

CLAT GURUKUL

GK CHRONICLE

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS DIGEST

MAY 2026

MONTHLY DIGEST

Part II • 16–30 May 2026

56 Topics • 190 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.

PUBLISHED BY
Ready For Exam · Sri Krishna Puri, Patna, Bihar

EDITORIAL DESK
CLAT Gurukul Editorial Team

EDITION
Volume I · May 2026 · Part II (16–30 May 2026) · For CLAT 2027

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clatgurukul.com

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KEY TOPICS IN FOCUS

POLITY & GOVERNANCE	Citizenship (Amendment) Rules 2026 — e-OCI & Passport Surrender
LEGAL & JUDICIARY	Supreme Court Strength Raised 34 → 38 (Bill, Then Ordinance)
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	3rd India-Nordic Summit at Oslo — Green Tech and Arctic Focus
ECONOMY & BUSINESS	Fuel Price Freeze Bleeds OMCs; First Hike in Four Years
ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY	India's Only Ape Crosses a Canopy Bridge in Hollongapar, Assam
SCIENCE, TECH & HEALTH	India's First Alzheimer's Therapy and an Early Blood Test

SECTION 01 / 12

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

Citizenship (Amendment) Rules 2026 — e-OCI & Passport Surrender

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** notified the **Citizenship (Amendment) Rules 2026**, launching an **electronic OCI (e-OCI)** card on the **DigiLocker** stack and barring minor OCI holders from holding dual passports — plugging identity arbitrage by NRI parents and aligning with **FATF** beneficial-ownership norms. A parallel gazette order requires persons of Indian origin holding **Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Afghan passports** to declare and surrender them.

QUICK FACTS

- **OCI (Overseas Citizen of India)** is a **statutory** status under **Section 7A** of the Citizenship Act 1955 — **not** a form of citizenship.
- New rules move OCI to **e-OCI** on **DigiLocker** and close the minor dual-passport loophole.
- PIOs holding Pakistani/Bangladeshi/Afghan passports must **declare and surrender** them.
- Framed as compliance with **FATF** mutual-evaluation recommendations on beneficial-ownership transparency.

MUST KNOW

- **Article 9** bars **dual citizenship** — a person voluntarily acquiring foreign citizenship ceases to be an Indian citizen.
- OCI holders **cannot vote**, contest elections, hold constitutional posts, or buy **agricultural land**.
- Citizenship provisions sit in **Articles 5–11**; Parliament regulates citizenship via the Citizenship Act 1955 (**Entry 17, Union List**).
- OCI is **not** dual citizenship — it confers lifelong visa + residency rights only.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- OCI scheme launched 2005; it merged the older **PIO card** scheme in 2015.
- **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** is observed on **9 January** (Gandhi's 1915 return from South Africa).
- **DigiLocker** is a MeitY digital-document platform under the Digital India programme.
- Central Government (MHA) is the registering authority for OCI under Section 7A.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT frequently tests that OCI is a statutory status, not citizenship, and that Article 9 forbids dual citizenship. Expect a matching or assertion-reason set on OCI rights and disabilities.

PROVISIONS

Article 5, Article 9, Article 11, Section 7A Citizenship Act 1955, Section 7B Citizenship Act 1955, Section 7D Citizenship Act 1955

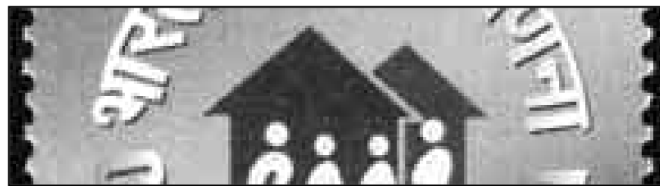
BODIES & CASES

Ministry of Home Affairs, FATF (Financial Action Task Force), DigiLocker / MeitY

Common Error: Students wrongly call OCI 'dual citizenship' or think OCI holders can vote. OCI is statutory (Section 7A), confers no political

rights, and Article 9 expressly bars dual citizenship.

Census 2027 — India's First Digital, Caste-Inclusive Census



India's **Census 2027** began its **Houselisting & Housing Census** phase (with the **NPR update**) via a **mobile self-enumeration app** — the country's **first fully digital, GPS-tagged census**. A Delhi NCT pilot (1–15 May) preceded rollout in Jharkhand and other regions from 16 May. For the first time since **1931**, **caste enumeration** is included in the decennial exercise.

QUICK FACTS

- First **digital, app-based, GPS-tagged** census in Indian history; conducted under the **Census Act 1948**.
- Phase 1 = **Houselisting + Housing Census + NPR update**; Population Enumeration follows later.
- **Caste enumeration** included for the first time since the **1931** Census.
- **Section 11** penalty of the Census Act invoked against a Gurgaon respondent for giving false information.

MUST KNOW

- **Census is a Union subject** — **Entry 69, List I (Union List)**, Seventh Schedule; states cannot block it.
- **NPR (National Population Register)** = register of **usual residents** under the Citizenship Rules 2003; distinct from **NRC**, a register of **citizens** under **Section 14A** of the Citizenship Act 1955.
- **SECC 2011** (Socio-Economic Caste Census) was a **separate** exercise — not part of the decennial census.
- Data collection engages the privacy standard of **KS Puttaswamy (2017)**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The first synchronous Indian census was **1872** (under Lord Mayo); the first complete one was **1881**.
- Census is conducted by the **Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India** under the MHA.
- The decennial census is normally held in years ending in '1'; 2021 was postponed, making 2027 the next.
- **NPR** was first created in 2010 and updated in 2015.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the Census-as-Union-subject point and the NPR-vs-NRC distinction. A comprehension may pair digital census with the Puttaswamy privacy framework.

PROVISIONS

Article 246, Entry 69, List I (Union List), Seventh Schedule, Census Act 1948 (Section 11), Citizenship Rules 2003 (NPR), Section 14A Citizenship Act 1955 (NRC)

BODIES & CASES

Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, **KS Puttaswamy v Union of India (2017)**

Common Error: Conflating NPR with NRC, or assuming caste was counted in every census — full caste enumeration lapsed after 1931; SC/ST have always been counted, but not all castes.

Common Error: Treating Article 44 as enforceable, or thinking a UCC automatically overrides tribal custom — Sixth Schedule councils' laws survive unless the Schedule itself is amended; Art 44 is only a directive principle.

Assam UCC Bill & the Tribal Carve-Out Doctrine



The Assam Cabinet cleared a draft **Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill** modelled on the **Uttarakhand UCC (2024)**, covering marriage, divorce, succession and live-in registration, while explicitly **excluding Sixth Schedule areas** (Bodoland, Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao) to preserve tribal customary law. In parallel, the Home Minister publicly declared that the UCC will **not apply to tribal communities**, protecting custom under the **Fifth and Sixth Schedules**.

QUICK FACTS

- Assam UCC modelled on the **Uttarakhand UCC 2024** — India's first state to enact a UCC.
- Sixth Schedule** autonomous areas (Bodoland, Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao) are carved out.
- Covers **marriage, divorce, succession, and live-in registration**.
- Home Minister affirmed UCC will **not** extend to Scheduled Tribes, preserving customary law.

MUST KNOW

- Article 44 (UCC)** is a **Directive Principle** — non-justiciable under **Article 37**.
- Sixth Schedule (Article 244(2))** creates **Autonomous District Councils** with legislative and judicial powers over land and custom.
- A UCC cannot override Sixth Schedule councils' laws without amending the Schedule itself.
- Sarla Mudgal (1995)** and **Shayara Bano (2017, triple talaq)** revived the UCC debate judicially.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Fifth Schedule** covers Scheduled Areas outside the North-East; **Sixth Schedule** covers tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram.
- PESA 1996** extends panchayat provisions to Fifth Schedule areas; **FRA 2006** protects forest rights.
- Goa retains a Portuguese-era common civil code — often cited as a near-UCC model.
- Personal law falls under **Concurrent List Entry 5** (marriage, divorce, succession).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests Article 44's non-enforceability (Art 37) and the Sixth Schedule's autonomy. Expect questions distinguishing Fifth vs Sixth Schedule powers and the UCC-vs-tribal-custom tension.

PROVISIONS

Article 44 (DPSP), Article 37, Article 25, Article 244, Fifth Schedule, Sixth Schedule, Concurrent List Entry 5

BODIES & CASES

Sarla Mudgal v Union of India (1995), Shayara Bano v Union of India (2017), Autonomous District Councils

SC Questions Continued Reservation After Social Mobility

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

A Supreme Court bench asked whether **reservation** should continue for individuals who have **socio-economically moved up**, invoking the **creamy-layer** doctrine. Citing **Indra Sawhney (1992)**, **M. Nagaraj (2006)** and **Jarnail Singh (2018)**, the Court directed the **Centre and States** to file affidavits — reopening the debate on internal exclusion within SC/ST and OBC quotas.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench probed whether the **upwardly mobile** should keep reservation benefits.
- Rooted in the **creamy-layer** doctrine from **Indra Sawhney (1992)**.
- Centre and States** directed to file affidavits.
- Connects to the 2024 ruling permitting **sub-classification** within SC/ST (State of Punjab v Davinder Singh).

MUST KNOW

- Article 16(4)** permits reservation in public employment for backward classes; **16(4A)** allows reservation in **promotions** for SC/ST.
- Indra Sawhney (1992)**: capped reservation at **50%** and introduced the **creamy-layer** exclusion for OBCs.
- Jarnail Singh (2018)**: extended the creamy-layer principle to **SC/ST promotions** and diluted Nagaraj's quantifiable-data requirement.
- Article 335**: claims of SC/ST must be balanced with administrative efficiency.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Creamy layer originally applied only to **OBCs**, not SC/ST.
- M. Nagaraj (2006)** required quantifiable data on backwardness + inadequate representation for promotion quotas.
- The **103rd Amendment (2019)** added **10% EWS** reservation (Article 15(6)/16(6)), upheld in Janhit Abhiyan (2022).
- Article 16(4B)** permits carry-forward of unfilled reserved vacancies, breaching the 50% cap for backlog.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the creamy-layer evolution and the 50% ceiling. Expect a case-sequence question on Indra Sawhney → Nagaraj → Jarnail Singh.

PROVISIONS

Article 16(4), Article 16(4A), Article 16(4B), Article 335, Article 15(4)

BODIES & CASES

Indra Sawhney v Union of India (1992), M. Nagaraj v Union of India (2006), Jarnail Singh v Lachhmi Narain Gupta (2018)

Common Error: Assuming creamy layer never applies to SC/ST — Jannail Singh (2018) extended it to SC/ST promotions, overruling Nagaraj's data requirement on that point.

struck-down offence provision (Section 66A).

IT Rules 2026 'Three-Hour Rule' & the Sahyog Portal

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

MeitY notified the IT (Intermediary Guidelines & Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules 2026, inserting a new provision requiring intermediaries (Meta, X) to remove 'unlawful content' within 180 minutes of a government notice on the Sahyog Portal — shrinking the takedown window from 36 hours to 3. Creators with over 50,000 followers are deemed 'digital news broadcasters', tightening Section 79 safe-harbour obligations.

QUICK FACTS

- Takedown window cut from **36 hours to 180 minutes (3 hours)**.
- Removal notices routed through the centralised **Sahyog Portal** (launched Oct 2024).
- Creators with **>50,000 followers** reclassified as **digital news broadcasters**.
- Tightens the 'due diligence' condition attached to **Section 79** safe harbour.

MUST KNOW

- Section 79, IT Act 2000:** conditional **safe harbour** — intermediaries lose immunity if they fail 'due diligence'.
- Section 69A:** government's power to **block** content on specified grounds.
- Shreya Singhal (2015):** struck down **Section 66A** for vagueness and chilling effect — the foundational free-speech-online case.
- Free speech under **Article 19(1)(a)** is subject only to the reasonable restrictions in **Article 19(2)**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Anuradha Bhasin (2020):** internet shutdowns must satisfy **proportionality** and be published/reviewed.
- KS Puttaswamy (2017):** recognised informational privacy as part of **Article 21**.
- IT Rules 2021 first introduced the grievance-officer and traceability framework.
- MeitY = **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests Shreya Singhal (Section 66A) and Section 79 safe harbour. Expect a passage on free speech, proportionality, and intermediary liability.

PROVISIONS

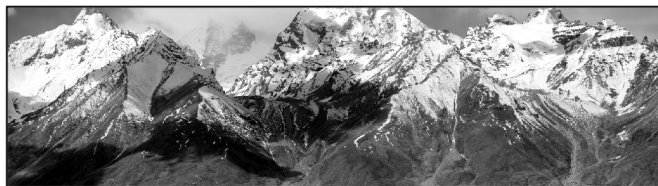
Article 19(1)(a), Article 19(2), Article 21, Section 79 IT Act 2000, Section 69A IT Act 2000, Section 66A IT Act 2000 (struck down)

BODIES & CASES

MeitY, Shreya Singhal v Union of India (2015), Anuradha Bhasin v Union of India (2020), KS Puttaswamy v Union of India (2017)

Common Error: Thinking Section 66A is still valid — it was struck down in Shreya Singhal (2015). Do not confuse blocking (Section 69A) with the

Ladakh & the Sixth Schedule Demand



Activist **Sonam Wangchuk** pressed for constitutional safeguards for **Ladakh** under the **Sixth Schedule (Article 244(2))** — arguing that mere administrative decentralisation is inadequate for a tribal-majority Union Territory. The Centre has created **four new districts** (Nubra, Changthang, Sham, Zaskar) but granted **no legislative autonomy**. Ladakh was carved out as a UT without a legislature by the **J&K Reorganisation Act 2019**.

