revolt 'ended Mughal rule' — the Mughal empire was already nominal; the Act of 1858 ended **Company** rule. Also, **Lord Canning**, not **Dalhousie**, was Governor-General during the revolt.*

79th Cannes Film Festival — India's Restored Classics & Red Carpet



The **79th Cannes Film Festival (13-24 May 2026)** opened on the French Riviera with **Park Chan-wook** chairing the main jury and an **Honorary Palme d'Or** for **Peter Jackson**. India featured via **John Abraham's** 1986 Malayalam film '**Amma Ariyan**' — restored in **4K** by the **Film Heritage Foundation** and screened in **Cannes Classics** — plus a red-carpet and delegation presence, with Mehar Malhotra's short competing in **Cinéfondation**.

QUICK FACTS

- '**Amma Ariyan**' (Tell the Mother, 1986) depicts a student activist who died in police custody during the **Emergency (1975-77)**; it was restored by the **Film Heritage Foundation**.
- The festival's top prize is the **Palme d'Or** (awarded since 1955); an **Honorary Palme d'Or** went to **Peter Jackson**.
- The main jury was chaired by South Korean director **Park Chan-wook**.
- India was represented on the red carpet (Alia Bhatt) and in the official delegation (IFFI Director Ashutosh Gowariker).

MUST KNOW

- Cannes' **Palme d'Or** is distinct from the American **Oscars** (Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences).
- The **Film Certification Appellate Tribunal (FCAT)** was abolished by the **Tribunals Reforms Act 2021** — certification appeals now go directly to the **High Court**.
- Film censorship/certification is governed by the **Cinematograph Act 1952**, amended by the **Cinematograph (Amendment) Act 2023** (new age-based categories, anti-piracy).
- During Emergency, **Article 359** allowed suspension of the enforcement of some rights — but post the **44th Amendment (1978)**, **Articles 20 and 21 can never be suspended**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)** certifies films (U, UA, A, S categories) under the Cinematograph Act.
- India's official film heritage body: the **National Film Archive of India (NFAI)**, now merged into the **NFDC**.
- Satyajit Ray's** 'Pather Panchali' won the **Best Human Document** prize at Cannes 1956.
- The **2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions** underpins state support for national cinema.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A film on Emergency-era custodial death lets CLAT test **Art 21 + custodial-rights (D.K. Basu)** and the rule that **Arts 20 & 21 are non-suspendable** even in Emergency (44th Amendment).

PROVISIONS

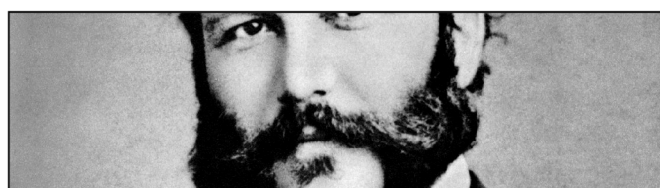
Article 19(1)(a), Article 20, Article 21, Article 352, Article 359, Cinematograph Act 1952, Cinematograph (Amendment) Act 2023, Tribunals Reforms Act 2021

BODIES & CASES

Film Heritage Foundation, CBFC, FCAT (abolished 2021), D.K. Basu v State of West Bengal (1997), UNESCO Convention on Cultural Diversity 2005

*Common Error: Thinking FCAT still exists — it was **abolished in 2021**; and confusing the **Palme d'Or (Cannes)** with the **Oscars**.*

World Red Cross Day — Henry Dunant & the Geneva Conventions



8 May is **World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day**, the birthday of **Henry Dunant (1828-1910)**, founder of the **ICRC** and father of the Red Cross movement. The **ICRC was founded in 1863**; the **four Geneva Conventions** were adopted on **12 August 1949**. India ratified them in **1950** and enacted the **Geneva Conventions Act 1960**; the **Indian Red Cross Society** dates to **1920**.

QUICK FACTS

- Henry Dunant** (born 8 May 1828) was inspired by the **Battle of Solferino (1859)** and won the first-ever **Nobel Peace Prize (1901)**.
- The **four Geneva Conventions (GC I-IV)** of **1949** protect wounded soldiers, shipwrecked forces, prisoners of war, and civilians.
- India ratified the Conventions in **1950** and gave them effect through the **Geneva Conventions Act 1960**.
- The **Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS)** was created by an **Act of Parliament in 1920**; about **192** national societies operate worldwide.

MUST KNOW

- India is party to all **four Geneva Conventions** but has **NOT ratified Additional Protocol I (1977)** — a frequent CLAT trap.
- The Geneva Conventions are the core of **International Humanitarian Law (IHL / law of armed conflict)**.
- The Red Cross emblem (and Red Crescent / Red Crystal) denotes protected status under IHL; misuse is an offence.
- The **ICRC** (Geneva-based) is distinct from the **IFRC** (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **ICRC** has won the Nobel Peace Prize three times (1917, 1944, 1963).
- Fundamental Principles of the movement: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, universality.
- The **IRCS President** is, by convention, the **President of India**.
- The Additional Protocols I & II (1977) and III (2005, Red Crystal emblem) supplement the 1949 Conventions.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the **India-Geneva Conventions** relationship: ratified 1949 Conventions + domestic 1960 Act, but the key catch is **non-accession to Additional Protocol I**.

PROVISIONS

Geneva Conventions Act 1960 (India), Indian Red Cross Society Act 1920, Geneva Conventions I-IV (1949), Additional Protocols I & II (1977)

BODIES & CASES

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC, 1863), Indian Red Cross Society (1920), IFRC

Common Error: Assuming India has ratified *all* the Geneva instruments — it is party to the four Conventions but **not to Additional Protocol I (1977)**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A ready hook for the **minority-education cluster** (Arts 29-30): the right to 'establish and administer', the 50% community quota (St Stephen's 1992), and the TMA Pai → Inamdar line on quotas.

PROVISIONS

Article 29, Article 30, Article 30(1), UGC Regulations 2018, Delhi University Act 1922

BODIES & CASES

St Stephen's College v Union of India (1992), TMA Pai Foundation v State of Karnataka (2002), P.A. Inamdar v State of Maharashtra (2005), NCMEI

Common Error: Assuming minority institutions can reserve **100%** of seats — the cap under **St Stephen's (1992)** is about **50%**; and confusing **TMA Pai (2002)** with **Inamdar (2005)** on state quotas in unaided institutions.

St Stephen's Appoints First Woman Principal in 145 Years

ART, CULTURE & HISTORY

St Stephen's College — founded **1881** and affiliated to **Delhi University** — appointed **Prof Susan Elias**, a computer scientist and former Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Chandigarh University, as its **first woman Principal in 145 years**. She takes charge on **1 June**, succeeding Prof John Varghese, whose post-March-2021 continuation DU had repeatedly termed 'illegal'. The college's **minority-institution status** is again in focus.

QUICK FACTS

- St Stephen's, established **1881**, is a **Christian minority institution** affiliated to **Delhi University**.
- Prof Susan Elias** becomes its **first woman Principal** in the college's 145-year history, effective **1 June**.
- She succeeds **Prof John Varghese**, whose continuation past March 2021 DU repeatedly called 'illegal'.
- The appointment revives debate over the college's **minority character and administrative autonomy**.

MUST KNOW

- Articles 29-30** protect minorities; **Art 30(1)** gives them the right to 'establish and administer' educational institutions.
- St Stephen's v Union of India (1992)** upheld the college's right to fill up to **50% of seats** from the Christian community.
- TMA Pai Foundation (2002, 11-judge)** is the foundational case on minority education rights; **P.A. Inamdar (2005)** barred state quotas in private unaided (including minority) institutions.
- UGC Regulations 2018** mandate fixed tenures for VCs/Principals — the crux of the Varghese dispute.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- St Stephen's is affiliated under the **Delhi University Act 1922**.
- A 'minority' for Art 30 is determined at the **State** level (per TMA Pai).
- The **National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI)**, set up 2004, certifies minority status.
- Delhi University was established in **1922**; St Stephen's is among its founding colleges.

SECTION 09 / 11

SPORTS

India Formalises Ban on Bilateral Sports With Pakistan



In May 2026 the **Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MoYAS)** formalised a policy barring **bilateral sporting ties** with Pakistan across cricket, hockey and kabaddi, while still permitting Pakistan to compete in **multilateral events** hosted in India (ICC World Cup, Olympics, Asian Games). The written policy hardens a de facto practice running since the **2019 Pulwama attack** and follows **Operation Sindoor** (May 2025).

QUICK FACTS

- Policy issued by **MoYAS** (Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports); distinguishes **bilateral** series (barred) from **multilateral** tournaments (allowed).
- Barred disciplines named: **cricket, hockey, kabaddi**; no standalone India-Pakistan series.
- Pakistan may still play India on Indian soil in **multi-nation events** — World Cup, Olympics, Asian Games.
- Codifies a **de facto freeze** in place since the **2019 Pulwama** terror attack.
- Comes in the wake of **Operation Sindoor (May 2025)**.

MUST KNOW

- The line is **bilateral vs multilateral** — India does not host stand-alone Pak series but does not block Pak from ICC/IOC/OCA events.
- Sports policy is Union-government (**MoYAS**) domain, not the BCCI acting alone; BCCI-ICC obligations sit under the multilateral carve-out.
- This is **executive policy**, not a statute or treaty — reversible by government decision.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- MoYAS** headquartered in New Delhi; administers the Khelo India and

TOPS schemes.

- **BCCI** (1928, Mumbai) is a private society, not a government body; a member of the **ICC** (International Cricket Council, HQ Dubai).
- The **Olympic Charter** (IOC, HQ Lausanne) bars discrimination against athletes/NOCs at Games it sanctions.
- India–Pakistan relations framed by the **Simla Agreement 1972** (bilateralism principle).