QUICK FACTS

- Demand is for inclusion under the **Sixth Schedule**, not just new districts.
- Four new districts created: **Nubra, Changthang, Sham, Zaskar**.
- Ladakh became a **UT without a legislature** under the J&K Reorganisation Act 2019.
- The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes had earlier recommended Sixth Schedule status for Ladakh.

MUST KNOW

- Sixth Schedule (Article 244(2))** grants **Autonomous District Councils** with **legislative and judicial** powers over land, forests, and custom.
- Fifth Schedule (Article 244(1))** has **no** such elected councils with law-making power — only a Governor + Tribes Advisory Council.
- The Sixth Schedule currently applies only to **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram**.
- Extending it to Ladakh needs a **constitutional amendment** under Article 368.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Ladakh's two districts are **Leh and Kargil**, each with a Hill Development Council (statutory, not constitutional).
- Over 97% of Ladakh's population is **Scheduled Tribe**.
- Article 244 and the Schedules deal with the administration of **Scheduled and Tribal Areas**.
- Sonam Wangchuk is associated with the SECMOL / 'Three Idiots'-inspired education reforms.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the Fifth vs Sixth Schedule distinction. Expect a matching question on which states/areas fall under the Sixth Schedule and the powers of Autonomous District Councils.

PROVISIONS

Article 244(1), Article 244(2), Fifth Schedule, Sixth Schedule, Article 368

BODIES & CASES

J&K Reorganisation Act 2019, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, Autonomous District Councils

Common Error: Assuming the Fifth Schedule gives elected legislative councils — only the Sixth Schedule (Art 244(2)) creates Autonomous District Councils with legislative and judicial powers.

Delimitation Post-2026 Census — Seat Freeze Set to Lift



With **Census 2027** underway, the freeze on **delimitation** — Lok Sabha seats frozen at **543** since the **1971 Census** — is set to lift. Analysts estimate the House could expand toward **800+** seats, sharpening a **north-south divide** because population-based allocation favours northern states. Separately, the **Constitution 131st Amendment Bill** to lift the freeze was **negatived** in the Lok Sabha, failing the **Article 368** special-majority threshold.

QUICK FACTS

- Lok Sabha strength frozen since the **1971 Census**; the freeze lifts after the **first census taken after 2026**.
- House could expand from **543** to as many as **~800+** seats.
- The **131st Amendment Bill** was **negatived** (lost) in the LS, failing Article 368.
- The new Parliament building was designed for a **larger House**.

MUST KNOW

- **Article 82** mandates readjustment of seats after each census via a **Delimitation Commission**.
- **42nd Amendment (1976)** first froze seat totals; **84th Amendment (2001)** extended the freeze to the **first census after 2026**.
- **87th Amendment (2003)** allowed delimitation of constituencies on the basis of **2001 Census** figures (without changing totals).
- **106th Amendment (2023)** — **Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam** — reserves **one-third** of Lok Sabha and state assembly seats for women, operative only **after** the next delimitation.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- An **Article 368** special majority = majority of total membership of the House **AND** two-thirds of members present and voting.
- **Article 81** governs the composition of the Lok Sabha; **Article 170** governs state legislative assemblies.
- Delimitation Commission orders have the **force of law** and **cannot** be questioned in any court (Article 329).
- Reservation of seats for SC/ST is under **Articles 330 and 332**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the amendment sequence freezing seats and the Article 368 special-majority rule. Expect a comprehension on delimitation, the north-south divide, and the women's reservation trigger.

PROVISIONS

Article 82, Article 81, Article 170, Article 330, Article 332, Article 368

BODIES & CASES

Delimitation Commission, 42nd Amendment (1976), 84th Amendment (2001), 87th Amendment (2003), 106th Amendment (2023) — **Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam**

Common Error: Assuming the 106th Amendment women's quota is already in force — it operates only after delimitation following the next census. Also, special majority needs **BOTH** conditions, not either-or.

The Empty Third Tier — 73rd/74th Amendments in Practice

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

A policy analysis highlighted how India's **local bodies** remain fiscally hollow: they command just **0.3% of GDP** in own-tax revenue against China's ~7%, and only about **10%** of government employees work at the local level versus **60–65%** in the US and China. Despite the **73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments (1992)** creating a constitutional third tier, devolution of funds, functions and functionaries remains weak.

QUICK FACTS

- Local bodies raise only **0.3% of GDP** in own-tax revenue (vs China's ~7%).
- Only **~10%** of government employees are at the local level (vs 60–65% in US/China).
- The **73rd and 74th Amendments (1992)** gave panchayats and municipalities constitutional status.
- Core problem = weak devolution of the '**3 Fs**' — funds, functions, functionaries.

MUST KNOW

- **73rd Amendment (1992)**: added **Part IX** (Panchayats, Articles 243–243O) and the **Eleventh Schedule** (29 subjects).
- **74th Amendment (1992)**: added **Part IXA** (Municipalities, Articles 243P–243ZG) and the **Twelfth Schedule** (18 subjects).
- **Article 243I / 243Y** mandate a **State Finance Commission** every five years to review local-body finances.
- **Article 243K / 243ZA** vest superintendence of local elections in the **State Election Commission**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957)** recommended the three-tier panchayati raj system.
- The **Ashok Mehta Committee (1978)** proposed a two-tier system.
- **Rajasthan (Nagaur, 1959)** was the first state to launch panchayati raj.
- Reservation of one-third seats for women in local bodies flows from Articles **243D** and **243T**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the 73rd/74th Amendment architecture — Part IX vs IXA, the two new Schedules, and State Finance/Election Commissions. Expect matching on articles and schedules.

PROVISIONS

Article 243 to 243O (Part IX), Article 243P to 243ZG (Part IXA), Article 243I, Article 243Y, Eleventh Schedule, Twelfth Schedule

BODIES & CASES

State Finance Commission, State Election Commission, Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957), Ashok Mehta Committee (1978)

Common Error: Swapping the two: the 73rd Amendment/Eleventh Schedule = panchayats; the 74th Amendment/Twelfth Schedule = municipalities. Also, local-body elections fall to the **STATE Election Commission**, not the ECI.

SECTION 02 / 12

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

Supreme Court Strength Raised 34 → 38 (Bill, Then Ordinance)



To tackle a mounting backlog, the government moved to expand the **Supreme Court's sanctioned strength from 34 to 38 judges** — the sanctioned figure **includes the CJI** (1 CJI + 37 other judges). The Union Cabinet approved the **SC (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill 2026** on 5 May; with Parliament not in session, **President Murmu promulgated an Ordinance** on 16 May raising the strength, citing a pendency of about **92,823 cases**.

QUICK FACTS

- Strength rises **34 → 38 judges** — the sanctioned strength **includes the CJI** (1 CJI + 37 others).
- Union Cabinet approved the **Amendment Bill** on **5 May 2026**.
- **President Murmu** promulgated the **Ordinance** on **16 May 2026** under **Article 123**.
- Driver: pendency of roughly **92,823 cases** (earlier cited ~80,000).

MUST KNOW

- The number of SC judges is fixed by **Parliament by law** under **Article 124(1)** (via the SC (Number of Judges) Act 1956), not by the Constitution's text.
- An Ordinance under **Article 123** must be laid before Parliament and ceases **6 weeks** after it reassembles.
- Bench growth over time: **8 → 11 → 14 → 18 → 26 → 31 → 34 → 38** (sanctioned total, **including the CJI**).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- SC judges are appointed by the President under **Article 124** via the **Collegium** system.
- The **NJAC** (99th Amendment) was struck down in 2015, restoring the Collegium.
- The **Second (1993)** and **Third Judges (1998)** cases entrenched the Collegium.
- CJI Surya Kant's tenure runs to **9 February 2027** (retirement at 65).

CLAT / Legal Lens

Combines the mechanism for fixing judge strength (Article 124(1) via ordinary law) with ordinance-making under Article 123 and its 6-week laying rule.

PROVISIONS

Article 124(1), Article 123 (Ordinance), SC (Number of Judges) Act 1956

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Union Cabinet, Second Judges Case (1993), Third Judges Case (1998)

Common Error: The sanctioned strength of 34 (now 38) **INCLUDES** the CJI — do not add the CJI on top to get 35/39.

SC 'Bail to Verdict': A 3-Month Deadline for Reserved HC Judgments

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

A bench of **CJI Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi** directed all **High Courts** to pronounce **reserved verdicts within three months** and to show 'extra promptitude' in personal-liberty and bail matters. **Bail orders** should preferably be pronounced the **same day** and uploaded within **24 hours**. The directions came on a plea by four life convicts whose appeals had long been reserved by the **Jharkhand High Court**.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **CJI Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi**.
- High Courts must deliver **reserved judgments within 3 months**.
- **Bail orders:** pronounce same day where possible; upload within **24 hours**.
- Chief Justices of High Courts must **monitor pending reserved judgments**; the plea was by four life convicts before the Jharkhand HC.

MUST KNOW

- The ruling builds directly on **Anil Rai v. State of Bihar (2001)**, which first laid down timelines for HC judgment delivery.
- Delay in delivering reserved verdicts implicates **Article 21** (speedy trial) and **Article 14** (fairness).
- Beyond the outer limit, litigants may seek **re-listing before another bench**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Hussainara Khatoon (1979)** read speedy trial into Article 21.
- **Maneka Gandhi (1978)** made Article 21 procedure fair, just and reasonable.
- High Court powers of superintendence flow from **Articles 226 and 227**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Tests judicial delay as an Article 21/14 issue and the precedent (Anil Rai) that fixed HC judgment timelines — a likely comprehension-passage hook.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 14, Article 226, Article 227

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Anil Rai v. State of Bihar (2001), Hussainara Khatoon (1979), Maneka Gandhi v. Uol (1978)

Common Error: Confusing this with a statutory deadline; the 3-month rule is a judicial direction anchored in **Anil Rai (2001)** and **Article 21**, not in a specific section.

SC: Pending Section 124A Sedition Cases Can Resume — With Consent

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

On **21 May 2026**, a three-judge bench led by **CJI Surya Kant** (with Justices Anjaria and Pancholi) clarified its **11 May 2022 Vombatkere interim order**: pending **Section 124A IPC sedition** cases can be **revived if the accused consents**. The colonial-era offence had sat in abeyance for over four years while the government reviewed it, and while **BNS §152** introduced a re-worded successor provision.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **CJI Surya Kant**, Justices **Anjaria and Pancholi**; order dated **21 May 2026**.
- Pending **§124A** cases can resume only **with the accused's consent**.
- **§124A** had been kept in abeyance since the **Vombatkere** interim order of 11 May 2022.
- The successor offence is **BNS §152** (acts endangering sovereignty, unity and integrity of India).

MUST KNOW

- Pre-1 July 2024 sedition offences survive under the **General Clauses Act 1897** savings clause even after the IPC's repeal.
- **Kedar Nath Singh v. State of Bihar (1962)** upheld §124A but limited it to speech that incites violence or public disorder.
- **BNS §152** drops the word 'sedition' but criminalises acts endangering India's sovereignty, unity and integrity.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **§124A IPC** was introduced in 1870; Section 124A was famously used against Tilak and Gandhi.
- The **S.G. Vombatkere v. Uol (2022)** order effectively paused all sedition prosecutions.
- The **General Clauses Act 1897** preserves rights, liabilities and pending proceedings across repeals.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Tests the sedition timeline (Kedar Nath limits, Vombatkere pause, BNS §152 successor) and how repealed penal law still governs pre-repeal offences.

PROVISIONS

Article 19(1)(a), Article 19(2), §124A IPC, BNS §152, General Clauses Act 1897

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Kedar Nath Singh v. State of Bihar (1962), S.G. Vombatkere v. Uol (2022)

Common Error: Assuming the IPC's repeal wiped out pending sedition cases — the General Clauses Act saves them; post-1-July-2024 acts instead fall under BNS §152.

UAPA Bail Bar Referred to a Larger Bench (Khalid / Watali)

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

The **Supreme Court** referred to a **larger bench** the long-standing conflict over bail under **Section 43D(5) of the UAPA**. On 22 May 2026, a two-judge bench of **Justices Surya Kant and N. Kotiswar Singh** flagged the tension between the **Watali (2019)** 'face-value' test (which makes bail very hard) and the **K.A. Najeed (2021)** line that lets constitutional courts grant bail on prolonged incarceration under **Article 21**. Justice A.S. Oka's bench had earlier voiced the same doubt in the **Umar Khalid** matter.

QUICK FACTS

- Referring bench (22 May 2026): **Justices Surya Kant and N. Kotiswar Singh**.
- Conflict: **Watali (2019)** 'face-value test' vs the **Najeed (2021) / Vernon Gonsalves (2023)** constitutional-bail line.
- Justice **A.S. Oka's** bench had signalled the same clash in the **Umar Khalid** bail case.
- A January 2026 ruling in **Gulfisha Fatima** had read Najeed narrowly, sharpening the conflict.