CLAT / Legal Lens

Tests the treaty/international-law scheme: Art. 253 empowers Parliament to legislate to implement treaties, while Art. 51 (DPSP) directs the State to foster international peace and respect for international law. A sports policy is executive action, not treaty implementation.

PROVISIONS

Article 51, Article 253, Simla Agreement 1972

BODIES & CASES

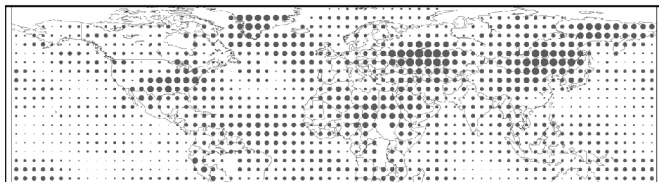
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MoYAS), BCCI (1928), International Cricket Council (ICC), International Olympic Committee (IOC)

Common Error: Students wrongly cite Art. 253 as the source of this ban — Art. 253 is about domestic legislation to give effect to treaties/international agreements, not a bar on bilateral sport. This is an executive policy, and Art. 51 is a non-justiciable Directive Principle.

SECTION 10 / 11

REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES

Heatwave as a Notified Disaster — 16th Finance Commission Push



The **16th Finance Commission** submission recommends adding **heatwaves** to the list of nationally notified disasters under the **Disaster Management Act, 2005**. At present states can spend only **10% of the SDRF** on locally notified calamities, and central **NDRF** financing stays locked out for heat. The **NDMA** backs the move, which would channel roughly **Rs 2,500 crore/year** of federal funds to the Heat Action Plans of 23 states.

QUICK FACTS

- Recommendation to include **heatwaves** among notified disasters comes via the **16th Finance Commission** (chaired by **Arvind Panagariya**).
- Legal basis for the disaster list: **DM Act, 2005, Section 11** (National Plan) and the notified-disaster framework governing SDRF/NDRF.
- States currently use only **10% of SDRF** for state-specific calamities not on the national list; **NDRF** money is unavailable for heat.
- **NDMA** (National Disaster Management Authority) supports the inclusion; **~Rs 2,500 crore/year** would flow to Heat Action Plans of **23 states**.

MUST KNOW

- The Finance Commission is a **constitutional body under Article 280**; it recommends tax devolution and disaster-relief financing but does **not itself notify** disasters — the Centre does.
- **SDRF vs NDRF**: SDRF is the first-response state fund

(Centre:State = 75:25, or 90:10 for NE/Himalayan states); NDRF supplements when SDRF is inadequate.

- Heat as a threat to **life** links to **Article 21**; courts have read a clean/safe environment into the right to life.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **NDMA** chaired by the **Prime Minister**; created under the DM Act, 2005.
- Notified disasters currently include cyclone, drought, earthquake, fire, flood, tsunami, hailstorm, landslide, avalanche, cloudburst, pest attack, frost and cold waves — heatwave is **NOT** yet on the list.
- **Subhash Kumar v. State of Bihar (1991)** and **Olga Tellis (1985)** expanded the content of Article 21.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can pair the Finance Commission (Art 280) with the SDRF/NDRF financing route and the Article 21 right-to-life hook for environmental/health hazards.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 280, Section 11, Disaster Management Act 2005

BODIES & CASES

16th Finance Commission, NDMA, Subhash Kumar v. State of Bihar (1991), Olga Tellis v. Bombay Municipal Corporation (1985)

Common Error: Do NOT say the Finance Commission 'declares' or 'notifies' a disaster — it only recommends financing; the Union Government notifies the disaster list. Also, heatwave is currently NOT a notified disaster.

NSAP Old-Age Pension: Rs 200 Frozen Since 2012, Real Value Down 45%



A study by **Azim Premji University's Mahesh School (AMS)** for the **Ministry of Rural Development** found the flagship **Rs 200 monthly old-age pension** under the **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP, 1995)** unchanged since **2012**, eroding about **45% in real terms**. NSAP is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme delivered through Panchayats and urban local bodies, and the study recommends a **National Floor Pension indexed to the CPI**.

QUICK FACTS

- The Rs 200 **IGNOAPS** central contribution has been frozen since **2012**; inflation has cut its real value by **~45%**.
- **NSAP (1995)** comprises five schemes: **IGNOAPS** (old age), **IGNWPS** (widow), **IGNDPS** (disabled), **NFBS** (National Family Benefit) and **Annapurna** (food).
- The study was done by **Azim Premji University's Mahesh School (AMS)** for the **Ministry of Rural Development**.
- Recommendation: a **National Floor Pension** indexed to the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**.

MUST KNOW

- NSAP operationalises **Article 41** (right to public assistance in old age/sickness/disablement) and **Article 47** (nutrition, standard of living) of the **Directive Principles**.
- NSAP is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** under the Ministry of Rural Development — funds shared with states, delivered via

Panchayats/ULBs.

- The **Code on Social Security, 2020** consolidates nine labour social-security laws but **does not subsume NSAP**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- IGNOAPS = **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme**; NFBS gives a lump sum on death of the primary breadwinner.
- The **Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007** creates a legal duty of maintenance for the elderly.
- DPSPs are **non-justiciable** (Article 37) but fundamental to governance.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A classic DPSP-implementation question: NSAP as the statutory/programmatic realisation of Articles 41 and 47.

PROVISIONS

Article 41 (DPSP), Article 47 (DPSP), Article 37

BODIES & CASES

Azim Premji University Mahesh School (AMS), Ministry of Rural Development, Code on Social Security 2020, Maintenance and Welfare of Parents Act 2007

Common Error: Don't confuse NSAP (1995, Rural Development) with the Code on Social Security, 2020 — the Code does NOT cover NSAP. Also NSAP is Centrally Sponsored (shared), not a Central Sector (100% Centre) scheme.

- **NaBFID** = National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (set up 2021).
- The **IBC, 2016** has special pre-packaged insolvency provisions for MSMEs.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Distinguish the instruments of credit support — guarantee schemes (ECLGS), refinance (MUDRA), and direct lending — a favourite economy-plus-institutions test.

PROVISIONS

Article 38, Article 39(b), Article 39(c)

BODIES & CASES

Union Cabinet, NCGTC, NaBFID, MSMED Act 2006, IBC 2016

Common Error: ECLGS is a guarantee, not a loan disbursement by the government; and MUDRA is a refinancing institution, not a lending bank. Do not conflate the two.

VB-G RAM G Act to Replace MGNREGA — 125 Days of Guaranteed Work

REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES

The Centre notified the **Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025 — VB-G RAM G** — to take effect **July 1, 2026**. It **repeals MGNREGA, 2005** and guarantees **125 days** of unskilled manual work per rural household each year, up from **100 days**. The Opposition criticised it as 'extreme centralisation' and a weakening of rural labour's bargaining power.

QUICK FACTS

- New statute: **VB-G RAM G Act, 2025**, effective **July 1, 2026**; it **repeals MGNREGA, 2005**.
- Work guarantee raised from **100 to 125 days** per rural household per year.
- Applies to households whose adults **volunteer** for unskilled manual work.
- **Congress** termed it 'extreme centralisation' and a dilution of rural workers' bargaining power.

MUST KNOW

- MGNREGA (2005) was rights-based, giving a **legal entitlement** to work enforceable via an unemployment allowance — track whether the new Act preserves that justiciable right.
- The right to livelihood has been read into **Article 21 (Olga Tellis, 1985)**; DPSP **Article 41** (right to work) and **Article 43** (living wage) are the backdrop.
- Labour/employment falls in the **Concurrent List (List III, Entry 23)**, so both Centre and States legislate.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- MGNREGA guaranteed **100 days** of wage employment; it was one of the world's largest works programmes.
- DPSPs are **not enforceable** in court (Article 37) but guide law-making.
- **Bandhua Mukti Morcha (1984)** and **Olga Tellis (1985)** read socio-economic rights into Article 21.

ECLGS 5.0 — Rs 2.55 Lakh Crore Credit Guarantee for MSMEs

REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES

The **Union Cabinet** (May 5) approved **ECLGS 5.0**, a **Rs 2.55 lakh crore** credit-guarantee package for **MSMEs and airlines** hit by the West Asia conflict. It runs through the **NCGTC** and **NaBFID**, carries a **50 basis-points/year** guarantee fee, and covers loans sanctioned till **March 31, 2027**. It extends the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme first launched during COVID in **May 2020**.

QUICK FACTS

- **ECLGS 5.0** size: **Rs 2.55 lakh crore**; targets MSMEs and airlines affected by the **West Asia conflict**.
- Routed via **NCGTC** (National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company) and **NaBFID**; guarantee fee **50 bps/year**.
- Loans eligible if sanctioned up to **March 31, 2027**.
- ECLGS lineage: **1.0 (COVID, May 2020)** then 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, and now 5.0.

MUST KNOW

- A **credit guarantee** means the government backstops lender losses on default — it does NOT directly lend money to firms.
- MSMEs are classified under the **MSMED Act, 2006** (revised composite investment + turnover criteria from July 2020).
- Economic-justice DPSPs **Article 38** and **Article 39(b),(c)** underpin such welfare-of-industry interventions.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **MUDRA** is a **refinancer**, not a bank — it refinances MFIs and small lenders serving micro-enterprises.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Marquee legislation change — CLAT can test the repeal-and-replace mechanism and whether a statutory right to work survives; ties DPSPs (Art 41/43) into Art 21.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 39(a), Article 41, Article 43, List III Entry 23

BODIES & CASES

MGNREGA 2005, VB-G RAM G Act 2025, Olga Tellis v. Bombay Municipal Corporation (1985), Bandhua Mukti Morcha v. Union of India (1984)

Common Error: DPSPs like Article 41 are NOT directly enforceable (Article 37) — but the SC has read livelihood INTO Article 21. Don't state Article 41 is itself justiciable.