MUST KNOW

- **UAPA §43D(5)** bars bail if the court finds the accusation 'prima facie true' — a statutory bail restriction.
- **K.A. Najeed (2021)** held that Article 21 lets constitutional courts grant bail despite §43D(5) when trial is delayed and detention is long ('melt-down' doctrine).
- **NIA v. Zahoor Ahmad Shah Watali (2019)** said courts must take the prosecution's material at face value at the bail stage.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **UAPA 1967** is India's principal anti-terror law; the NIA prosecutes many UAPA cases.
- **Hussainara Khatoon (1979)** anchors the speedy-trial/Article 14 argument used to grant UAPA bail.
- **Vernon Gonsalves v. State of Maharashtra (2023)** reaffirmed the constitutional-bail route under Article 21.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A statute-vs-Constitution clash: a statutory bail bar (§43D(5)) against Article 21, and when a larger bench/reference is warranted — high-yield for CLAT.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, UAPA §43D(5)

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, NIA v. Watali (2019), Union of India v. K.A. Najeed (2021), Vernon Gonsalves v. Maharashtra (2023)

Common Error: Reading §43D(5) as an absolute bar — Najeed makes it a constitutional override, so Article 21 plus prolonged pre-trial detention can still secure bail.

SC Upholds 28% GST on Online Money Gaming

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

On **28 May 2026**, a bench of **Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan** upheld the constitutional validity of **28% GST on the full face value** of online money gaming under retrospective amendments to the **CGST Act 2017** (following the October 2023 GST Council decision). The Court rejected the **skill-vs-chance** distinction for tax classification, holding all online money gaming to be an **'actionable claim'** — reviving roughly **₹2.5 lakh crore** in tax demands.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan**; verdict on **28 May 2026**.
- 28% GST on full face value** upheld, including **retrospective** operation.
- Skill-vs-chance** distinction rejected for GST — all online money gaming = **actionable claim**.
- Revives large demands: **Gameskraft ₹21,000 cr, Dream11 ₹40,000 cr, Delta Corp ₹23,204 cr** (~₹2.5 lakh cr total).

MUST KNOW

- Article 20(1)** bars only **retrospective criminal punishment** — **retrospective taxation is constitutionally permissible**.
- Schedule III, Entry 6** of the CGST Act excludes 'actionable claims' from supply **except lottery, betting and gambling** — gaming is now bracketed with these.
- GST is levied under **Article 246A**; 'goods and services tax' is defined in **Article 366(12A)**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- State of Bombay v. R.M.D. Chamarbaugwala (1957)** held gambling is not a protected trade under Article 19(1)(g).
- K.R. Lakshmanan v. State of TN (1996)** held horse-racing is a game of skill.
- Mohit Minerals (2022)** held GST Council recommendations are recommendatory, not binding.
- The **Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act 2025 (PROG Act)** separately bans online money gaming.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Ties GST constitutional architecture (Article 246A, actionable claims) to the Article 20(1) limit and the skill-vs-chance debate — a rich multi-doctrine question.

PROVISIONS

Article 246A, Article 366(12A), Article 20(1), Article 19(1)(g), CGST Act 2017 §15, CGST Act Schedule III Entry 6

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, GST Council, R.M.D. Chamarbaugwala (1957), K.R. Lakshmanan v. TN (1996), Mohit Minerals (2022)

Common Error: Invoking Article 20(1) against retrospective GST — Article 20(1) bars only *ex-post-facto* CRIMINAL punishment, not retrospective taxation.

SC Stray-Dogs Ruling — Reaffirms the ABC Rules 2023



A three-judge bench led by **Justice Vikram Nath** (with Justices Mehta and Anjaria) **reaffirmed the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules 2023**, reversing an earlier 'passive spectator' approach to the stray-dog problem. The Court directed districts to build **ABC shelters** and to follow the sterilise-vaccinate-return protocol, balancing public safety against humane animal management.

QUICK FACTS

- Bench: **Justice Vikram Nath** with Justices **Mehta and Anjaria**.
- The **ABC Rules 2023** were reaffirmed as the governing framework.
- Districts must build **ABC shelters** and implement sterilise-vaccinate-return.
- The Court reversed the earlier **'passive spectator'** stance on managing strays.

MUST KNOW

- The **ABC Rules 2023** are framed under the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960**.
- The ruling balances **Article 21** (public safety) with **Article 51A(g)**, the fundamental duty to have compassion for living creatures.
- Culling of healthy strays is barred; the mandated method is **capture-sterilise-vaccinate-release at the same location**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960** is the parent statute for animal-welfare rules.
- The **Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)** is the statutory body advising on animal welfare.
- Article 48A** (DPSP) and **Article 51A(g)** (fundamental duty) protect the environment and living creatures.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Balances a fundamental right (public safety under Article 21) against a fundamental duty (Article 51A(g)) — CLAT frames it as rights-vs-duties governance.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 51A(g), Article 48A, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960, ABC Rules 2023

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Animal Welfare Board of India

Common Error: Assuming the Court permitted mass culling — the **ABC Rules 2023** mandate sterilise-vaccinate-release, not killing of healthy strays.

SECTION 03 / 12

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

3rd India-Nordic Summit at Oslo — Green Tech and Arctic Focus



PM Modi joined the leaders of **Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden** at the **3rd India-Nordic Summit** in Oslo on **19 May 2026**, received by King Harald V. Discussions covered defence, climate action, resilient supply chains, Arctic policy, semiconductors, AI and **EFTA-India TEPA** implementation. A **Green Strategic/Tech Partnership** (green hydrogen) was concluded and an ISRO-Norwegian Space Agency track advanced.

QUICK FACTS

- Summit venue **Oslo, 19 May 2026**; the 3rd India-Nordic Summit.
- Nordic Five: **Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden**.
- A **Green Tech / Green Strategic Partnership** covering green hydrogen was signed.
- Agenda included **EFTA-India TEPA** implementation, Arctic policy, semiconductors and AI.
- TEPA (signed March 2024) carries a **\$100bn FDI commitment over 15 years**.

MUST KNOW

- Nordic (5)** = Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden; **Scandinavian (3)** = Sweden, Norway, Denmark.
- TEPA is with EFTA, not the EU** — Norway/Iceland/Switzerland/Liechtenstein are NOT EU members.
- The **Ottawa Declaration 1996** established the Arctic Council; the Nordic Council rests on the **Helsinki Treaty 1962**.
- TEPA's **\$100bn FDI over 15 years** is India's first FTA to bind an investment commitment.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Norway's monarch at the time was **King Harald V**; capital Oslo, currency Norwegian krone.
- EFTA (European Free Trade Association)**: Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein.
- India-EFTA **TEPA** was signed in **March 2024**.
- Finland and Sweden are the newest **NATO** members (2023, 2024).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the EFTA-vs-EU and Nordic-vs-Scandinavian distinctions, plus the TEPA's unique binding FDI clause.

PROVISIONS

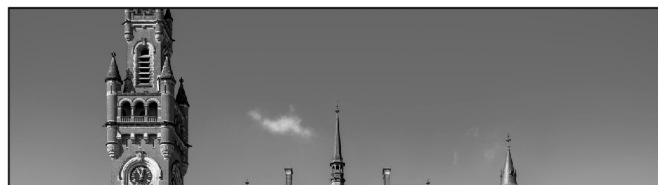
UNCLOS 1982, WTO Art XXIV

BODIES & CASES

EFTA-India TEPA 2024, Arctic Council (Ottawa Declaration 1996), Nordic Council (Helsinki Treaty 1962)

Common Error: Treating TEPA as an India-EU deal or equating 'Nordic' with 'Scandinavian.'

India-Netherlands Strategic Partnership Upgrade — ASML Semiconductor Deal



At The Hague on 16 May 2026, PM Modi met Dutch PM Dilan Yeşilgöz-Zegerius and Energy/Climate Minister Rob Jetten; **16 MoUs** were signed, including a **Tata Electronics + ASML semiconductor MoU** for Gujarat and a **five-year roadmap (2026-30)**. The deal deepens India's chip-manufacturing push, with the Netherlands' ASML being the world's sole maker of advanced **EUV lithography** machines.

QUICK FACTS

- Meeting at **The Hague, 16 May 2026**; **16 MoUs** signed.
- Flagship: **Tata Electronics + ASML** semiconductor MoU for **Gujarat**.
- A **5-year roadmap (2026-30)** was agreed.
- ASML (Netherlands) is the **only maker of advanced EUV lithography** systems worldwide.

MUST KNOW

- Strategic Partnerships are **political, not treaty-binding** — no parliamentary ratification is required.
- The Netherlands' seat of government is **The Hague**, though the capital is Amsterdam.
- Semiconductor supply-chain resilience is a core plank of India's **Semicon India** programme.
- The India-EU relationship provides the wider framework for such bilateral partnerships.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The Hague hosts the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)**, the ICC and the PCA.
- Diplomatic relations are governed by the **Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (VCDR) 1961**.
- Netherlands capital **Amsterdam**; seat of government The Hague; currency euro.
- ASML is headquartered in **Veldhoven**, Netherlands.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT distinguishes a political 'Strategic Partnership' (no ratification) from a binding treaty, and links The Hague to international courts.

PROVISIONS

VCDR 1961, Article 253

BODIES & CASES

India-EU Trade & Investment framework, ICJ (The Hague)

Common Error: Assuming a Strategic Partnership needs Parliament ratification like a treaty — it does not; it is a political declaration.

India-Italy Elevated to 'Special Strategic Partnership' in Rome



In Rome, PM Modi and Italian PM **Giorgia Meloni** elevated ties to a **'Special Strategic Partnership'** with a **€20 bn bilateral trade target by 2029**, a defence-industrial roadmap, and Italy anchored as a key node (including for the **IMEC** corridor). The joint statement explicitly called for listing cross-border terror operatives under the **UNSC 1267 Sanctions Committee** — a diplomatic signal India will press fresh designations.

QUICK FACTS

- Ties raised to a **'Special Strategic Partnership'** in Rome.
- **€20 bn bilateral trade target by 2029** plus a defence-industrial roadmap.
- Joint statement sought terror listings under the **UNSC 1267 Sanctions Committee**.
- Italy positioned as a key European node, relevant to the **IMEC** corridor.

MUST KNOW

- The **1267 Committee** is a **UN Security Council** sanctions committee for ISIL/AI-Qaeda-linked designations (freeze, travel ban, arms embargo).
- **IMEC** (India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor) was launched via a **G20 New Delhi MoU (2023)** — a connectivity initiative, not a treaty.
- A '1267 listing' can be blocked by any P5 'technical hold' — China has repeatedly stalled India's requests.
- Italy is a **G7 and NATO** member and part of the EU/Eurozone.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Italy capital **Rome**; currency euro; member of G7, G20, NATO, EU.
- The **1267 sanctions regime** dates to 1999 (originally targeting the Taliban/AI-Qaeda).
- IMEC has **no secretariat**; its founding text is the 2023 G20 New Delhi MoU.
- Meloni leads the **Brothers of Italy** party; she has visited India multiple times (incl. Raisina Dialogue).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can test the 1267 mechanism (a UNSC subsidiary body) and IMEC's non-treaty character alongside the partnership-tier vocabulary.

PROVISIONS

UN Charter, UNSC Res 1267 (1999)

BODIES & CASES

UNSC 1267 Sanctions Committee, IMEC (G20 New Delhi MoU 2023), G7

Common Error: Treating IMEC as a binding treaty with a secretariat — it is a connectivity MoU; and confusing the 1267 Committee with a court.

India-Cyprus Ties Elevated to Strategic Partnership



PM Modi visited **Cyprus on 22 May 2026** — the **first Indian PM visit since Vajpayee in 2002**. A joint declaration with President Nikos Christodoulides elevated ties to a **Strategic Partnership**, with pacts on defence, fintech, digital public infrastructure and **IMEC connectivity**. Cyprus, an EU member at the crossroads of Europe, West Asia and Africa, is a strategic node for India's Mediterranean and IMEC outreach.

QUICK FACTS

- PM Modi visited Cyprus on **22 May 2026** — first Indian PM visit since **Vajpayee (2002)**.
- Ties elevated to a **Strategic Partnership** with President **Christodoulides**.
- Pacts covered defence, fintech, **digital public infrastructure** and **IMEC** connectivity.
- Cyprus is an **EU member** bridging Europe, West Asia and Africa.

MUST KNOW

- **IMEC** is a connectivity initiative, NOT a treaty — no secretariat; founding text is the **G20 New Delhi MoU 2023**.
- Cyprus is divided: the internationally recognised Republic (Greek Cypriot, south) and the **Turkish-occupied north (TRNC)**, recognised only by Turkey.
- The **UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)** patrols the Green Line since 1964.
- Cyprus joined the **EU in 2004** and the Eurozone in 2008.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Cyprus capital **Nicosia** — the world's last divided capital; currency euro.
- Cyprus sits in the eastern Mediterranean, south of Turkey.
- The **UN Charter Art 1(2)** enshrines self-determination — relevant to the Cyprus question.
- Vajpayee's 2002 visit was the previous Indian PM trip to Cyprus.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can pair the Cyprus partition (self-determination, UNFICYP) with IMEC's non-treaty status and the strategic-partnership ladder.

PROVISIONS

UN Charter Art 1(2), VCLT 1969

BODIES & CASES

UNFICYP, IMEC (G20 New Delhi MoU 2023), European Union

Common Error: Thinking IMEC is a treaty with a secretariat, or that the **TRNC** is a widely recognised state — only Turkey recognises it.

US-India Ties '100%' — Rubio Visit and Pending Trade Pact

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

US Secretary of State **Marco Rubio** met EAM Jaishankar and PM Modi on **24 May 2026**; a trade pact was flagged for 'the next few weeks' and a **\$20B Indian investment in the US** was announced, with President Trump phoning in that ties are '100%'. The visit re-anchored the strategic-partnership trajectory even as Iran (an NPT signatory) rejected Rubio's call to surrender enriched uranium.