PROVISIONS

Article 280, Article 293, FRBM Act 2003

BODIES & CASES

15th Finance Commission (2021-26), Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)

Common Error: Do not equate 'fiscal deficit' with 'debt' — deficit is a yearly flow, debt is the cumulative stock. Also, states borrow with Union consent under Article 293, not freely.

State Debt Burden — TN, WB, Kerala and Assam Under Fiscal Strain

REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES

All four states from the **2025-26 election cycle** face a growing debt burden, with outstanding liabilities nearly doubling since **2016-17**. Tamil Nadu's debt rose from **Rs 2.96 to Rs 7.69 lakh crore**; interest payments now consume **15-38%** of own revenue receipts. Debt-to-GSDP stands at **TN 25.6%, WB ~30%, Kerala ~28%, Assam ~12%**, with West Bengal and Kerala most stressed due to large contingent liabilities.

QUICK FACTS

- Outstanding liabilities nearly **doubled since 2016-17** across the four poll-cycle states.
- Tamil Nadu**: debt up from **Rs 2.96 to Rs 7.69 lakh crore**; interest eats **15-38%** of own revenue.
- Debt-to-GSDP: **TN 25.6%, WB ~30%, Kerala ~28%, Assam ~12% (lowest)**.
- WB and Kerala** most stressed owing to large **contingent liabilities** (guarantees to PSUs).

MUST KNOW

- Fiscal deficit vs debt**: deficit is the annual borrowing/shortfall; debt is the accumulated stock of past deficits.
- States need **Union consent to borrow (Article 293)** if indebted to the Centre; the **FRBM Act, 2003** caps deficits.
- The **Finance Commission (Article 280)** recommends the states' fiscal-deficit and debt path (currently the 15th FC, 2021-26).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Contingent liabilities** are off-budget guarantees that crystallise into debt if a PSU defaults.
- GSDP = Gross State Domestic Product, the state-level analogue of GDP.
- The **FRBM Act, 2003** targets fiscal discipline for the Union; states have their own FRBM/FRL laws.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Fiscal federalism: Article 293 borrowing consent, FRBM caps and the FC's role make this an economy-plus-Constitution question.

PM-UDAY 2.0 + SWAGAM Portal — Regularising Delhi's Unauthorised Colonies



The Centre and Delhi government rolled out **PM-UDAY 2.0** with a **SWAGAM portal** that opened on **April 24, 2026**. Of Delhi's **1,731 unauthorised colonies**, **1,511 will be regularised** on an 'as-is where-is' basis — no layout-plan requirement, existing homes deemed valid, and a **conveyance deed in 45 days**. It overhauls the original **PM-UDAY (2019)**, which issued only ~40,000 deeds for the ~4.5 million residents because of layout-plan complexities.

QUICK FACTS

- PM-UDAY 2.0** uses the new **SWAGAM portal** (opened **April 24, 2026**) for regularisation.
- 1,511 of 1,731** unauthorised colonies to be regularised on an '**as-is where-is**' basis; conveyance deed promised in **45 days**.
- Original **PM-UDAY (2019)** = Pradhan Mantri Unauthorised Colonies in Delhi Awas Adhikar Yojana; only **~40,000 deeds** issued earlier.
- The **ADM** becomes the single nodal officer; **MCD** issues Regularisation Certificates; ties into the **Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Policy, 2021**.

MUST KNOW

- A **conveyance deed** is the legal instrument transferring ownership title — key to property rights for colony residents.
- The scheme extends **TOD** to an additional **80 sq km** along Metro/RTS corridors.
- The **right to property** is now a **constitutional/legal right under Article 300A** (not a Fundamental Right since the 44th Amendment, 1978).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Delhi is a **Union Territory with a Legislative Assembly** under **Article 239AA**; land/police stay with the Centre.
- MCD** = Municipal Corporation of Delhi; **DDA** handles Delhi's urban planning.
- TOD** promotes high-density, mixed-use development near mass-transit stations.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Property rights + Delhi's special constitutional status (Art 239AA) and the shift of property from FR to legal right (Art 300A) are testable hooks.

PROVISIONS

Article 300A (right to property), Article 239AA, 44th Constitutional Amendment 1978

BODIES & CASES

PM-UDAY 2.0 / SWAGAM portal, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Delhi Development Authority (DDA)

Common Error: Right to property is NOT a Fundamental Right — it was removed by the 44th Amendment (1978) and now sits in Article 300A as a constitutional legal right.

Centre Begins Onion Procurement Under the Price Stabilisation Fund

REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES

NAFED and NCCF will each procure **1 lakh tonne of onions** under the **Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF)** at a **Market Assured Price (MAPP)** fixed for the drive under the PSF. Quality is checked by the **Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)**, which requires a **72% minimum Grade-A recovery** across **20 godowns**. The buffer is meant to smooth onion price volatility for both farmers and consumers.

QUICK FACTS

- **NAFED** and **NCCF** each procure **1 lakh tonne** of onions under the **PSF**.
- Procurement at the **Market Assured Price (MAPP)** fixed under the PSF for the drive.
- **CWC** quality norm: **72% minimum Grade-A recovery** across **20 godowns**.
- Aim: build a buffer to stabilise onion prices and protect farmers from distress sales.

MUST KNOW

- **MSP vs MAPP**: MSP is fixed by the Cabinet (CCEA) for 23 notified crops on CACP advice; **MAPP is internal to the PSF** for perishables like onion/tomato/potato — they are NOT the same.
- The **PSF (2014-15)** funds buffer stocks of perishables to curb price volatility, now under the Department of Consumer Affairs.
- The **Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (Section 3)** empowers the Centre to regulate supply and prices of essential goods.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **NAFED** = National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation; **NCCF** = National Cooperative Consumers' Federation.
- **CACP** recommends MSP; the **CCEA** approves it.
- PSF operations follow the **PSF Operational Guidelines, 2014**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Tests the machinery of price support and market intervention — differentiating MSP (statutory-cabinet route) from PSF/MAPP (buffer-stock route).

PROVISIONS

Section 3, Essential Commodities Act 1955

BODIES & CASES

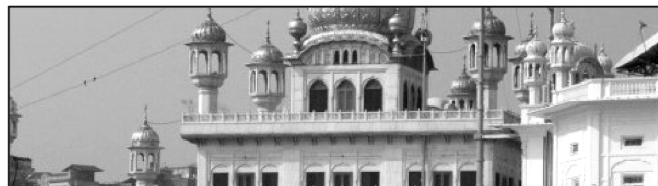
NAFED, NCCF, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF), CACP / CCEA

Common Error: MSP is NOT the same as MAPP. MSP covers 23 notified crops via the Cabinet on CACP advice; MAPP is a PSF-internal price for perishables. Onions have no MSP.

SECTION 11 / 11

STATES IN NEWS

Akal Takht Rejects Punjab's Anti-Sacrilege Law



The **Akal Takht** — the Sikhs' highest temporal seat — through Jathedar **Kuldeep Singh Gargajj** summoned Punjab Speaker **Kuldar Singh Sandhwan** on 3 May for a clause-by-clause review of the **Jaagat Jot Sri Guru Granth Sahib Satkar (Amendment) Act, 2026** (notified 20 April). The law prescribes **life imprisonment plus a Rs 25 lakh fine** for **beadbi** (sacrilege), but the Akal Takht and **SGPC** objected that it was framed without consulting the **Khalsa Panth**.

QUICK FACTS

- State: **Punjab**; capital **Chandigarh**; CM **Bhagwant Mann (AAP)**; Governor **Gulab Chand Kataria**.
- Law provides **life imprisonment + Rs 25 lakh fine** for sacrilege of the Guru Granth Sahib and other holy texts.
- **Akal Takht Jathedar Kuldeep Singh Gargajj** summoned Speaker **Kuldar Singh Sandhwan** for a clause-by-clause discussion.
- **SGPC** (Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee) said the law 'weaponises' state power against Sikh institutions.
- Grievance: framed without consulting the **Khalsa Panth**, the community's supreme temporal authority.

MUST KNOW

- The **Akal Takht** at Amritsar is the highest seat of temporal (miri) authority in Sikhism; the **SGPC** manages historic gurdwaras.
- '**Public order**' and '**police**' are **State List** subjects, but criminal law/procedure sit in the **Concurrent List** — hence a state can enact a sacrilege offence.
- **Article 26(b)** guarantees a religious denomination the right to **manage its own affairs in matters of religion** — the core of the community-consultation argument.
- A parallel 2018 Punjab sacrilege bill lapsed after the Centre withheld assent — showing state religious-penal laws often stall federally.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Punjab's **five Takhts**: Akal Takht (Amritsar), Damdama Sahib, Anandpur Sahib (Keshgarh), Patna Sahib, Hazur Sahib (Nanded).
- **Guru Arjan Dev** compiled the Adi Granth (1604); the Guru Granth Sahib is venerated as the eternal living Guru.
- The **Anandpur Sahib Resolution (1973)** is a landmark demand for greater state autonomy in Punjab.
- State assent by the Governor / President is required for laws touching subjects where the Centre's role is engaged (Art 200-201).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the friction between a state's police-power to punish sacrilege and Article 26(b)'s guarantee of a denomination's autonomy to manage its own religious affairs. Expect passages on faith-vs-legislation and community consent.

PROVISIONS

Article 25, Article 26, Article 246, List II Entries 1 & 2, List III Entry 1

BODIES & CASES

Akal Takht, Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), Shayara Bano v Union of India (2017), Indian Young Lawyers Assn (Sabarimala) v State of Kerala (2018)

Common Error: Students wrongly treat 'public order' and 'criminal law' as the same List. Public order is State List (Entry 1); criminal law/procedure is Concurrent List — a subtle but examinable distinction.

Mumbai-Pune 'Missing Link' Opens — World's Widest Road Tunnel



Maharashtra CM **Devendra Fadnavis** inaugurated the **13.3 km 'Missing Link'** of the Mumbai-Pune Expressway on 1 May. Its **twin tunnels (22.3 m wide)** hold the **Guinness record for the widest road tunnel**, and a **cable-stayed bridge 182 m above Tiger Valley** is engineered for 240 km/h cyclone winds. Built by the state SPV **MSRDC** at **Rs 6,695 crore**, it bypasses the landslide-prone Khandala ghat, cutting the Lonavala stretch by 6 km and saving ~25 minutes.

QUICK FACTS

- State: **Maharashtra**; capital **Mumbai**; CM **Devendra Fadnavis**.
- 13.3 km** Missing Link; twin tunnels **22.3 m** wide = **Guinness** widest road tunnel.
- Cable-stayed bridge **182 m** above Tiger Valley, built to withstand **240 km/h** winds.
- Cost **Rs 6,695 crore**; saves ~25 minutes and 6 km on the Lonavala stretch.
- Executed by **MSRDC** (Maharashtra State Road Development Corp) — a **state SPV**, not NHAI.

MUST KNOW

- As a **state SPV** project, toll revenue routes back to **Maharashtra**, not the central National Highways pool.
- National Highways** are a Union subject (List I); state expressways fall to the state — the MSRDC-vs-NHAI split is the federal hook.
- Roads/bridges other than National Highways** are State List subjects; land is acquired under the central **LARR Act, 2013**.
- Tolling is authorised under the colonial **Indian Tolls Act, 1851** and the National Highways framework.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Mumbai-Pune Expressway** (opened 2002) was India's first access-controlled tolled expressway.
- It crosses the **Sahyadri (Western Ghats)** via the Bor Ghat / Khandala escarpment.
- MSRDC** also built the Bandra-Worli Sea Link and the Nagpur-Mumbai Samruddhi Mahamarg.
- Maharashtra's **Lonavala-Khandala** belt is a monsoon landslide-prone zone in Pune district.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can frame infrastructure federally: which tier owns and tolls a road. A state SPV (MSRDC) keeps toll revenue with the state, unlike an

NHAI national highway. Land is still acquired under the central LARR Act.

PROVISIONS

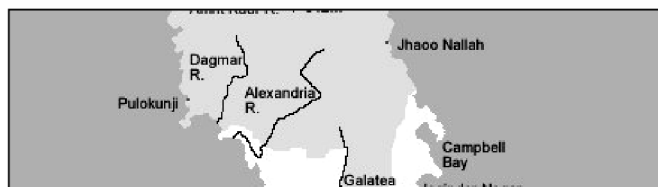
List I Entry 23 (National Highways), List II Entry 13 (roads/bridges), LARR Act 2013, Indian Tolls Act 1851

BODIES & CASES

Maharashtra State Road Development Corp (MSRDC), National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)

Common Error: Assuming every big expressway is an NHAI 'National Highway'. This is a Maharashtra state expressway built by MSRDC — toll and ownership stay with the state, not the Centre.

Great Nicobar Project — Identical Gram Sabha Resolutions Under Cloud



Three **Gram Sabha resolutions** the Andaman & Nicobar administration cited as proof of **tribal consent** for the **Rs 81,000-crore Great Nicobar Project** were found to carry **identical wording**, casting doubt on the mandatory **Forest Rights Act, 2006** consent. The project diverts **166.10 sq km of forest** for a transshipment port, international airport, greenfield township, gas-based power plant and military use — in the fragile island home of the **Shompen** (a PVTG) and **Nicobarese** tribes.

QUICK FACTS

- UT: **Andaman & Nicobar Islands**; capital **Sri Vijaya Puram** (formerly Port Blair); headed by a **Lieutenant Governor**.
- Project cost **Rs 81,000 crore**; diverts **166.10 sq km** of tropical forest.
- Components: **transshipment port + airport + township + gas power plant + military use**.
- Three **Gram Sabha resolutions** found with **identical wording** — challenging the FRA consent process.
- Affects the **Shompen** (a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group) and **Nicobarese** communities.

MUST KNOW

- Under the **Forest Rights Act, 2006**, forest diversion needs **free, prior and informed Gram Sabha consent** — identical resolutions suggest manufactured consent.
- Orissa Mining Corp v MoEF (Niyamgiri, 2013)** held the Gram Sabha decides on community/religious rights before diversion — the governing precedent.
- The **Shompen** are a PVTG; forest clearance also engages the **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980** and **EIA, 2006**.
- The **NCST (Art 338A)** and the **NGT (2010)** are the constitutional and forum safeguards a passage may invoke.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Great Nicobar** is India's southernmost point — **Indira Point** lies there; the Galathea Bay hosts the port.
- Fifth Schedule** governs Scheduled Areas in mainland states; **Sixth Schedule** covers autonomous districts of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram.
- The island lies near the **Ten Degree Channel** separating Andaman and Nicobar groups.
- PVTGs** (75 groups) are the most vulnerable tribal categories,

identified for special protection.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT loves the FRA consent + Niyamgiri Gram Sabha primacy chain: development vs tribal rights, and who validly grants consent for forest diversion. Identical resolutions test the 'free, prior, informed' standard.

PROVISIONS

Article 244, Article 244A, Article 275, Article 338A, FRA 2006 §§3, 4, 6, FCA 1980 §2, EIA Notification 2006

BODIES & CASES

Gram Sabha, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), National Green Tribunal, Orissa Mining Corp v Ministry of Environment (Niyamgiri, 2013)

*Common Error: Treating the Andaman & Nicobar tribal areas as **Sixth Schedule**. They are NOT — the Sixth Schedule applies only to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram; A&N tribal protection runs through separate regulations, not Schedule VI.*

PERSONAL NOTES — FACTS & MISSES TO REVISE

QUESTION BANK

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

1. A composite floor test is ordered when:
 - A. Two rival factions claim majority
 - B. The Governor is absent
 - C. The Speaker is removed
 - D. An election is announced
2. The 2023 Election Commissioner Appointment Law replaces which member from the SC's Anoop Baranwal model with a Cabinet Minister?
 - A. Prime Minister
 - B. Leader of Opposition
 - C. Chief Justice of India
 - D. Cabinet Secretary
3. In *Nabam Rebia v Deputy Speaker (2016)*, the Supreme Court held that:
 - A. Governor cannot summon Assembly without CoM advice
 - B. Governor may summon Assembly for floor test even over CM's advice when CM has lost majority
 - C. Art. 356 must be used before floor test
 - D. CM can continue for 1 year if party has minority
4. Under Article 356, President's Rule can be imposed if:
 - A. CM loses her seat
 - B. CM's party wins fewer seats than opposition
 - C. Constitutional machinery of the State has failed
 - D. Governor recommends it for any reason

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

5. Assertion (A): SC said an unwanted pregnancy cannot be burdened on a minor rape survivor. Reason (R): Foetal viability overrides reproductive autonomy in all cases. Choose:
 - A. Both true; R explains A
 - B. Both true; R does not explain A
 - C. A true, R false
 - D. Both false
6. Principle: Reproductive autonomy under Art 21 must be balanced against State interest in foetal viability. Fact: A 29-year-old at 28 weeks with IUGR but no genetic abnormality seeks termination. Which conclusion best follows?
 - A. Court must allow termination automatically
 - B. Court must defer to a Medical Board's medically-reasoned opinion
 - C. Court must refuse on religious grounds
 - D. Court has no jurisdiction
7. *Suchita Srivastava v Chandigarh Administration (2009)* held that:
 - A. Foetal viability overrides choice
 - B. Reproductive choice is part of personal liberty under Art 21
 - C. Husband's consent is mandatory
 - D. MTP needs collegium approval
8. Post-2021 amendment, the upper gestational limit for termination is generally:
 - A. 20 weeks
 - B. 22 weeks
 - C. 24 weeks
 - D. No outer limit
9. The 'permanent constitutional norm vs interim measure' debate in the SC hearing on Anoop Baranwal involves the interpretation of:
 - A. The basic structure doctrine and separation of powers
 - B. Art. 368 amendment procedure
 - C. Art. 356 President's Rule
 - D. Art. 32 writ jurisdiction
10. 'Specified disability' under RPwD Act means disabilities listed in:
 - A. Schedule I
 - B. Schedule II
 - C. Schedule III
 - D. Schedule IV
11. Acid-attack victims were specifically included as 'persons with disability' from:
 - A. RPwD Act 1995
 - B. RPwD Act 2016
 - C. *Laxmi v UOI* 2014 only
 - D. 2018 amendment
12. Which constitutional article most directly supports purposive/beneficial interpretation of the RPwD Act?
 - A. Art. 13 — laws inconsistent with FRs are void
 - B. Art. 37 — DPSP provisions are fundamental in governance
 - C. Art. 14 and Art. 21 read with Art. 37 (directive principles guiding

interpretation)

D. Art. 32 — right to constitutional remedies

13. Medical services were brought within Consumer Protection Act ambit in:

- A. Indian Medical Association v VP Shantha (1995)
- B. Spring Meadows (1998)
- C. Jacob Mathew (2005)
- D. Lakshmanan v Sivaramakrishna

14. A medical negligence claim involving only pain and suffering (non-financial):

- A. Survives the death of claimant
- B. Abates on death of claimant
- C. Transfers to State
- D. Becomes a criminal complaint

15. The 'Bolam Test' for medical negligence was established in:

- A. Donoghue v Stevenson
- B. Jacob Mathew v Punjab
- C. Bolam v Friern Hospital
- D. V. Krishnakumar case