QUICK FACTS

- Rubio met **Jaishankar + Modi on 24 May 2026**; trade pact expected 'in the next few weeks.'
- \$20B Indian investment in the US** announced; Trump said ties are '100%.'
- Iran rejected Rubio's call to give up enriched uranium; Trump warned a Hormuz blockade would be met with 'full force.'
- Iran enriches to **~60%** vs the JCPOA cap of **3.67%**.

MUST KNOW

- India is NOT a US treaty ally — **no NATO Article 5 equivalent**; 'alliance' is rhetorical, and India follows **strategic autonomy**.
- US-India defence 'foundational agreements': **LEMOA (2016)**, **COMCASA (2018)**, **BECA (2020)**; tech via **iCET (2023)**.
- India routes a large share of Gulf oil through **Hormuz** — link **UNCLOS Art 38 (transit passage)** vs **Art 17 (innocent passage)**.
- ICJ Oil Platforms (2003)** is the classic self-defence/force case involving the Gulf.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Marco Rubio was **US Secretary of State**; S. Jaishankar is India's EAM.
- The **NPT (1968)** and **IAEA Statute (1957)** frame Iran's nuclear obligations.
- India's civil-nuclear framework rests on the **Atomic Energy Act 1962**.
- VCLT 1969 Art 26** codifies **pacta sunt servanda** (treaties bind in good faith).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests India's strategic-autonomy (non-alliance) doctrine and the defence-pact acronyms, plus the transit-vs-innocent-passage distinction.

PROVISIONS

UN Charter Art 2(4), 51, UNCLOS Art 38 & 17, NPT Art III, IV, VCLT 1969 Art 26

BODIES & CASES

LEMOA 2016, COMCASA 2018, BECA 2020, iCET 2023, ICJ Oil Platforms (2003)

Common Error: Reading 'alliance' literally — India has no NATO-style Article 5 collective-defence commitment.

Putin-Xi Beijing Summit Seals Power of Siberia 2 Pipeline



President **Putin** concluded a summit with President **Xi Jinping** in Beijing on **20 May 2026**, signing 40+ pacts including the **Power of Siberia 2** gas pipeline (2,600 km, Yamal→China **via Mongolia**). With Russia-China trade at 32% of Russia's total in 2025, the deal deepens Moscow's pivot east under Western sanctions and makes Mongolia a key **transit state**.

QUICK FACTS

- Putin-Xi summit in **Beijing, 20 May 2026**; **40+ pacts** signed.
- Flagship: **Power of Siberia 2** — a **2,600-km** gas pipeline (Yamal → China via Mongolia).
- China was **32% of Russia's total trade in 2025**.
- The route through **Mongolia** makes it a strategic transit state, not a bilateral line.

MUST KNOW

- Power of Siberia 2 transits **Mongolia** — a landlocked transit state, unlike the original Power of Siberia 1 (direct RU-CN).
- Both are members of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO Charter 2002)**; Mongolia is an SCO Observer.
- The pivot is driven by **Western sanctions on Russia** post-2022 Ukraine war.
- Yamal is a Russian Arctic peninsula, a major gas-producing region.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Mongolia is **landlocked** between Russia and China; capital Ulaanbaatar.
- The **SCO** was founded in 2001 (Charter 2002); HQ secretariat in Beijing.
- VCLT 1969** governs the law of treaties for such pacts.
- Original **Power of Siberia 1** began supplying China in 2019.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can use the Mongolia-transit angle to test transit-state geography and the SCO membership map alongside sanctions-driven realignment.

PROVISIONS

VCLT 1969, UN Charter Art 2(4)

BODIES & CASES

SCO (Charter 2002)

Common Error: Assuming Power of Siberia 2 is a direct bilateral Russia-China pipeline — it routes through Mongolia, a third transit state.

Quad Foreign Ministers Meet in New Delhi — Indo-Pacific Momentum

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The **Quad** (India, US, Japan, Australia) held a Foreign Ministers' meeting in New Delhi (~26 May 2026) that 'attempted to break fresh ground.' Originating in **2004 tsunami coordination**, formalised 2007 and revived 2017, the grouping has **no NATO-style collective-defence mechanism**. New initiatives: maritime domain awareness (IPMDA), an energy-security framework, critical-minerals cooperation to cut China dependence, and a Fiji port project.

QUICK FACTS

- Quad FMs met in **New Delhi (~26 May 2026)**; Rubio also met Modi on 23 May.
- Agenda: Critical & Emerging Tech, semiconductors, **IPMDA**, Quad Cancer Moonshot, rare-earth diversification.
- New tracks: energy-security framework, critical-minerals cooperation, a **Fiji port project**.
- Origins: **2004 tsunami coordination** → formalised 2007 → revived 2017.

MUST KNOW

- The Quad is a **minilateral with no charter, no secretariat, no treaty** — pure soft-law diplomacy.
- It has **no NATO Article 5 collective-defence clause**; India insists it is not an 'Asian NATO' (strategic autonomy).
- Distinguish the Quad from **AUKUS** (security pact) and **I2U2** (India-Israel-UAE-US).
- UNCLOS 1982** anchors the 'freedom of navigation' principle; the **Malabar exercise** is the grouping's main military expression.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Quad members: **India, United States, Japan, Australia**.
- Malabar** naval exercise now includes all four Quad navies.
- China derides the Quad as '**sea foam**.'
- IPMDA** = Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness (launched Tokyo, 2022).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the Quad's soft-law character (no treaty/secretariat) against NATO's binding Article 5, plus distinguishing it from AUKUS and I2U2.

PROVISIONS

UN Charter Art 51, UNCLOS 1982 (freedom of navigation)

BODIES & CASES

Quad (2007/2017), Malabar exercise, AUKUS, I2U2

Common Error: Calling the Quad a treaty alliance with collective defence — it has no charter, secretariat or Article-5-style clause.

doctrine. India shares a **1,643-km land border** with Myanmar (four NE states); talks covered border security and connectivity (Kaladan, IMT Trilateral Highway).

QUICK FACTS

- First Myanmar leadership visit to India since the **2021 coup** (30 May–3 June 2026).
- Talks with Modi on **1 June**; visits to **Bodh Gaya (Bihar)** and Mumbai.
- India-Myanmar share a **1,643-km land border**; four NE states border it.
- Connectivity focus: **Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit** and the **IMT Trilateral Highway**.

MUST KNOW

- India is **NOT a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention or 1967 Protocol** — non-refoulement applies only as customary law (Rohingya context).
- MAHASAGAR** (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions) succeeded the earlier **SAGAR** vision.
- The **Free Movement Regime** (16-km cross-border movement) is under review/fencing.
- Myanmar is India's land bridge to **ASEAN** under Act East.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Myanmar capital **Naypyidaw**; borders India, China, Thailand, Laos, Bangladesh.
- Both are **BIMSTEC** members (Bay of Bengal grouping).
- The **IMT Trilateral Highway** links India-Myanmar-Thailand.
- The **Kaladan project** connects Kolkata to Mizoram via Myanmar's Sittwe port.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests refugee law (India's non-signatory status, non-refoulement as custom) and India's Indo-Pacific doctrines (SAGAR → MAHASAGAR).

PROVISIONS

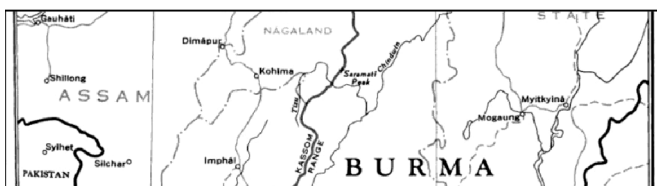
1951 Refugee Convention (India NOT a party), customary non-refoulement

BODIES & CASES

BIMSTEC, Act East Policy, MAHASAGAR doctrine, Free Movement Regime (under review)

Common Error: Assuming India is bound by the 1951 Refugee Convention — it is not a signatory; only customary non-refoulement applies.

Myanmar President's India Visit — Act East and MAHASAGAR Push



Myanmar's Min Aung Hlaing began his **first India visit since the 2021 coup** (30 May–3 June 2026), with talks with PM Modi on 1 June, a **Bodh Gaya** stop in Bihar and a Mumbai industry leg. The visit advances **Act East, Neighbourhood First and the MAHASAGAR**

SECTION 04 / 12

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Fuel Price Freeze Bleeds OMCs; First Hike in Four Years

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

State **oil marketing companies** — **IOC, BPCL, HPCL** — piled up under-recoveries of **~Rs 30,000 crore a month** after the government froze retail petrol and diesel despite the West Asia crude shock and the **Strait of Hormuz** closure, the Petroleum Ministry told Parliament. With **Brent past \$101** and prices unchanged for nearly four years, PSU OMCs finally raised petrol and diesel by **Rs 3/litre** after absorbing years of losses.

QUICK FACTS

- OMC under-recoveries ran at **~Rs 30,000 crore/month** during the freeze.
- PSU OMCs (**IOC, BPCL, HPCL**) had held pump prices for **~4 years**.
- First hike: **Rs 3/L** on petrol and diesel after absorbing ~Rs 14/L (petrol) and ~Rs 42/L (diesel) over years.
- **Brent crossed \$101/barrel** amid 6%+ weekly gains; CNG was also raised.
- Freeze timing coincided with West Bengal and Tamil Nadu post-poll arithmetic — **political optics vs fiscal discipline**.

MUST KNOW

- Retail fuel pricing is nominally '**deregulated/dynamic**' since 2010 (petrol) and 2014 (diesel) — but PSU OMCs de facto freeze prices at government nudging.
- Under-recovery ≠ subsidy; it is the gap between cost and the frozen retail price absorbed by OMCs.
- A 'free, open, safe' maritime-corridor stem points to **UNCLOS transit passage**, not innocent passage.
- LPG and kerosene fall under the **Essential Commodities Act 1955** control regime.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- OMC petroleum marketing is overseen by the **PNGRB** (est. under the 2006 Act).
- **IOC, BPCL, HPCL** are the three big public-sector OMCs.
- Hormuz is an international strait, not territorial waters.
- Jet fuel (ATF) and LPG were additional loss centres for the OMCs.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT frames the Hormuz 'safe corridor' line as a maritime-law hook while the passage runs on OMC economics — test which UNCLOS article and which regulator applies.

PROVISIONS

UNCLOS 1982, Art 38 (transit passage), PNGRB Act 2006, Essential Commodities Act 1955, Petroleum Act 1934

BODIES & CASES

IOC / BPCL / HPCL (PSU OMCs), Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

Common Error: Tagging a 'free and open international strait' to UNCLOS Art 17 innocent passage — the correct anchor for Hormuz is Art 38 transit passage.

RBI Transfers Record Rs 2.86 Lakh Crore Surplus

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

The **RBI Central Board** on 22 May 2026 approved a record **Rs 2.86 lakh crore** surplus (dividend) transfer to the Centre for FY 2024-25, beating the prior year's Rs 2.11 lakh crore. The **Contingency Risk Buffer (CRB)** was held at **7.5%** under the revised **Economic Capital Framework**, the Bimal Jalan panel's formula that governs how much RBI retains versus passes on.

QUICK FACTS

- Record surplus transfer of **Rs 2.86 lakh crore** for FY25.
- Up from the previous year's **Rs 2.11 lakh crore**.
- **Contingency Risk Buffer** maintained at **7.5%**.
- Governed by the revised **Economic Capital Framework (ECF)**.

MUST KNOW

- The surplus transfer is **statutory under §47 of the RBI Act 1934** — NOT a discretionary corporate dividend.
- The **CRB** is the cap that determines how much surplus RBI can retain vs transfer.
- The transfer helps the Centre meet its **fiscal deficit** glide-path (FRBM).
- The **ECF** was recommended by the **Bimal Jalan Committee (2019)**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- RBI's financial year was aligned to **April–March** from 2020-21.
- The Union Budget is presented under **Article 112** (Annual Financial Statement).
- RBI earns from open-market operations, forex holdings and its bond portfolio.
- The CRB range under the ECF is 5.5%–7.5% of the balance sheet.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT can test the statutory (not discretionary) nature of the RBI's surplus transfer and its link to the Union Budget under Article 112.

PROVISIONS

RBI Act 1934, §47, Article 112 (Annual Financial Statement), FRBM Act 2003

BODIES & CASES

Reserve Bank of India (Central Board), Bimal Jalan Committee / Economic Capital Framework (2019)

Common Error: Calling the transfer a 'dividend' the RBI chooses to pay — it is a statutory surplus remittance under §47 of the RBI Act, capped by the CRB.

India-Oman CEPA — India's Second FTA With a GCC State



The **India-Oman CEPA** (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement) becomes operational **1 June 2026** — India's **second FTA with a Gulf Cooperation Council state** (after the India-UAE CEPA, 2022). Around **98% of Indian tariff lines** go zero-duty, and the **Salalah and Duqm ports** give Indian cargo a strategic **Hormuz-bypass** route. FY25 bilateral trade was **\$12.39bn**, projected to reach ~\$20bn within five years.

QUICK FACTS

- **India-Oman CEPA** operational from **1 June 2026**.
- India's **second FTA with a GCC member** — the India-UAE CEPA (2022) was the first.
- **~98% of Indian tariff lines** go zero-duty.
- **Salalah and Duqm** ports offer a Hormuz-bypass routing.
- FY25 bilateral trade **\$12.39bn**; ~\$20bn projected in 5 years.

MUST KNOW

- A **CEPA** is broader than a goods-only FTA — it covers services and investment too.
- The **GCC** has six members: Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain.
- India's **first** FTA with a GCC member was the **UAE CEPA (2022)**; Oman is therefore the **second** — a common 'first' trap.
- FTAs are negotiated by the **Commerce Ministry**, ratified by the Executive (no separate Parliament vote in India).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Oman** capital: Muscat; the Duqm port anchors a special economic zone.
- CEPA/CECA examples: India-Japan, India-Korea, India-UAE, India-Australia (ECTA).
- The GCC headquarters is in **Riyadh**.
- The Strait of Hormuz lies between Oman and Iran.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Trade-law framing: an FTA/CEPA is a permitted exception to WTO MFN under GATT Art XXIV — and CLAT may test India's treaty-ratification process.

PROVISIONS

GATT 1994, Art XXIV (regional trade agreements), Customs Tariff Act 1975, FTDR Act 1992

BODIES & CASES

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, WTO

Common Error: Equating CEPA with a narrow goods FTA, or claiming India needs a parliamentary vote to ratify a trade treaty — the Executive concludes such treaties.

Adani-OFAC \$275M Settlement; DoJ Drops Indictment



The **US Department of Justice** dropped its November 2024 bribery indictment against the **Adani Group**. In a parallel resolution, the **US Treasury's OFAC** accepted a **\$275 million civil settlement** over alleged **Iran LPG sanctions** violations (an 'apparent violations' basis) — closing the US legal cloud that had hung over the conglomerate since the FCPA-linked charges.

QUICK FACTS

- **DoJ dropped** its Nov 2024 bribery indictment against the Adani Group.
- **OFAC accepted a \$275M civil settlement** over alleged Iran LPG

sanctions breaches.

- The OFAC action rested on an 'apparent violations' finding.
- Resolution removes a major overseas legal overhang for the group.

MUST KNOW

- **OFAC** (Office of Foreign Assets Control) administers **US economic sanctions**, including on Iran.
- The original US bribery case invoked the **US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA)**.
- US extraterritorial reach hinges on a dollar/US-market nexus — a recurring theme in cross-border enforcement.
- A civil settlement is not an admission of criminal guilt.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **OFAC** sits under the US Department of the Treasury.
- The **FCPA (1977)** criminalises bribery of foreign officials.
- India's domestic anti-bribery law is the **Prevention of Corruption Act 1988**.
- SEBI separately probed related-party/disclosure aspects domestically.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Illustrates extraterritorial US enforcement (FCPA + sanctions) and how it interacts with Indian regulators — a corporate-law and jurisdiction crossover.

PROVISIONS

US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) 1977, US sanctions law (IEEPA), Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 (India)

BODIES & CASES

US Department of Justice (DoJ), OFAC (US Treasury), SEBI, Adani Group

Common Error: Confusing the sanctions regulator OFAC with the prosecutor DoJ, or reading a civil settlement as a criminal conviction/admission of guilt.

India Becomes the World's Top Anti-Dumping Filer

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

India's **DGTR** (under **DPIIT**) filed **226 anti-dumping investigations** at the WTO between 1 Jan 2021 and 30 June 2025 — **130 against China** alone — making India the world's most active anti-dumping user, with **170 measures in force** (51% on chemicals). India runs a **\$31bn chemicals deficit**. Big manufacturers back the duties while downstream MSMEs (paints, plastics, textiles) push back on higher input costs.

QUICK FACTS

- **DGTR** filed **226 anti-dumping probes** (Jan 2021–Jun 2025) — world's most active.
- **130 probes against China; 170 measures in force**.
- **51% of measures relate to chemicals**; India's chemicals trade deficit ~\$31bn.
- Manufacturers favour ADD; downstream MSMEs oppose costlier inputs.
- **DGTR** sits under **DPIIT**, Commerce Ministry.

MUST KNOW

- **§9A Customs Tariff Act 1975** enables anti-dumping duty; **§9B** covers injury; appeals go to **CESTAT (§9C)**.
- The **WTO Anti-Dumping Agreement (1995)** requires a dumping margin, material injury AND a causal link.
- The '**lesser duty rule**' caps ADD at the lower of the dumping margin or the injury margin.
- Anti-dumping duty is NOT barred by MFN — it is a **GATT Art VI exception** to Art I.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- DGTR = Directorate General of Trade Remedies (formed 2018 by merging DGAD).
- Anti-dumping measures face a **sunset review** every 5 years.
- Dumping = export price below 'normal value' (home-market price).
- Countervailing duty (against subsidies) is distinct from anti-dumping duty.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A trade-remedy staple: distinguish anti-dumping (Art VI) from a MFN violation and identify the DGTR–CESTAT statutory chain under the Customs Tariff Act.

PROVISIONS

Customs Tariff Act 1975, §9A, §9B, §9C, WTO Anti-Dumping Agreement 1995, GATT 1994, Art VI, Art I (MFN), Anti-Dumping Rules 1995

BODIES & CASES

DGTR (under DPIIT), WTO, CESTAT (appellate)

Common Error: Thinking anti-dumping duty violates the MFN principle — Art VI GATT is a recognised exception; also don't confuse anti-dumping with countervailing (anti-subsidy) duty.

- India's counterpart rules are the **Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules 2020**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- DSA = Regulation (EU) 2022/2065.
- VLOP threshold = 45mn+ EU users; VLOSE = very large online search engines.
- India's proposed **Digital India Act** will replace the IT Act 2000.
- The **WTO e-commerce moratorium** on customs duties on digital transmissions remains a live issue.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Tests the DSA-vs-DMA distinction and comparative digital regulation — a favourite for tech-policy passages linking EU rules to India's e-commerce framework.

PROVISIONS

EU Digital Services Act 2022 (Reg 2022/2065), EU Digital Markets Act 2022, Consumer Protection Act 2019 (India), Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules 2020

BODIES & CASES

European Commission, Temu, WTO

Common Error: Confusing the DSA (illegal content/consumer safety) with the DMA (competition/gatekeepers), or the DSA's 6% cap with GDPR's 4%.

Airtel 'Priority Tier' + 5G Slicing — Net-Neutrality Row**ECONOMY & BUSINESS**

Bharti Airtel launched a '**Priority Postpaid**' service giving premium customers more consistent connectivity during congestion via **5G network slicing** — partitioning one physical network into isolated virtual 'slices', like reserved highway lanes. Critics say paid-priority undermines **net neutrality** (equal treatment of all traffic). India adopted strong net-neutrality rules in **2018**; a Parliamentary Standing Committee is examining compliance, while telcos argue slicing is 'application-agnostic'.

QUICK FACTS

- **Airtel 'Priority Postpaid'** uses **5G network slicing** for premium users during congestion.
- Slicing = isolated virtual partitions of one physical network.
- Critics: paid priority undermines **net neutrality**.
- India adopted **full net-neutrality rules in 2018** (DoT amended licences on TRAI's advice).
- A **Parliamentary Standing Committee** is examining compliance.

MUST KNOW

- India **banned zero-rating** (e.g. Free Basics) via TRAI's **2016** Prohibition of Discriminatory Tariffs Regulation.
- Net-neutrality rules are enforced through **DoT licence conditions**, not a standalone Act.
- Telcos' defence: slicing is '**application-agnostic**' (doesn't discriminate by content/website).
- Links to **Art 19(1)(a)** (free speech) and **Art 19(1)(g)**

EU Fines Temu €200mn Under Digital Services Act

On 28 May 2026 the **European Commission** issued preliminary findings fining Chinese marketplace **Temu €200 million** (~\$232mn) under the **EU Digital Services Act** for failing to protect consumers from illegal products — the **first major DSA fine against a Chinese platform**. With 92 million EU users, Temu qualifies as a **Very Large Online Platform (VLOP)** under the 45-million-user threshold, attracting the DSA's strictest duties.

QUICK FACTS

- **€200mn** (~\$232mn) preliminary fine on **Temu** under the DSA.
- First major **DSA fine against a Chinese platform**.
- Temu has **92mn EU users** — a VLOP (45mn+ threshold).
- Ground: failing to protect consumers from illegal products.
- Issued by the **European Commission** as enforcer.

MUST KNOW

- The **DSA** imposes risk-assessment, transparency, dark-pattern-ban and ad-disclosure duties on VLOPs.
- DSA penalty cap is **6% of global turnover** (vs GDPR's 4%).
- The DSA (illegal content/safety) is distinct from the **DMA** (competition/gatekeepers).

(trade/business).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **TRAI** (est. 1997) recommends; **DoT** enforces via licences.
- The 2016 regulation followed the **Free Basics** controversy.
- 5G slicing is a core capability of standalone (SA) 5G networks.
- Net neutrality = ISPs treat all internet traffic equally, without paid prioritisation.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A tech-policy + rights crossover: net neutrality ties to Art 19(1)(a)/(g), and CLAT may test that India's rules live in DoT licence conditions, not a dedicated statute.

PROVISIONS

Article 19(1)(a), Article 19(1)(g), TRAI Act 1997, Indian Telegraph Act 1885 / Telecommunications Act 2023

BODIES & CASES

Bharti Airtel, TRAI, Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Parliamentary Standing Committee

Common Error: Assuming a standalone 'Net Neutrality Act' exists — India enforces it via TRAI's 2016 tariff regulation and 2018 DoT licence amendments, not a single Act.

- Gibbons are **lesser apes** (family Hylobatidae); great apes are gorillas, chimps, orangutans, humans.
- The **WPA Amendment 2022** restructured schedules to align with CITES.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the 'India's only ape' fact and Schedule-I protection, plus how linear infrastructure interacts with wildlife-clearance law.

PROVISIONS

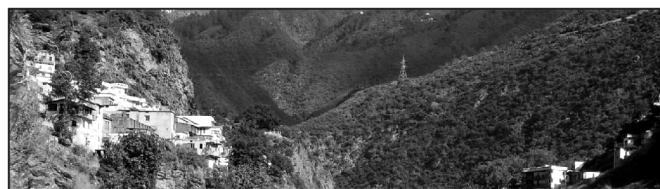
Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 (Schedule I), WPA Amendment 2022, Forest Rights Act 2006

BODIES & CASES

Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary

Common Error: Calling the hoolock gibbon a monkey — it is an APE (lesser ape), the only one native to India.

Centre Tells Supreme Court: No New Dams on the Upper Ganga



In a fresh affidavit to the **Supreme Court**, the Centre said it does **not favour new hydroelectric projects** in the Upper Ganga basin (**Bhagirathi–Alaknanda**). The stance builds on **Expert Body-I (Ravi Chopra, 2013–14)**, which found 23 of 24 projects harmful, EB-II (2014), and the 2024 **T V Somanathan** committee. Only seven HEPs with substantial advance were spared under the 2021 consensus.

QUICK FACTS

- Centre's affidavit: **no new hydro projects** on the Alaknanda + Bhagirathi.
- **28 projects** were assessed; only **7** with substantial physical/financial advance allowed.
- **Expert Body-I (Ravi Chopra)**: 23 of 24 projects environmentally harmful.
- Latest review by the **2024 T V Somanathan committee**.

MUST KNOW

- The **Bhagirathi + Alaknanda** meet at **Devprayag** to form the Ganga.
- Litigation flows from the **2013 Kedarnath disaster** that triggered the SC-ordered expert reviews.
- The **Environment Protection Act 1986** is the umbrella statute for such project clearances.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Bhagirathi** rises at Gaumukh (Gangotri glacier); the **Alaknanda** at Satopanth/Bhagirath Kharak glaciers.
- A stretch of the Bhagirathi is an **Eco-Sensitive Zone** (Gangotri–Uttarkashi, notified 2012).
- **Vellore Citizens (1996)** anchored the Precautionary Principle used to weigh such projects.

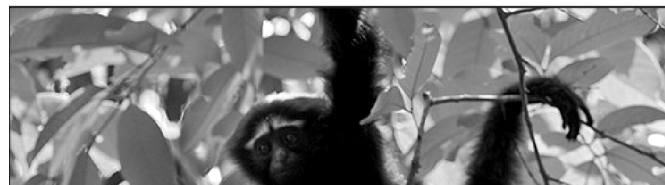
CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT links the Art 21 right to a healthy environment with the Precautionary Principle applied to Himalayan hydro projects.

SECTION 05 / 12

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

India's Only Ape Crosses a Canopy Bridge in Hollongapar, Assam



The first documented railway-crossing by India's only ape — the **western hoolock gibbon** — was recorded via a **WII-built canopy bridge** at **Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary, Assam**. The sanctuary's fragmented population (~120–130 individuals) had been cut off by a railway line. The hoolock gibbon is a **Schedule I** species under the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972.

QUICK FACTS

- First documented **railway-crossing via a canopy bridge** by a wild hoolock gibbon.
- Located at **Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary, Jorhat, Assam**.
- Population there is roughly **120–130 individuals**.
- Bridge engineered by the **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)**.

MUST KNOW

- The **western hoolock gibbon** is **India's only ape** — all other Indian primates are monkeys/non-apes.
- It is a **Schedule I** species under the WPA 1972 (reinforced by the 2022 amendment).
- Habitat **fragmentation** by linear infrastructure (rail/road) is the core conservation threat here.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)** is headquartered in **Dehradun**.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 48A, Article 51A(g), Environment Protection Act 1986

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India, Expert Body (Ravi Chopra), Vellore Citizens (1996)

Common Error: Assuming ALL projects were scrapped — only new ones are barred; seven advanced HEPs continue under the 2021 consensus.