16. The Bolam standard for medical negligence comes from:

- A. Bolam v Friern Hospital (1957)
- B. Whitehouse v Jordan
- C. Sidaway v Bethlem
- D. Bolitho v Hackney

17. In the Pawan Khera matter, the SC observed that the Gauhati HC's order had:

- A. Properly balanced rights and duties
- B. Erroneously shifted the burden onto the accused
- C. Followed Arnes Kumar checklist
- D. Ordered immediate custody

18. Joginder Kumar v UP (1994) held that:

- A. Arrest must follow every cognizable FIR
- B. Arrest is justified by mere allegation
- C. Arrest must be necessary, not routine
- D. Police need no reasons to arrest

19. Right to a clean environment was read into Art 21 in:

- A. MC Mehta v UoI line
- B. ADM Jabalpur
- C. Maneka Gandhi
- D. Ashok Kumar Thakur

20. Sikkim was inaugurated as India's first fully paperless state judiciary by:

- A. CJI DY Chandrachud
- B. CJI BR Gavai
- C. CJI Surya Kant
- D. CJI Sanjiv Khanna

21. If a passage states police arrested X without recording reasons in a Sec 7-yr offence, the strongest legal objection is:

- A. Violation of Art 19
- B. Violation of Sec 41A read with Arnes Kumar
- C. Violation of Sec 167
- D. Violation of Art 22(1)

22. Virtual hearings derive their statutory backing primarily from:

- A. IT Act 2000
- B. Indian Evidence Act 1872
- C. Court Fees Act 1870
- D. Code of Civil Procedure 1908

23. Which fundamental right did the Supreme Court invoke to quash the 35-year-old pending case?

- A. Article 14
- B. Article 19
- C. Article 21
- D. Article 32

24. The Supreme Court's guidelines on speedy trial were first laid down in which case?

- A. Maneka Gandhi v Union of India
- B. Hussainara Khatoon v State of Bihar
- C. A R Antulay v R S Nayak
- D. Common Cause v Union of India

25. The 35-year-old case quashed by the Supreme Court had been pending in which city since 1991?

- A. Lucknow
- B. Kanpur
- C. Prayagraj
- D. Varanasi

26. Mens rea is essential under IPC §295A as held in:

- A. Ramji Lal Modi v UP (1957)
- B. Shreya Singhal (2015)
- C. Pravasi Bhalai (2014)
- D. Amish Devgan (2020)

27. The 'tripartite test' for hate speech was laid down in:

- A. Pravasi Bhalai (2014)
- B. Amish Devgan v UoI (2020)
- C. Shreya Singhal (2015)
- D. Romesh Thappar (1950)

28. Pravasi Bhalai Sangathan v UoI (2014) directed:

- A. Banning hate speech outright
- B. Law Commission to study a hate-speech definition
- C. Sedition repeal
- D. SC monitoring of TV channels

29. Sanction to prosecute hate-speech offences against public servants is required under:

- A. Sec 196 BNSS / Sec 196 CrPC
- B. Sec 482 CrPC
- C. Art 361
- D. Art 105

30. How many judges constitute the bench hearing the Sabarimala reference?

- A. Five
- B. Seven
- C. Nine
- D. Eleven

31. Which articles, cited by the Centre, protect denominational religious autonomy?

- A. Articles 14-15
- B. Articles 19-22
- C. Articles 25-26

D. Articles 29-30

32. The 2018 Sabarimala verdict allowing women's entry was delivered in which case?

- A. Shirur Mutt
- B. Indian Young Lawyers Association v State of Kerala
- C. Shayara Bano v Union of India
- D. Sabarimala Review

33. Who led the 9-judge bench that began hearing the Sabarimala reference?

- A. CJI D Y Chandrachud
- B. CJI Surya Kant
- C. CJI Sanjiv Khanna
- D. CJI B R Gavai

34. In Anoop Baranwal v Union of India (2023), the 5-judge bench directed that the appointment committee for CEC/ECs must include:

- A. PM + LOP + CJI
- B. PM + Home Minister + Speaker
- C. President + PM + CJI
- D. PM + LOP + Cabinet Minister

35. The CEC & EC (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act 2023 replaced the CJI in the appointment committee with:

- A. A retired Supreme Court judge
- B. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha
- C. A Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister
- D. The Vice President of India

36. An Election Commissioner (other than CEC) can be removed:

- A. On recommendation of the CEC
- B. By Presidential order alone
- C. By Supreme Court order
- D. By a simple majority in Parliament

37. Under which provision must inquiries into custodial deaths be held by a Judicial Magistrate?

- A. CrPC Section 176
- B. BNSS Section 176(1-A)
- C. BNS Section 111
- D. BNSS Section 187

38. The Jharkhand High Court ordered fresh probes in over how many of 427 custodial deaths?

- A. 160
- B. 260
- C. 327
- D. 427

39. Which landmark case laid down guidelines against custodial torture and on arrest safeguards?

- A. D K Basu v State of West Bengal
- B. Nilabati Behera v State of Orissa
- C. Maneka Gandhi v Union of India
- D. Joginder Kumar v State of UP

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

40. The ECSP (Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership) elevation in 2026 makes Vietnam India's:

- A. First ASEAN ECSP partner
- B. Second ASEAN ECSP partner (after Singapore)
- C. Third ASEAN ECSP partner
- D. Only Indo-Pacific ECSP partner

41. India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership was established in:

- A. 2007
- B. 2012
- C. 2016
- D. 2020

42. Extending statutory protection to internal acid injuries reflects which principle of statutory interpretation?

- A. Literal rule — stick to plain meaning of words
- B. Mischief rule / Purposive interpretation — suppress the mischief the statute was designed to remedy
- C. Golden rule — avoid absurd outcomes only
- D. Ejusdem generis — general words follow specific words

43. In May 2026, India and Vietnam elevated their ties to which partnership tier?

- A. Strategic Partnership
- B. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
- C. Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
- D. Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership

44. If a state digitises trial records but pronounces judgments only on closed portals, the strongest constitutional infirmity is:

- A. Violation of Art 19(1)(g)
- B. Violation of Art 145(4) open-court principle
- C. Breach of Art 32
- D. Violation of Art 226

45. Ganga Water Treaty between India and Bangladesh was signed in:

- A. 1972
- B. 1985
- C. 1996
- D. 2011

46. The Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) of 1974 between India-Bangladesh required which Constitutional Amendment for execution?

- A. 99th
- B. 100th
- C. 101st
- D. 102nd

47. Lipulekh, Limpiyadhura and Kalapani lie at the tri-junction of:

- A. India-Nepal-China
- B. India-Nepal-Bhutan
- C. India-China-Bhutan
- D. Nepal-China-Tibet

48. Under International Humanitarian Law, the principle of distinction requires:

- A. Distinguishing combatants from civilians/civilian objects
- B. Distinct uniforms

- C. Public declarations of war
- D. Equal force levels

49. In river-boundary disputes, the 'thalweg' principle refers to:

- A. Median line
- B. Deepest navigable channel
- C. Highest-water mark
- D. Course at independence

50. The Strait of Hormuz is governed for transit by which regime under UNCLOS?

- A. High seas freedoms
- B. Innocent passage
- C. Transit passage through straits used for international navigation (UNCLOS Part III)
- D. Archipelagic sea-lanes passage

51. Consider the post-7 October 2023 fallout: I. Saudi-Israel normalisation talks were effectively suspended. II. The ICJ entertained a genocide application by South Africa against Israel in January 2024. Which is/are correct?

- A. I only
- B. II only
- C. Both I and II
- D. Neither I nor II

52. Under UNCLOS 1982, the territorial sea extends up to:

- A. 3 nautical miles
- B. 12 nautical miles
- C. 24 nautical miles
- D. 200 nautical miles

53. UNSC Resolution 2231 (2015) is significant because it:

- A. Imposed sanctions on Iran for nuclear violations
- B. Endorsed the JCPOA and included a 'snapback' mechanism to restore sanctions if Iran violated the deal
- C. Created the IAEA
- D. Authorised military action against Iran

54. PM Modi's 5-nation tour (May 15-20, 2026) covers:

- A. UAE, Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Italy
- B. UAE, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Italy
- C. UAE, France, Norway, Denmark, Spain
- D. Saudi Arabia, Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Italy

55. EFTA members are:

- A. Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, Liechtenstein
- B. Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark
- C. UK, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland
- D. Germany, France, Italy, Spain

56. The Arctic Council Member States number:

- A. 5
- B. 6
- C. 8
- D. 13

57. Identify the TRUE statement:

- A. Norway is in the EU
- B. Iceland is in the EU
- C. Norway is in EFTA but not EU
- D. Switzerland is in the EU

58. Trump's Beijing visit was the first US state visit to China since which year?

- A. 2015
- B. 2017
- C. 2019
- D. 2021

59. Whom did President Trump meet during his three-day Beijing summit?

- A. Li Qiang
- B. Xi Jinping
- C. Wang Yi
- D. Hu Jintao

60. The US-China 90-day trade truce discussed at the summit was set to expire on which date?

- A. July 4
- B. August 12
- C. September 1
- D. October 15

61. The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in:

- A. 1947 New Delhi
- B. 1960 Karachi
- C. 1965 Tashkent
- D. 1972 Simla

62. If India formally invokes 'abeyance' of IWT, the closest doctrinal match in international treaty law would be:

- A. Termination under VCLT Art 54
- B. Suspension under VCLT Art 60 or change of circumstances under Art 62
- C. Reservation under VCLT Art 19
- D. Modification under VCLT Art 39

63. Western rivers under IWT include:

- A. Ganga, Yamuna, Brahmaputra
- B. Indus, Jhelum, Chenab
- C. Krishna, Cauvery, Godavari
- D. Sutlej, Beas, Ravi