Coral Ventilation Collapses at 37°C: Fourth Global Mass Bleaching



A new study found that heat stress disrupts **cilia-driven ventilation** in coral polyps, collapsing oxygen supply and turning fatal at **37°C**. The Indian Ocean has crossed into the **4th global mass coral bleaching event** (declared by NOAA + ICRI, April 2024). India's **Lakshadweep** and **Gulf of Mannar** reefs are among those at risk.

QUICK FACTS

- Coral polyp **ventilation collapses** and oxygen fails at **37°C**.
- The **4th global mass bleaching event** was declared by NOAA + ICRI in April 2024.
- At-risk Indian reefs: **Lakshadweep** and the **Gulf of Mannar**.
- Bleaching = corals expel their symbiotic **zooxanthellae** algae under heat stress.

MUST KNOW

- **Corals are Schedule I** species under the WPA 1972 — equal protection with tigers and rhinos.
- The **Gulf of Mannar** hosts India's first Marine Biosphere Reserve (1989).
- Reef loss is a climate-and-Art-21 issue after **MK Ranjitsinh (2024)** recognised a right against climate-change harms.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **ICRI** = International Coral Reef Initiative; **NOAA** = US National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.
- India has four major reef areas: **Lakshadweep, Gulf of Mannar, Gulf of Kutch, Andaman & Nicobar**.
- The **CBD (1992)** underpins marine-biodiversity conservation targets.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT ties coral Schedule-I status and the MK Ranjitsinh (2024) 'right against climate change' to the Art 21/48A frame.

PROVISIONS

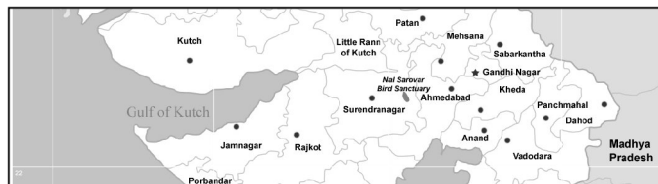
Article 21, Article 48A, Article 51A(g), Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 (Schedule I)

BODIES & CASES

NOAA, ICRI, CBD (1992), MK Ranjitsinh v UoI (2024)

Common Error: Thinking bleached coral is dead coral — bleaching is reversible if heat stress eases; death follows only prolonged stress.

Asiatic Lion Impasse: Gir Holds On, Kuno Waits



Environment Minister **Bhupender Yadav** said a **separate free-ranging Asiatic lion population** is now 'under consideration', even as **Gujarat** continues to resist transferring lions to **Kuno (MP)**. The stand-off persists despite the Supreme Court's landmark **2013 order** directing translocation to reduce the single-population extinction risk at **Gir**.

QUICK FACTS

- A **free-ranging Asiatic lion population** outside Gujarat is 'under consideration'.
- **Gujarat** resists moving lions to **Kuno National Park, MP**.
- The **Asiatic lion (Panthera leo persica)** survives only in and around **Gir, Gujarat**.
- Single-site concentration makes the population vulnerable to epidemic/wildfire wipe-out.

MUST KNOW

- The **SC's 2013 order** directed shifting some lions to Kuno within six months — still unimplemented.
- The Asiatic lion is **Schedule I (WPA 1972)** and **Endangered** on the IUCN Red List.
- Kuno was originally prepared for lions before being repurposed for **Project Cheetah**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Gir National Park** is the last natural home of the Asiatic lion.
- The centrally sponsored **Project Lion** supports Asiatic lion conservation.
- Wildlife is on the **Concurrent List**, but the Centre-vs-State tussle here is administrative, not legislative.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the SC's 2013 lion-translocation order and the single-population extinction-risk rationale under WPA 1972.

PROVISIONS

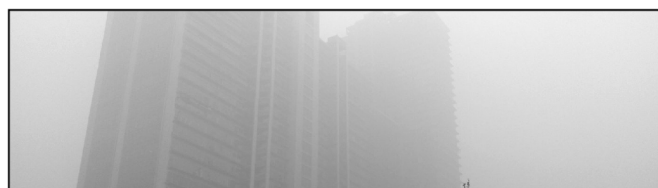
Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 (Schedule I), Article 48A, Article 51A(g)

BODIES & CASES

Supreme Court of India (2013 translocation order), IUCN Red List, Gir National Park, Kuno National Park

Common Error: Confusing Asiatic and African lions, or forgetting Kuno was first meant for LIONS before cheetahs arrived.

Delhi's Killer Dust: Road Dust Drives 38% of PM2.5



Road dust contributes **38% of Delhi's PM2.5** and **28% of PM10** (IIT-Kanpur 2016 + CSIR-NEERI 2025). The MCD's mechanised-sweeping fleet numbers just **76 against the CAQM-recommended 505** — an

80% deficit. Just 5 of 52 routes account for 18% of all sweeping, while road-dust loading runs to **145 kg/km**, exposing weak enforcement of clean-air law in the capital.

QUICK FACTS

- **Road dust:** 38% of Delhi PM_{2.5} and 28% of PM₁₀.
- MCD mechanised-sweeping fleet: **76 vs 505** recommended (80% deficit).
- Road-dust loading reaches **145 kg/km**.
- 5 of 52 routes account for **18%** of all sweeping effort.

MUST KNOW

- **GRAP** (Graded Response Action Plan) is administrative but draws legal teeth from the **CAQM Act 2021** and EPA 1986 directions.
- The **CAQM Act 2021** created the Commission for Air Quality Management in the NCR, replacing EPCA.
- **Subhash Kumar v State of Bihar (1991)** read the **right to clean water/air into Art 21**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981** is the core air-quality statute.
- The **MC Mehta** line of cases pushed CNG for Delhi transport and vehicular-pollution controls.
- **CSIR-NEERI** (Nagpur) and **IIT-Kanpur** lead Delhi's source-apportionment studies.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT links the Art 21 right to clean air (Subhash Kumar 1991) with the enforcement architecture of the CAQM Act 2021 and GRAP.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Article 48A, Article 51A(g), Air Act 1981, Environment Protection Act 1986, CAQM Act 2021

BODIES & CASES

CAQM, Subhash Kumar v State of Bihar (1991), MC Mehta cases, MK Ranjitsinh (2024)

Common Error: Thinking GRAP itself is a statute — it is an administrative plan; its legal force comes from the CAQM Act 2021 + EPA 1986.

India's Renewable Storage Crunch: 532 GW Capacity, Thin Batteries



India crossed **532 GW** of total power capacity, but energy **storage stays thin** — **Pumped Hydro 13.1 GW + BESS 7.2 GW**. The CEA targets **786 GW of storage by FY36** to firm up variable renewables. A strategic vulnerability: India imports **75–80% of its lithium-ion cells**, exposing the clean-energy transition to supply-chain risk.

QUICK FACTS

- Total power capacity crossed **532 GW**.
- Storage: **Pumped Hydro 13.1 GW + BESS 7.2 GW**.
- CEA targets **786 GW of storage by FY36**.

- India imports **75–80%** of its lithium-ion cells.

MUST KNOW

- **BESS** = Battery Energy Storage System; PHS = Pumped Hydro Storage (the largest grid-scale option).
- India's **NDC** aims for 50% non-fossil installed capacity by 2030 (already surpassed on some counts).
- Storage is what makes intermittent solar/wind **dispatchable** ('firming').

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Electricity Act 2003** is the umbrella statute for the power sector.
- The **Energy Conservation Act 2001** created the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
- **CEA** = Central Electricity Authority, the technical planning body under the Ministry of Power.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT frames storage via the NDC/Paris commitments and the effort-based (not binding-cut) nature of India's climate pledges.

PROVISIONS

Electricity Act 2003, Energy Conservation Act 2001, Paris Agreement 2015 (NDC)

BODIES & CASES

Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Bureau of Energy Efficiency

Common Error: Treating installed RE capacity as delivered energy — without storage, variable renewables are not firm/dispatchable.

India Abstains as UNGA Welcomes the ICJ Climate Advisory

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

On **20 May 2026**, the **UNGA** voted **141-8-28** on a resolution welcoming the **ICJ Advisory Opinion (23 July 2025)** on State climate obligations. **India abstained**: Petal Gahlot, First Secretary at India's UN Mission, said the resolution 'undermines the sacrosanct architecture of the UNFCCC'. India's stance protects **CBDR-RC** and the treaty-based negotiating framework.

QUICK FACTS

- UNGA vote: **141 for, 8 against, 28 abstentions**, on 20 May 2026.
- The underlying **ICJ Advisory Opinion** was delivered on **23 July 2025**.
- India **abstained**, citing threat to the 'sacrosanct architecture of the UNFCCC'.
- India's UN spokesperson: **Petal Gahlot**, First Secretary.

MUST KNOW

- **ICJ advisory opinions** are **non-binding** but carry strong persuasive weight.
- The UNGA can seek an advisory opinion under **Article 96 of the UN Charter**.
- **Article 59 of the ICJ Statute**: ICJ decisions bind only the parties and only for that case (no stare decisis).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The ICJ sits at the **Peace Palace, The Hague**; it is the UN's principal judicial organ.
- The Vanuatu-led youth campaign drove the request for the climate advisory opinion.
- CBDR-RC** remains India's anchor argument for differentiated climate duties.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the non-binding nature of ICJ advisory opinions and the UNGA's Art 96 power to request them.

PROVISIONS

UN Charter Article 96, ICJ Statute Article 59, UNFCCC 1992, Paris Agreement 2015

BODIES & CASES

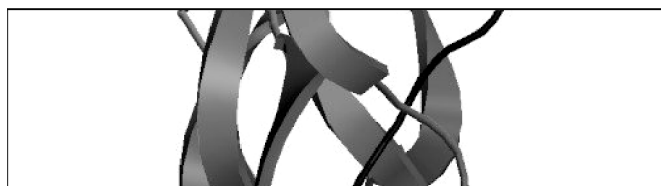
International Court of Justice, UN General Assembly

Common Error: Thinking an ICJ advisory opinion is legally binding — it is persuasive only and cannot override treaty obligations.

SECTION 06 / 12

SCIENCE, TECH & HEALTH

India's First Alzheimer's Therapy and an Early Blood Test



Eli Lilly launched **Lormalzi (donanemab)** — India's **first disease-modifying Alzheimer's therapy** — at about **Rs 1 lakh per dose**, after the **DCGI** fast-tracked approval (the molecule is sold globally as **Kisunla**, US-FDA cleared July 2024). The monoclonal antibody clears **amyloid-beta plaques**. Separately, a **UCSF/NIH study in The Lancet** (senior author **Kristine Yaffe**) tracked blood biomarkers (**Aβ42, Aβ40, p-tau217**) in 1,350 dementia-free adults, confirming Alzheimer's pathology begins **years before symptoms**.

QUICK FACTS

- Lormalzi (donanemab)** — India's first disease-modifying Alzheimer's drug, ~**Rs 1 lakh/dose**.
- A **monoclonal antibody** that clears **amyloid-beta plaques**; globally branded **Kisunla**.
- Approved via **DCGI** fast-track (US-FDA cleared July 2024).
- India has ~**8.8 million** Alzheimer's patients.
- Lancet** blood-biomarker study (**Aβ42, Aβ40, p-tau217**): ~6% of 1,350 adults showed elevated tau+amyloid and faster cognitive decline over 5 years.

MUST KNOW

- The **DCGI** sits within the **CDSCO** under the **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare** — India's central drug regulator (unlike the more independent US-FDA).
- New-drug approval runs under the **Drugs & Cosmetics Act 1940 + New Drugs & Clinical Trials Rules 2019**.
- Patent law **Section 3(d)** (2005) bars 'evergreening' — upheld in **Novartis v. Union of India (2013)** over Glivec.

- DPCO 2013** caps prices only of drugs in the **National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM)**; donanemab is not yet listed, so the Rs 1 lakh price is uncapped.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Alzheimer's is the commonest cause of **dementia**; hallmark = **amyloid-beta plaques + tau tangles**.
- RPwD Act 2016** recognises 21 disabilities including dementia; **Mental Healthcare Act 2017** codified the right to mental healthcare.
- CDSCO HQ**: New Delhi; the **DCGI** heads it.
- World Alzheimer's Day is **21 September**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Ties the **right to health under Art 21** to affordable-medicines jurisprudence: whether a Rs 1 lakh therapy should fall under **DPCO/NLEM** price control, and how **Section 3(d)** curbs evergreening of costly biologics.

PROVISIONS

Article 21, Drugs & Cosmetics Act 1940, New Drugs & Clinical Trials Rules 2019, Patents Act 1970 Section 3(d), Mental Healthcare Act 2017, RPwD Act 2016

BODIES & CASES

DCGI / CDSCO (MoHFW), Novartis v. Union of India (2013), Eli Lilly, The Lancet study (UCSF/NIH)

*Common Error: Thinking DPCO automatically caps every new drug's price — it only controls **scheduled NLEM** drugs; donanemab, being **unlisted**, is free-priced.*

Chandrayaan-3 ChaSTE Reveals Layered Lunar Soil



Fresh analysis of **ChaSTE (Chandra's Surface Thermophysical Experiment)** data from ISRO's **Chandrayaan-3 Vikram lander** shows the Moon's **regolith** at **Shiv Shakti Point** has a **loose top layer of 1-2 cm** over a **denser, compacted layer at 2-6 cm** depth. ChaSTE, a temperature probe on the Vikram lander, measured how heat penetrates the near-surface soil — data crucial for future lunar habitats and resource use near the Moon's **south pole**.

QUICK FACTS

- Instrument: **ChaSTE** — Chandra's Surface Thermophysical Experiment on the **Vikram** lander.
- Finding: loose top **1-2 cm** layer above a **denser, compact** layer at **2-6 cm**.
- Landing site named **Shiv Shakti Point**, near the lunar **south pole**.
- Chandrayaan-3** soft-landed on **23 August 2023** — commemorated as **National Space Day**.
- Made India the **first** nation to land near the lunar **south pole** and the **4th** to soft-land on the Moon.

MUST KNOW

- Regolith** = the layer of loose dust and broken rock covering solid bedrock (on the Moon, Mars, Earth).
- Chandrayaan-3 components: **Vikram** (lander), **Pragyan** (rover); it had **no orbiter** (used the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter).
- 23 August** is now observed as **National Space Day** in India.

- Layered/compacted soil data matters for building foundations and thermal design of future Moon bases.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Chandrayaan-3 launched on **LVM3-M4** from **Sriharikota (SDSC-SHAR)** on 14 July 2023.
- Vikram** lander is named after **Vikram Sarabhai**, father of the Indian space programme.
- Only **USSR, USA, China** had soft-landed on the Moon before India.
- ISRO's earlier **Chandrayaan-1 (2008)** confirmed water molecules on the Moon.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Even scientific lunar exploration is bound by the **Outer Space Treaty 1967** — no state can appropriate celestial bodies (non-appropriation principle) — an easy prelims linkage to India's Moon programme.

PROVISIONS

Outer Space Treaty 1967, Article 51(c)

BODIES & CASES

ISRO (1969), IN-SPACe

Common Error: Assuming Chandrayaan-3 carried a fresh orbiter — it did not; it reused the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter and comprised only the Vikram lander and Pragyan rover.

vector and reservoir ranges.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- WHO HQ:** Geneva; the IHR 2005 lets it coordinate cross-border health threats.
- The **Canary Islands** are a Spanish archipelago off north-west Africa in the Atlantic.
- India's public-health toolkit: **Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 + Disaster Management Act 2005** (both used in COVID).
- The **Convention on Biological Diversity 1992** Art 8(h) addresses invasive alien species.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Cross-border disease on a moving vessel tests the **IHR 2005** notification/quarantine machinery and how India would invoke the **Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 + DM Act 2005** for port/health emergencies.

PROVISIONS

International Health Regulations 2005, Disaster Management Act 2005, Epidemic Diseases Act 1897, Convention on Biological Diversity 1992

BODIES & CASES

World Health Organization, 'One Health' framework

*Common Error: Treating hantavirus as mosquito- or human-to-human borne — it is primarily **rodent (zoonotic)** transmitted; human-to-human spread is rare.*

Hantavirus Outbreak on MV Hondius Sparks 'One Health' Alarm



Spanish authorities prepared to receive over **140 passengers and crew** from **MV Hondius**, a **hantavirus**-stricken cruise ship bound for the **Canary Islands**. **Five passengers died** and three more were infected after the vessel left **Ushuaia, Argentina** on 1 April; the WHO said an infected flight attendant who briefly boarded later tested negative. Experts including **Dr Gagandeep Kang** warned that **deforestation, industrial livestock farming and global travel** are driving rising **zoonotic spillovers** — the '**One Health**' concern.

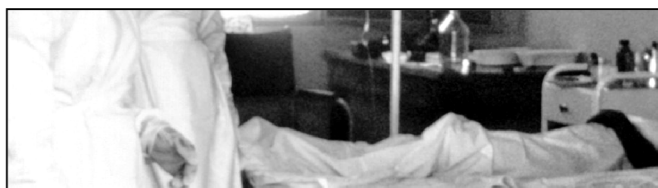
QUICK FACTS

- MV Hondius** cruise ship hit by **hantavirus**; **5 deaths**, 3+ infected.
- Route: **Ushuaia (Argentina) → St Helena → Cape Verde → Canary Islands**.
- Over **140** passengers/crew to be received by **Spain**.
- Hantavirus spreads mainly via **rodent urine/droppings** — a **zoonotic** disease.
- Dr Gagandeep Kang** (Gates Foundation) flagged deforestation + livestock farming + travel as spillover drivers.

MUST KNOW

- Zoonoses** = diseases jumping from animals to humans; the '**One Health**' approach links human, animal and environmental health.
- Hantavirus is **rodent-borne**, unlike mosquito-borne (dengue) or contaminated-water (cholera) diseases.
- The governing global instrument is the **International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005**.
- Climate change is reshaping disease geography by expanding

WHO Declares Ebola a PHEIC in DRC and Uganda



The **WHO** declared a **Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)** under the **IHR 2005** for a **Bundibugyo Ebola** outbreak spanning the **DRC and Uganda**, with **80 deaths** and 246 suspected cases — the DRC's 17th outbreak. On **22 May 2026** the WHO raised the Ebola risk in the DRC (Kasai outbreak, 14 deaths) to '**Very High**' nationally and regionally, while rating **global risk 'Low'**. It marks the DRC's 4th outbreak since 2018.

QUICK FACTS

- PHEIC** declared under **IHR 2005** for a **Bundibugyo Ebola** outbreak (DRC + Uganda).
- 80 deaths**, 246 suspected cases; DRC's **17th** Ebola outbreak historically.
- On **22 May 2026**, DRC risk raised to '**Very High**' (Kasai, 14 deaths); global risk '**Low**'.
- Ebola Virus Disease is a **haemorrhagic fever** with high case-fatality.
- A PHEIC is the WHO's highest formal alarm under the IHR.

MUST KNOW

- A **PHEIC** is declared by the WHO **Director-General** on the advice of an **Emergency Committee** under **IHR 2005**.
- The **first** PHEIC was for **H1N1 (2009)**; only about seven have ever been declared (Polio, Ebola x2, Zika, COVID-19, Mpox x2).
- PHEIC is NOT the same as a 'pandemic' — pandemic is an epidemiological descriptor, PHEIC is a legal/administrative declaration.
- Ebola is a **zoonotic** filovirus; fruit bats are the suspected natural

reservoir.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- WHO founded 1948, HQ Geneva; current framework instrument = **IHR 2005**.
- The **DRC (Democratic Republic of the Congo)**, capital Kinshasa, is Ebola's historic epicentre (virus named after the Ebola River).
- Ebola vaccines **Ervebo** and **Zabdeno/Mvabea** exist for outbreak control.
- India's parallel legal levers: **Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 + DM Act 2005**.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT uses the PHEIC to test international health law: who declares it (WHO DG), under which instrument (IHR 2005), and how India domesticates such alerts through the Epidemic Diseases Act and DM Act.

PROVISIONS

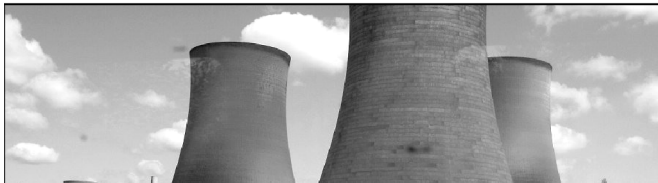
International Health Regulations 2005, Epidemic Diseases Act 1897, Disaster Management Act 2005

BODIES & CASES

World Health Organization, WHO Emergency Committee

Common Error: Equating 'PHEIC' with 'pandemic' — a PHEIC is a formal WHO declaration under IHR 2005; a pandemic is an epidemiological spread descriptor. COVID-19 was both; Ebola outbreaks are PHEICs without being pandemics.

Civil Nuclear Opens to Private Players Under the SHANTI Act



Following the **SHANTI Act** (passed December 2025), the **Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)** is being given **statutory status** to regulate private nuclear power. A **DAE-Power Ministry** turf tussle has emerged over supply-chain versus project oversight, even as draft amendments to the **Atomic Energy Act 1962** and the **CLND Act 2010** circulate to let private Indian players in. India targets **100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047** (from ~8.7 GW today, just **1.65%** of installed capacity), with private players expected to build ~70% of new capacity.

QUICK FACTS

- **SHANTI Act** (Dec 2025) opens civil nuclear power to **private** players.
- Gives the **AERB** statutory (independent regulator) status.
- Requires amending the **Atomic Energy Act 1962** and the **CLND Act 2010**.
- India targets **100 GW nuclear by 2047** vs ~8.7 GW today (~1.65% of installed capacity).
- **NTPC + private players** to develop ~70% of the new capacity.

MUST KNOW

- The **Atomic Energy Act 1962** historically reserved nuclear power for the **State/PSUs** (NPCIL) — private entry needs it amended.
- Under the **CLND Act 2010**, only the **operator** (e.g. NPCIL) is liable for a nuclear accident — the controversial **Section 17(b)** lets the operator seek recourse against a **supplier**.

- **AERB** is currently an executive body (1983) under the AE Act; statutory status would give it independence.
- India is party to the **Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC) 2010**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **DAE** (Department of Atomic Energy) reports directly to the **Prime Minister**.
- **NPCIL** operates India's nuclear plants; **BHAVINI** handles fast breeder reactors.
- India's civil-nuclear opening followed the **2008 Indo-US 123 Agreement** and NSG waiver.
- Reactor types: **PHWR** (India's mainstay), plus imported **LWR/PWR** designs.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A classic public-law reform question: converting an executive regulator (AERB) into a **statutory** one, and the liability channelling under the **CLND Act 2010** — where Section 17(b) supplier-recourse is the litigation hotspot.

PROVISIONS

Atomic Energy Act 1962, SHANTI Act 2025, Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act 2010, Article 51(c), CSC 2010

BODIES & CASES

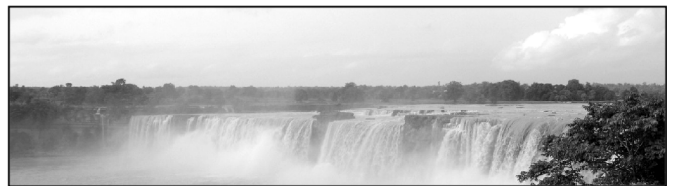
Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), NPCIL

Common Error: Assuming suppliers are primarily liable for a nuclear accident — under the CLND Act liability is channelled to the operator; supplier exposure exists only via the Section 17(b) recourse clause.

SECTION 07 / 12

DEFENCE & SECURITY

India Declared 'Naxal-Free' — Bastar's Abujhmad Cleared



A **Narayanpur SP-led operation** in Bastar's **Abujhmad forest** recovered **Rs 1 crore cash** and **270 weapons** (3 AK-47s, 13 SLR magazines, 132 BGL shells) buried by Maoists. Over **100 Maoists** have been killed since 2024, including CPI(Maoist) chief **Basavaraju**. Home Minister **Amit Shah** declared the anti-Naxal mission complete from Bastar and announced **70 new CAPF camps** to become development hubs.

QUICK FACTS

- Recovered: **Rs 1 crore cash + 270 weapons** in **Abujhmad**, Narayanpur district.
- **100+ Maoists** killed since 2024; CPI(Maoist) General Secretary **Nambala Keshava Rao (Basavaraju)** eliminated.
- Forces: **CRPF, ITBP, STF** under a stated **April 2026 deadline** to end **LWE**.
- **LWE-violence deaths** fell from **626 (2010)** to single digits (2025).
- **70 new CAPF camps** over 3-4 years to be repurposed as development hubs.

MUST KNOW

- **CPI(Maoist)** has been a **Schedule I UAPA banned organisation since 2009**.
- **UAPA 2019 (§35) amendment** allows the Centre to designate **individuals** (not just organisations) as terrorists.
- **Article 355** obliges the Union to protect states against internal disturbance — invoked in LWE zones.
- The **CrPC was replaced by BNSS 2023** from July 2024; the old §149 is now **BNSS §149**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **LWE** = Left-Wing Extremism; the 'Red Corridor' spanned parts of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar and Maharashtra.
- **Abujhmad** ('the unknown hills') is a largely unsurveyed forest in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region.
- **NIA Act 2008** created the National Investigation Agency after 26/11.
- **Salwa Judum** was the earlier anti-Maoist militia struck down in *Nandini Sundar v State of Chhattisgarh* (2011).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT combines the UAPA individual-terrorist designation power with Article 355's Union duty and the CrPC→BNSS transition dates.

PROVISIONS

UAPA 1967 (§35, 2019 Amendment), BNSS 2023 §149, Arms Act 1959, Explosives Act 1884, Article 355

BODIES & CASES

CPI(Maoist), NIA, CRPF / ITBP, *National Investigation Agency v Zahoor Watali* (2019)

Common Error: 'Public order' and 'police' are STATE subjects; but Article 355 lets the Union act — students wrongly assume LWE operations are purely a state matter; or forget CrPC is now BNSS.

defence-acquisition clearances.

- The **Rafale** is built by France's **Dassault Aviation**; the original 36-jet deal was signed in 2016.
- 'Make in India' offset and indigenisation are pushed via the **Strategic Partnership Model 2017**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Rafale-M** is the carrier-borne naval variant, for INS Vikrant.
- Defence procurement is a **Union subject** — Seventh Schedule List I Entry 2A (deployment of forces).
- **DAP 2020** replaced the earlier Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP).
- India operates **Defence Industrial Corridors** in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests the decision chain (DAC → CCS) and which body chairs which; the Rafale review petition (Yashwant Sinha, 2018) is a static case link.

PROVISIONS

DAP 2020, Article 73, Article 246, Seventh Schedule List I Entry 2A, Air Force Act 1950

BODIES & CASES

Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), Dassault Aviation, *Yashwant Sinha v Union of India* (2018)

Common Error: The DAC does NOT sign the final contract — CCS clearance is mandatory. Also 'LoR' is a request stage, not the concluded deal.