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

64. Forex reserves include all EXCEPT:

- A. Foreign currency assets
- B. Gold
- C. SDRs
- D. Domestic government bonds

65. India's forex reserves cover approximately how many months of imports as of 2026?

- A. 3 months
- B. 6 months
- C. 10 months
- D. 18 months

66. India's forex reserves fell by approximately how much in the two months following the West Asia conflict?

- A. \$10 bn
- B. \$20 bn
- C. \$38 bn
- D. \$60 bn

67. Skymet is:

- A. Govt-owned
- B. ICAR institute
- C. Private weather service
- D. UN body

68. The Strait of Hormuz lies between:

- A. Iran and Oman/UAE coast
- B. Saudi Arabia and Yemen
- C. Egypt and Israel
- D. Turkey and Cyprus

69. UNCLOS, 1982 governs transit passage through international straits in:

- A. Article 17
- B. Article 19
- C. Article 38
- D. Article 121

70. UAE's exit from OPEC takes effect after how many years of membership?

- A. 40
- B. 50
- C. 60
- D. 70

71. IPEF, of which India is a member, stands for:

- A. Indo-Pacific Energy Framework
- B. Indo-Pacific Economic Framework
- C. Indo-Pacific Equity Forum
- D. Indian-Pacific Education Forum

72. Customs duty on gold and silver imports was raised to what rate?

- A. 10%
- B. 12.5%
- C. 15%
- D. 20%

73. Under which statute was the customs duty on gold and silver raised?

- A. FTDR Act 1992
- B. Customs Act 1962
- C. FEMA 1999
- D. Finance Act 2021

74. The ban on sugar exports was imposed until which date?

- A. 31 July
- B. 31 August
- C. 30 September
- D. 31 December

75. Which rating agency cut India's 2026 GDP growth forecast to 6%?

- A. S&P Global
- B. Fitch Ratings
- C. Moody's
- D. CRISIL

76. Moody's cut India's 2026 growth forecast from 6.8% to what level?

- A. 5.5%
- B. 6.0%
- C. 6.5%
- D. 6.8%

77. Which sovereign rating did Moody's retain for India?

- A. Baa1
- B. Baa2
- C. Baa3
- D. Ba1

78. April's Wholesale Price Index rose 8.3% YoY, the highest in how many months?

- A. 24 months
- B. 36 months
- C. 42 months
- D. 48 months

79. What does WPI, which jumped to 8.3% in April, stand for?

- A. Weighted Price Indicator
- B. Wholesale Price Index
- C. Wage Price Index
- D. Warehouse Price Index

80. The April WPI surge was driven mainly by which category?

- A. Food articles
- B. Energy and fuel
- C. Manufactured goods
- D. Textiles

81. Identify the FALSE statement about Fundamental Duties:

- A. They are enforceable in court directly
- B. They were added by the 42nd Amendment
- C. Article 51A(k) was added by 86th Amendment
- D. Swaran Singh Committee recommended them

82. PM Modi's austerity address on May 11, 2026 was delivered at:

- A. Red Fort, Delhi
- B. Sabarmati Ashram
- C. Patidar Sardardham, Vadodara
- D. Somnath Temple

83. Fundamental Duties were inserted by which Constitutional Amendment?

- A. 24th Amendment
- B. 42nd Amendment
- C. 44th Amendment
- D. 86th Amendment

84. India's gold import bill as of May 2026 has doubled in two years to approximately:

- A. \$30 bn
- B. \$50 bn
- C. \$72 bn
- D. \$100 bn

85. Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code addressing twin balance sheet problem was enacted in:

- A. 2013
- B. 2016
- C. 2018
- D. 2020

86. Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) is a component of:

- A. Government revenue
- B. GDP — investment side
- C. Trade balance
- D. Inflation index

87. FRBM Act, which classifies budget into Capital and Revenue accounts, was enacted in:

- A. 1991
- B. 2000
- C. 2003
- D. 2010

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

88. A 'Severe Heat Wave' is declared when departure from normal is:

- A. 1-2 deg C
- B. 2.5-4 deg C
- C. 4.5-6.4 deg C
- D. ≥ 6.4 deg C

89. OPEC member NOT in the Middle East:

- A. Venezuela
- B. Iran
- C. Iraq
- D. Kuwait

90. Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) +ve phase means:

- A. Western IO warmer than eastern
- B. Eastern IO warmer than western
- C. Both equally warm
- D. Both cool

91. The IMD revised its 2026 monsoon forecast downward to what share of the Long Period Average (LPA)?

- A. 96% of LPA
- B. 92% of LPA
- C. 90% of LPA
- D. 85% of LPA

92. The host of the Santa Marta climate conference is:

- A. Brazil
- B. Mexico
- C. Colombia
- D. Peru

93. UNFCCC was adopted at:

- A. Stockholm 1972
- B. Rio Earth Summit 1992
- C. Kyoto 1997
- D. Johannesburg 2002

94. CBDR-RC stands for:

- A. Climate Based Differentiated Responsibilities & Carbon credits
- B. Common But Differentiated Responsibilities & Respective Capabilities
- C. Common Basis of Differentiated Reduction Cycles
- D. Cooperative Burden Differentiated Responsibility-Carbon

95. Which of the following is NOT under the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court?

- A. Disputes between two states
- B. Disputes between State and Union
- C. Writ petitions under Art. 32
- D. Appeals from High Courts

96. The BBNJ Agreement covers areas:

- A. Within the territorial sea
- B. Within the EEZ
- C. Beyond national jurisdiction (high seas)
- D. Within the contiguous zone

97. The BBNJ Agreement's provision on Marine Genetic Resources (MGRs) ensures:

- A. Only developed countries can access them
- B. Fair and equitable benefit sharing with developing nations
- C. All research is banned in high seas
- D. ISA has exclusive access

98. How many Ramsar (wetland) sites does India have as of 2026?

- A. 26
- B. 48
- C. 75
- D. 98

99. Which organisation publishes the 'State of India's Environment' annual report?

- A. MoEFCC
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)
- D. WMO

100. The 'Absolute Liability' doctrine (no exceptions for escape of dangerous substances) was established in India in:

- A. Vellore Citizens 1996
- B. Oleum Gas Case / MC Mehta v UOI 1987
- C. T.N. Godavarman Case
- D. Indian Council for Enviro-Legal Action 1996

101. How many of the 9 planetary boundaries have been breached as of 2026?

- A. 5
- B. 6
- C. 7
- D. 9

102. The four cheetah cubs died at which national park?

- A. Gir National Park
- B. Kuno National Park
- C. Bandhavgarh National Park
- D. Ranthambore National Park

103. Cheetahs were declared extinct in India in which year?

- A. 1947
- B. 1952
- C. 1962
- D. 1972

104. Total Project Cheetah mortalities since the September 2022 translocation reached what number?

- A. 9
- B. 11
- C. 13
- D. 15

105. Compensatory afforestation under CAMPA Act 2016 means:

- A. Planting trees in another location to compensate for felled ones
- B. Compensating tribals
- C. Banning all mining
- D. Converting agriculture to forest

106. The Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) operates under:

- A. Ministry of Coal
- B. Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- C. Ministry of Environment, Forests + Climate Change
- D. NITI Aayog

107. Hasdeo Arand forest in Chhattisgarh is significant because:

- A. Largest mangrove
- B. India's densest coal-bearing biodiversity-rich forest
- C. Ramsar wetland
- D. UNESCO World Heritage Site

108. What is the outlay of the Surface Coal Gasification scheme cleared by the Cabinet?

- A. Rs 18,000 crore
- B. Rs 25,000 crore
- C. Rs 37,500 crore
- D. Rs 50,000 crore

109. The coal gasification scheme targets how much coal gasification by 2030?

- A. 50 MT
- B. 75 MT
- C. 100 MT
- D. 150 MT

110. The scheme supports India's net-zero emissions pledge by which year?

- A. 2047
- B. 2050
- C. 2060
- D. 2070

SCIENCE, TECH & HEALTH

111. Drishti was launched aboard:

- A. PSLV-C58
- B. GSLV F14
- C. SpaceX Falcon 9
- D. Ariane 6

112. 'Drishti', launched on 3 May 2026, is the world's first private satellite combining:

- A. GPS + ELINT
- B. Optical + Synthetic Aperture Radar
- C. LIDAR + thermal
- D. SIGINT + COMINT

113. Indian Space Policy was issued in:

- A. 2017
- B. 2020
- C. 2023
- D. 2025

114. Who was the first Indian to travel to space?

- A. Shubhanshu Shukla
- B. Rakesh Sharma
- C. Kalpana Chawla
- D. Sunita Williams

115. Gaganyaan mission will make India the _____ country to have independent human spaceflight:

- A. 2nd
- B. 3rd
- C. 4th
- D. 5th

116. Rakesh Sharma's space mission was in:

- A. 1980
- B. 1982
- C. 1984
- D. 1986

117. Assertion (A): States can frame their own rules for ration card eligibility under NFSA. Reason (R): NFSA 2013 leaves identification criteria for PHH households to the State governments, within the overall coverage cap.

- A. Both A and R true; R explains A
- B. Both A and R true; R does NOT explain A
- C. A true, R false
- D. A false, R true

118. India's first commercial semiconductor fab is being built by:

- A. Tata-PSMC at Dholera
- B. Micron at Sanand
- C. Foxconn-Vedanta at Mumbai
- D. TSMC at Hyderabad

119. The node '28nm' in semiconductor manufacturing refers to:

- A. The physical size of the transistor gate (minimum feature size)
- B. The thickness of the silicon wafer
- C. The number of transistors per chip
- D. The clock speed of the processor

120. The three states that initially delayed signing PM-SHRI MoUs primarily cited concerns about:

- A. Insufficient funding and bureaucratic hurdles
- B. NEP's three-language formula and the 'PM' branding in a federalism context
- C. Opposition to the 25% EWS reservation
- D. Disagreement over school selection criteria

121. What share of Delhi's vehicle fleet are two-wheelers?

- A. 25%
- B. 40%
- C. 55%
- D. 66.9%

122. Delhi EV Policy 2.0 bans new ICE 2-wheeler registrations from:

- A. April 2026
- B. April 2027
- C. April 2028
- D. April 2030

123. TB is classified as a notifiable disease under:

- A. Consumer Protection Act
- B. Epidemic Diseases Act 1897
- C. National Health Policy 2017
- D. NTEP guidelines

124. The Central Motor Vehicles Rules date to:

- A. 1956
- B. 1988
- C. 1989
- D. 2000

125. If a Centre notification recognising E100 conflicts with a State emission rule, the resolution will draw from:

- A. Art 254 + List concerned
- B. Art 32
- C. Art 246A
- D. Art 110

126. The 'Asian Premium' refers to:

- A. Higher refining margins in Asia
- B. Higher crude price charged to Asian buyers compared to OECD buyers
- C. Asian shipping insurance loading
- D. Asia-only LNG benchmark

DEFENCE & SECURITY

127. The Simla Agreement between India and Pakistan was signed in:

- A. 1962
- B. 1965
- C. 1971
- D. 1972

128. Operation Sindoor was launched in response to:

- A. Pakistan's nuclear tests
- B. Pahalgam terror attack (April 22, 2025)
- C. China border incursion
- D. Bangladesh political crisis

129. UNCLOS stands for:

- A. UN Convention on Law of the Sea
- B. UN Committee on Littoral Operations
- C. UN Charter on Law of Shipping
- D. UN Convention on Land and Ocean

130. Principle: A neutral power that provides on-site, real-time targeting support to a belligerent loses its neutrality. Fact: State X embeds AVIC engineers with State Y's air force during active hostilities with State Z, providing live targeting support. Which conclusion best follows?

- A. X remains a neutral power
- B. X risks classification as a co-belligerent under Hague V + AP I
- C. X is automatically an aggressor under UN Charter Art 2(4)
- D. No legal consequence

131. What was India's defence spending as reported by SIPRI 2026?

- A. \$72.6 billion
- B. \$85.4 billion
- C. \$92.1 billion
- D. \$101 billion

132. India's defence exports in FY24 were approximately: CLAT Gurukul Daily MCQ Bank — May 6, 2026 | clatgurukul.com Page 6

- A. Rs 5,000 crore
- B. Rs 10,500 crore
- C. Rs 21,083 crore
- D. Rs 35,000 crore

133. Which Schedule and List Entry makes Defence a Union subject?

- A. Schedule VII, List I, Entry 1
- B. Schedule VII, List II, Entry 5
- C. Schedule VII, List III, Entry 15
- D. Schedule VII, List I, Entry 8

134. Customs Act, 1962 covers smuggling under:

- A. Sec 11
- B. Sec 110
- C. Sec 111-113
- D. Sec 135

135. Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) primarily addresses:

- A. Toll-revenue maximisation
- B. Risk-sharing between concessionaire and authority
- C. Pure EPC
- D. Privatisation of NHAI

136. State of Punjab v Baldev Singh (1999) dealt with:

- A. Sec 50 NDPS — search of person and right to be informed
- B. Sec 37 bail
- C. Sec 27A financing
- D. Sec 8 prohibition

137. DRDO's Hypersonic Test Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV) had its first successful flight in:

- A. 2018
- B. 2019
- C. 2020
- D. 2021

138. A scramjet engine performs combustion at:

- A. Subsonic flow
- B. Sonic flow
- C. Supersonic flow (Mach 2+)
- D. Hypersonic flow only

139. India's Strategic Forces Command was established in:

- A. 1998
- B. 2001
- C. 2003
- D. 2010

140. Digital Personal Data Protection Act in India was enacted in:

- A. 2019
- B. 2021
- C. 2022
- D. 2023

141. Mission Vatsalya, an integrated child-protection scheme, was launched in:

- A. 2018-19
- B. 2019-20
- C. 2020-21
- D. 2021-22

142. If Indian defence AI processes EU citizens' biometric data, the strongest extra-territorial regulatory exposure arises under:

- A. IT Act §69
- B. DPDP Act 2023
- C. EU AI Act 2024 + GDPR
- D. Outer Space Treaty

143. Under which anti-terror law did the NIA file the Red Fort blast chargesheet?

- A. MCOCA
- B. UAPA
- C. NSA
- D. AFSPA

144. How many accused were named in the NIA's Red Fort blast chargesheet?

- A. 6
- B. 8
- C. 10
- D. 12

145. Which explosive was allegedly manufactured in the Faridabad lab?

- A. RDX
- B. TATP
- C. PETN
- D. ANFO

146. The Hizbul narco-terror kingpin Iqbal Singh 'Shera' was extradited from which country?

- A. Spain
- B. Portugal
- C. Italy
- D. Germany

147. Iqbal Singh 'Shera' was a kingpin of which militant outfit?

- A. Lashkar-e-Taiba
- B. Hizbul Mujahideen
- C. Jaish-e-Mohammed
- D. Khalistan Tiger Force

148. The same extradition route from Portugal was earlier used in 2005 for which accused?

- A. Dawood Ibrahim
- B. Abu Salem
- C. Chhota Rajan
- D. Tiger Memon

149. National Technology Day is observed on:

- A. 11 May
- B. 13 May
- C. 28 February
- D. 2 October

150. Pokhran-II was conducted under PM:

- A. Indira Gandhi
- B. P.V. Narasimha Rao
- C. Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- D. Manmohan Singh

151. Operation Shakti — Pokhran-II — was conducted in:

- A. May 1974
- B. May 1998
- C. June 1999
- D. May 2008

ART, CULTURE & HISTORY

152. CDS post was established in:

- A. 2017
- B. 2019
- C. 2020
- D. 2022

153. Buddha Purnima/Vesak commemorates how many key events?

- A. 1 (birth)
- B. 2 (birth + enlightenment)
- C. 3 (birth, enlightenment, parinirvana)
- D. 4 (incl. first sermon)

154. UNGA recognised Vesak via Resolution:

- A. 54/115 (1999)
- B. 56/178 (2001)
- C. 60/4 (2005)
- D. 65/186 (2010)

155. If a passage says 'X confessed only to NCB officers; no recovery; no other evidence', the strongest legal flaw in conviction is:

- A. Sec 27 Evidence Act bar
- B. Sec 67 NDPS confession inadmissible per Tofan Singh
- C. Sec 50 not complied
- D. Sec 8 not invoked

156. Canadian PM Justin Trudeau's formal apology for Komagata Maru came in:

- A. May 2014
- B. May 2015
- C. May 2016
- D. May 2018

157. The Komagata Maru voyage took place in:

- A. 1907
- B. 1914
- C. 1919
- D. 1922

158. If RBI sells USD from reserves to defend the rupee, on its balance sheet the immediate effect is:

- A. Foreign assets fall, INR liabilities fall
- B. Foreign assets rise, INR liabilities rise
- C. No change
- D. Gold holdings rise

159. Gyan Bharatam Mission was announced in the Union Budget of:

- A. 2022-23
- B. 2023-24
- C. 2024-25
- D. 2025-26

160. National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) was set up in:

- A. 1985
- B. 1992
- C. 2003
- D. 2014

161. Identify the FALSE statement:

- A. Ellenborough's gates turned out to be of Egyptian-Arab origin, not Indian
- B. The Places of Worship Act 1991 freezes character as on 15 Aug 1947
- C. Pokhran-II tests occurred on 11 and 13 May 1998
- D. The Places of Worship Act 1991 applies to the Ayodhya dispute

162. Sardar Patel's role in Somnath reconstruction was primarily as:

- A. First Home Minister, championing reconstruction
- B. Chief Justice of Kathiawar
- C. Trust Secretary
- D. Architect

163. If India must replicate the IEA's 90-day rule, its current 60-day crude cushion plus 9.5-day SPR coverage falls short by approximately:

- A. 10 days
- B. 20 days
- C. 30 days
- D. 45 days

164. The Queen's Proclamation, 1858 was issued by:

- A. Queen Victoria
- B. Queen Elizabeth II
- C. King George V
- D. King Edward VII

165. Principle: The Queen's Proclamation 1858 promised non-discrimination in public employment. Fact: A colonial-era rule barred Indians from a senior service on grounds of race. Which conclusion best follows?

- A. Rule was consistent with the Proclamation
- B. Rule violated the Proclamation's non-discrimination promise — a moral antecedent of Art 16
- C. Rule was protected by the Crown's prerogative
- D. Only Parliament could review

166. Which Act introduced separate electorates?

- A. Indian Councils Act 1861
- B. Indian Councils Act 1892
- C. Indian Councils Act 1909 (Morley-Minto)
- D. GoI Act 1919

167. The 44th Constitutional Amendment 1978 is significant because it:

- A. Introduced reservation for OBCs
- B. Made Arts. 20 and 21 non-suspendable even during Emergency under Art. 359
- C. Removed the right to property from FRs
- D. Both B and C

168. Rajan's case — the subject of Amma Ariyan — involved death during:

- A. Emergency-era MISA detention
- B. Post-Emergency political violence
- C. 1975 COFEPOSA detention
- D. Naxalite conflict in Kerala

169. Cannes Classics is the section of the Cannes Film Festival dedicated to:

- A. First-time filmmakers' short films
- B. Restoration of older and classic films, and film history documentaries
- C. Best Asian films
- D. Documentary films only

170. The four Geneva Conventions were adopted in:

- A. 1907
- B. 1929
- C. 1945
- D. 1949

171. The Geneva Conventions Act in India was enacted in:

- A. 1950
- B. 1955
- C. 1960
- D. 1965

172. World Red Cross Day on May 8 marks the birthday of:

- A. Florence Nightingale
- B. Henry Dunant
- C. Louis Pasteur
- D. Albert Schweitzer

173. Prof Susan Elias became St Stephen's College's first woman Principal in how many years?

- A. 100
- B. 125
- C. 145
- D. 160

174. St Stephen's College is affiliated to which university?

- A. Jamia Millia Islamia
- B. Delhi University
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru University
- D. Ambedkar University

175. St Stephen's College was founded in which year?

- A. 1857
- B. 1881
- C. 1901
- D. 1922

SPORTS

176. Which Article of the Constitution relates to India's obligation to foster respect for international law and treaty obligations?

- A. Art. 51 (DPSP — promote international peace and security)
- B. Art. 253 (treaty implementation power)
- C. Art. 73 (executive power for foreign affairs)
- D. All of the above are relevant

177. Make in India was launched in which year?

- A. 2012
- B. 2013
- C. 2014
- D. 2016

178. India's policy announced in May 2026 bans which type of sporting engagement with Pakistan?

- A. All sporting engagement including multilateral events
- B. Only cricket bilateral series
- C. Bilateral competitions while permitting Pakistani participation in multilateral events in India
- D. Only Olympics-level competition

REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES

179. The current Finance Commission is the:

- A. 14th
- B. 15th
- C. 16th
- D. 17th

180. The Finance Commission is constituted under:

- A. Art 280
- B. Art 282
- C. Art 270
- D. Art 275

181. The Disaster Management Act was enacted in:

- A. 1995
- B. 2000
- C. 2005
- D. 2013

182. NSAP's flagship Rs 200 old-age pension has remained unchanged since which year?

- A. 2007
- B. 2010
- C. 2012
- D. 2015

183. By how much has the real value of the Rs 200 old-age pension eroded?

- A. 25%
- B. 35%
- C. 45%
- D. 55%

184. NSAP comprises how many component schemes?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6

185. The MSME definition was last revised in:

- A. 2006
- B. 2015
- C. 2018
- D. 2020

186. Under the revised MSME definition, a 'Micro' enterprise must have investment NOT exceeding:

- A. Rs 25 lakh
- B. Rs 1 crore
- C. Rs 5 crore
- D. Rs 10 crore

187. ECLGS was first launched in:

- A. March 2019
- B. May 2020
- C. April 2021
- D. July 2022

188. Bandhua Mukti Morcha v Union of India (1984) is associated with:

- A. Bonded labour and right to live with dignity
- B. Free legal aid
- C. Reservation in promotions
- D. Environmental clearance

189. MGNREGA 2005 originally guaranteed:

- A. 50 days of work per individual
- B. 100 days of work per household
- C. 125 days of work per household
- D. 200 days of work per village

190. Under VB-G RAM G, the guaranteed days of work per rural household per year are:

- A. 100
- B. 115
- C. 125
- D. 150

191. If a rural household is denied work within 15 days of demanding it under VB-G RAM G (mirroring MGNREGA §7), the legally appropriate remedy is:

- A. Writ under Article 32 only
- B. Unemployment allowance from the State
- C. Compensation under Article 300
- D. No remedy available

192. Which state among TN, WB, Kerala, Assam has the LOWEST debt-to-GSDP ratio as per 2025-26 data?

- A. Tamil Nadu (~25.6%)
- B. West Bengal (~30%)
- C. Kerala (~28%)
- D. Assam (~12%)

193. WPA 1972 Schedule I offences carry a minimum punishment of:

- A. 1 year imprisonment
- B. 3 years imprisonment
- C. Up to 7 years (no mandatory minimum for first offence)
- D. Life imprisonment only

194. 'Debt-to-GSDP ratio' measures:

- A. Annual revenue surplus as a percentage of state output
- B. Total outstanding liabilities as a percentage of Gross State Domestic Product
- C. Central grants as percentage of state revenue
- D. State tax revenue as percentage of total receipts

195. Delhi's Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Policy 2021 sets the influence-zone radius at:

- A. 100 m
- B. 250 m
- C. 500 m
- D. 1 km

196. PM-UDAY 2019 stands for:

- A. Pradhan Mantri Urban Development Affordable Yojana
- B. Pradhan Mantri Unauthorised Colonies in Delhi Awas Adhikar Yojana
- C. Pradhan Mantri Universal Dwelling Yojana
- D. Pradhan Mantri Urban Affordable Yojana

197. The enabling Parliament law for PM-UDAY is:

- A. Delhi Development Act 1957
- B. NCT of Delhi (Recognition of Property Rights of Residents in Unauthorised Colonies) Act 2019

- C. DDA Master Plan 2041
- D. Delhi Special Provisions Act 2011

198. Onion procurement by NAFED and NCCF is carried out under which fund?

- A. Market Intervention Scheme
- B. Price Stabilisation Fund
- C. National Agriculture Fund
- D. Consumer Welfare Fund

199. Which two agencies were tasked with onion procurement?

- A. FCI and CWC
- B. NAFED and NCCF
- C. APEDA and NDDB
- D. SFAC and NCDC

200. How much onion will each agency procure under the scheme?

- A. 50,000 tonne
- B. 1 lakh tonne
- C. 2 lakh tonne
- D. 5 lakh tonne

STATES IN NEWS

201. Assertion (A): The Punjab Sacrilege (Amendment) Act 2026 prescribes life imprisonment + Rs 25 lakh fine. Reason (R): 'Beadbi' is an offence on the Union List. Choose the correct option:

- A. Both A and R true; R explains A
- B. Both true; R does not explain A
- C. A true, R false
- D. A false, R true

202. Privacy was declared a fundamental right in:

- A. Kharak Singh (1962)
- B. Gobind v MP (1975)
- C. Puttaswamy v Uol (2017)
- D. Aadhaar judgment (2018)

203. The Akal Takht is best described as the:

- A. Largest gurdwara in Punjab
- B. Supreme temporal seat of the Khalsa Panth
- C. Apex Sikh educational seminary
- D. Religious court of the SGPC

204. Land for the project would primarily be acquired under:

- A. LARR Act 2013
- B. Land Acquisition Act 1894
- C. Forest Conservation Act 1980
- D. NH Act 1956 + LARR 2013

205. The Missing Link's cable-stayed bridge over Tiger Valley is engineered for wind speeds of:

- A. 120 km/h
- B. 180 km/h
- C. 240 km/h
- D. 300 km/h

206. UNESCO 1970 Convention deals with:

- A. World Heritage Sites
- B. Intangible Cultural Heritage
- C. Illicit trafficking of cultural property
- D. Underwater Cultural Heritage

207. Andaman & Nicobar Islands fall under which Schedule of the Constitution?

- A. Schedule V
- B. Schedule VI
- C. Schedule VIII
- D. Schedule IX

208. Kishanganga Hydroelectric Project on the Jhelum tributary was commissioned in:

- A. 2014
- B. 2016
- C. 2018
- D. 2020

209. The Forest Rights Act, 2006 recognises forest rights of:

- A. Only Scheduled Tribes
- B. Only OTFDs
- C. Both STs and OTFDs
- D. All forest officials

210. If three Gram Sabha resolutions show identical wording and overlapping signatures, the strongest legal challenge under FRA would invoke:

- A. FRA §3 only
- B. FRA §6 read with EIA 2006 public consultation requirement and Niyamgiri
- C. Article 14 alone
- D. Forest Conservation Act §2

PERSONAL NOTES — FACTS & MISSES TO REVISE

ANSWER KEY

Detailed explanations for every question are available in the CLAT Gurukul LMS — scan the “Ask The Explainer” QR on the back cover.

1 A	2 C	3 B	4 C	5 C	6 B	7 B	8 C	9 A	10 A
11 B	12 C	13 A	14 B	15 C	16 A	17 B	18 C	19 A	20 C
21 B	22 A	23 C	24 B	25 C	26 A	27 B	28 B	29 A	30 C
31 C	32 B	33 B	34 A	35 C	36 A	37 B	38 B	39 A	40 B
41 C	42 B	43 C	44 B	45 C	46 B	47 A	48 A	49 B	50 C
51 C	52 B	53 B	54 A	55 A	56 C	57 C	58 B	59 B	60 B
61 B	62 B	63 B	64 D	65 C	66 C	67 C	68 A	69 C	70 C
71 B	72 C	73 B	74 C	75 C	76 B	77 C	78 C	79 B	80 B
81 A	82 C	83 B	84 C	85 B	86 B	87 C	88 D	89 A	90 A
91 C	92 C	93 B	94 B	95 D	96 C	97 B	98 D	99 C	100 B
101 C	102 B	103 B	104 C	105 A	106 C	107 B	108 C	109 C	110 D
111 C	112 B	113 C	114 B	115 C	116 C	117 A	118 A	119 A	120 B
121 D	122 C	123 B	124 C	125 A	126 B	127 D	128 B	129 A	130 B
131 C	132 C	133 A	134 D	135 B	136 A	137 C	138 C	139 C	140 D
141 D	142 C	143 B	144 C	145 B	146 B	147 B	148 B	149 A	150 C
151 B	152 B	153 C	154 A	155 B	156 C	157 B	158 A	159 C	160 C
161 D	162 A	163 B	164 A	165 B	166 C	167 D	168 A	169 B	170 D
171 C	172 B	173 C	174 B	175 B	176 D	177 C	178 C	179 C	180 A
181 C	182 C	183 C	184 C	185 D	186 B	187 B	188 A	189 B	190 C
191 B	192 D	193 C	194 B	195 C	196 B	197 B	198 B	199 B	200 B
201 C	202 C	203 B	204 D	205 C	206 C	207 A	208 C	209 C	210 B

Jot down the facts and misses you want to revise before the exam.

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for writing or drawing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.



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