India Finalises Letter of Request for 114 More Rafales



India finalised the **Letter of Request (LoR)** for **114 additional Rafale** fighters, to be sent to France 'in the next few weeks'. The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)** cleared it three months earlier; **Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)** approval is pending. **90 jets** will be **Made in India** via Dassault plus an Indian partner and **24 will be fly-away**. This adds to the IAF's 36 and the Navy's 26 Rafale-M.

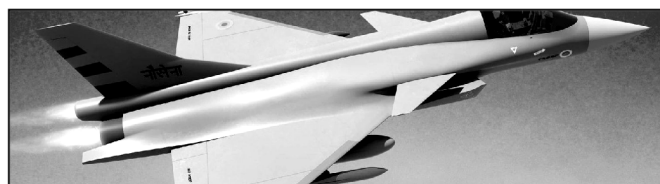
QUICK FACTS

- **Letter of Request (LoR)** finalised for **114 Rafale** fighters.
- **DAC** cleared it ~3 months ago; **CCS approval pending**.
- Split: **90 Made-in-India** (Dassault + Indian partner) + **24 fly-away**.
- Adds to existing **36 IAF Rafales** + **26 Navy Rafale-M**.
- Procured under the **Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020**.

MUST KNOW

- The **DAC** (chaired by the Defence Minister) and the **CCS** (chaired by the PM) are the **twin gates** — no contract without CCS.
- The **CCS** is the apex body for national-security and major

AMCA Stealth-Fighter Manufacturing Hub in Andhra Pradesh



Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** and AP CM **N. Chandrababu Naidu** laid the foundation for an **AMCA (Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft)** infrastructure project in AP's **Sri Sathya Sai district**. The **Rs 16,000 crore** outlay is anchored by **Bharat Forge's Agneyastra** (Rs 1,500 cr) and an **HFCL fuse facility** (Rs 1,294 cr).

QUICK FACTS

- Foundation laid for an **AMCA** hub in **Sri Sathya Sai district, Andhra Pradesh**.
- Project outlay: **Rs 16,000 crore**.
- **Bharat Forge's Agneyastra**: Rs 1,500 crore.
- **HFCL fuse facility**: Rs 1,294 crore.
- Ministers present: **Rajnath Singh** and **N. Chandrababu Naidu**.

MUST KNOW

- **AMCA** is India's **fifth-generation stealth** fighter, developed by **DRDO's ADA** (Aeronautical Development Agency).
- The AMCA project got **Cabinet Committee on Security** clearance; execution is via a competitive development model.
- '**Stealth**' relies on radar-cross-section reduction (shaping + materials) and internal weapons bays.
- Defence manufacturing is a **Union subject**, but states compete

to host plants for jobs and investment.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **ADA** (Aeronautical Development Agency) also designed the **Tejas LCA**, built by HAL.
- **Bharat Forge** (Kalyani Group) is a Pune-based forging and defence firm.
- **Sri Sathya Sai district** is a newer district carved out in Andhra Pradesh.
- India's other fifth-gen exposure: co-development talks and imports debate around Su-57/F-35.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Fits static-plus-current GK: match project (AMCA) to agency (ADA/DRDO), location (AP), and outlay figures — a factual-recall staple.

PROVISIONS

DAP 2020, Article 246 (Union List — Defence), Seventh Schedule List I Entry 1

BODIES & CASES

DRDO / Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), HAL, Bharat Forge, Cabinet Committee on Security

Common Error: AMCA is developed by DRDO's ADA (design) — HAL/private partners build it; students wrongly credit HAL alone or call AMCA a fourth-generation jet (it is fifth-gen).

against external aggression and internal disturbance.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- BSF was raised on **1 December 1965** after the 1965 war; it guards the India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh borders.
- 'Police' and 'public order' are **State List** subjects (List II).
- **CIBMS** = Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System.
- Distinguish the **International Border (IB)** from the **Line of Control (LoC)** (army-manned) and **LAC** (China).

CLAT / Legal Lens

The BSF 50-km jurisdiction row is a live federalism question — police is a State subject, so the Centre's extension is contested.

PROVISIONS

BSF Act 1968, Article 355, Seventh Schedule List II (police, public order), 2021 MHA 50-km jurisdiction order

BODIES & CASES

Border Security Force (BSF), Ministry of Home Affairs, CAPFs (CRPF, CISF, ITBP, SSB, Assam Rifles)

Common Error: The BSF is a CAPF (a police force under the MHA), NOT one of the armed forces; and the 50-km jurisdiction lets it search/arrest but does not transfer 'policing' powers to the Centre.

BSF at 60 — From 'Border Security' to 'Territorial Security'



At the **Border Security Force (BSF)**'s 60th foundation anniversary in Bhuj, Home Minister **Amit Shah** said the Centre is weighing a shift from '**border security**' to '**territorial security**' and redefining the force's areas of responsibility. He inaugurated two new **Border Outposts (G-7 and G-13)** and described a '**quadrangular**' grid of drones, radar and watch towers plus jawans under the **Smart Border Surakhsha Project**.

QUICK FACTS

- **BSF marked its 60th anniversary**; event held in **Bhuj, Gujarat**.
- Proposal: move from '**border security**' to '**territorial security**'.
- New **Border Outposts G-7 and G-13** inaugurated on the India-Pakistan border.
- A '**quadrangular**' security grid: drones + radar + watch towers + jawans.
- **Smart Border Surakhsha Project** and **CIBMS** anchor tech-based border management.

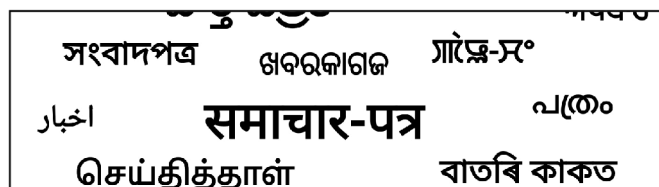
MUST KNOW

- The **BSF is a Central Armed Police Force (CAPF)** under the **MHA**, raised by the **BSF Act 1968** — not part of the armed forces.
- A **2021 MHA order** extended BSF's arrest/search jurisdiction to **50 km inside Punjab, West Bengal and Assam** — contested by those states as encroaching on 'police' (a State subject).
- The **CAPFs** are BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP, SSB and Assam Rifles.
- **Article 355** places a duty on the Union to protect states

SECTION 08 / 12

ART, CULTURE & HISTORY

200 Years of Hindi Journalism — Udant Martand's Bicentenary



30 May 2026 marked the **bicentenary** of **Hindi journalism** and **Hindi Journalism Day**. On this day in **1826**, **Udant Martand** ('The Rising Sun') — the country's first Hindi-language newspaper — was launched as a weekly in colonial **Calcutta** by **Pandit Jugal Kishore Shukla**. It closed within about **18 months** for want of patronage, but seeded a 200-year legacy that later powered the freedom movement and social reform.

QUICK FACTS

- **Udant Martand** launched on **30 May 1826** as a weekly, edited/published by **Pandit Jugal Kishore Shukla** from Calcutta.
- It shut down within roughly **a year and a half** due to lack of subscribers and postal costs.
- Later Hindi journalism was shaped by **Bhartendu Harishchandra** and papers such as **Pratap** (Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi) and **Aaj**.
- **30 May** is observed annually as **Hindi Journalism Day** (Hindi **Patrakarita Diwas**).

MUST KNOW

- India's Constitution has **no separate 'freedom of the press' clause** — press freedom is read into **Article 19(1)(a)** (free speech and expression).
- **Romesh Thappar v State of Madras (1950)** first held press freedom part of free speech; **Sakal Papers (1962)** struck down price-page restrictions; **Bennett Coleman (1973)** protected

newsprint freedom.

- The colonial **Vernacular Press Act 1878** (Lord Lytton) curbed Indian-language papers and was later repealed (by Ripon, 1882).
- India's **first newspaper** was the English **Bengal Gazette / Hicky's Gazette (1780)** — distinct from the first Hindi paper (1826).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The **Press Council of India**, a statutory watchdog, functions under the **Press Council Act 1978**.
- **James Augustus Hicky** founded India's first newspaper in 1780; **Raja Ram Mohan Roy** ran reformist papers (Sambad Kaumudi, Mirat-ul-Akhbar).
- The **Metcalfe Act 1835** is called the 'Magna Carta of Indian Press' for liberalising press rules.
- The **Newspaper (Price and Page) Act** context underlies the Sakal Papers ruling.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Press freedom is a classic CLAT sub-topic: it is **not separately enumerated** but flows from Art 19(1)(a), subject only to the reasonable restrictions in **Art 19(2)**.

PROVISIONS

Article 19(1)(a), Article 19(2), Press Council Act 1978, Vernacular Press Act 1878 (repealed)

BODIES & CASES

Romesh Thappar v State of Madras (1950), Sakal Papers v Union of India (1962), Bennett Coleman v Union of India (1973), Press Council of India

Common Error: Calling Udayant Martand India's **first-ever** newspaper — it was the **first Hindi paper (1826)**; the first newspaper overall was **Hicky's Bengal Gazette (1780)**.

- India's **first GI** was **Darjeeling Tea (2004-05)**; the GI Registry is at **Chennai**.
- A GI protects goods tied to a geographical origin and quality/reputation — it is a form of **Intellectual Property** under the TRIPS framework.
- GI benefits collective producers/artisans, not a single owner — key distinction from a trademark or patent.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Other Odisha GIs: **Pattachitra, Konark stone carving, Sambalpuri saree, Rasagola (Odisha)**.
- GI protection lasts **10 years** and is renewable.
- The **TRIPS Agreement** (WTO) obliges GI protection; India's Act implements it.
- GI administration falls under the **Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM)**, Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests GI as an **IPR sub-topic**: statute (1999 Act), first Indian GI (Darjeeling Tea), 10-year renewable term, and the collective-community nature of GI rights.

PROVISIONS

Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act 1999, TRIPS Agreement (WTO), Article 51A(f)

BODIES & CASES

Geographical Indications Registry, Chennai, CGPDTM, WTO / TRIPS

Common Error: Treating a GI like a trademark owned by one firm — a GI protects a **community of producers** tied to a region; and the enabling Act is **1999** (effective 2003), not 2024 (that is only Tarakasi's registration year).

Cuttack Silver Filigree (Tarakasi) — A GI Craft in Crisis



Cuttack's silver filigree work, 'Tarakasi' — a delicate silver-wire craft of Odisha that received a **Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2024** — is in survival mode. A **15% silver import duty** has squeezed margins, and the artisan count has fallen from about **3,000 in 1996 to roughly 500 today**, threatening a centuries-old tradition despite its new GI protection.

QUICK FACTS

- **Tarakasi** is the intricate **silver filigree** craft of **Cuttack, Odisha**, used in ornaments and the **Durga Puja 'Chandi Medha'** backdrops.
- It secured a **GI tag in 2024** under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act 1999.
- A **15% import duty on silver** has hurt raw-material economics for artisans.
- Artisan numbers dropped from **~3,000 (1996) to ~500** — a livelihood and heritage crisis.

MUST KNOW

- GI tags are granted under the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**, in force from 2003.

SECTION 09 / 12

SPORTS

Everest 2026: Kami Rita's Record 32nd Ascent and BSF's All-Women Summit



In May 2026 two Everest milestones drew attention. **Kami Rita Sherpa** (56) summited on **17 May 2026** for his **32nd time**, extending his own world record for most Everest ascents (first summit 1994). Days later, on **21 May 2026**, the **Border Security Force (BSF)** put its **first all-women team** on the **8,848.86 m** summit, a landmark for the paramilitary force.

QUICK FACTS

- **Kami Rita Sherpa** (Nepal), age 56, recorded his **32nd** Everest summit on **17 May 2026** — a world record he keeps extending.
- His first Everest ascent was in **1994**; he is nicknamed the 'Everest Man'.
- **BSF's first all-women team** summited on **21 May 2026**.
- Team members: **Kouser Fatima** (Ladakh), **Munmun Ghosh** (West Bengal), **Rabeka Singh** (Uttarakhand), **Tsering Chorol** (Kargil).
- Everest's official height is **8,848.86 m** after the 2020 India–

Nepal/China resurvey.

MUST KNOW

- Current Everest height = **8,848.86 m** (2020 joint Nepal–China resurvey added 0.86 m to the old **8,848 m** figure).
- Everest sits on the **Nepal–China (Tibet) border**; Nepali name **Sagarmatha**, Tibetan **Chomolungma**.
- BSF** is a Central Armed Police Force under the **Ministry of Home Affairs** — its all-women summit is a notable gender milestone.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Everest lies in the **Mahalangur Himal** sub-range of the Great Himalayas; part of **Sagarmatha National Park** (UNESCO World Heritage Site, Nepal).
- BSF** (raised 1965) guards the India–Pakistan and India–Bangladesh borders; motto 'Duty Unto Death'.
- First Everest summit: **Tenzing Norgay** and **Edmund Hillary**, 29 May 1953.
- First Indian woman to summit Everest: **Bachendri Pal** (1984).

CLAT / Legal Lens

A static-GK/current-affairs staple: pair the record-holder and the revised height, and place BSF correctly as an MHA-controlled Central Armed Police Force. Everest's border location links to the Nepal–China boundary.

BODIES & CASES

Border Security Force (BSF, 1965), Ministry of Home Affairs, Sagarmatha National Park (UNESCO WHS), Nepal–China Boundary Treaty 1961

*Common Error: Writing Everest's height as the outdated **8,848 m** — the 2020 resurvey fixed it at **8,848.86 m**. Also do not call BSF part of the Army; it is a paramilitary/CAPF under the Home Ministry.*

SECTION 10 / 12

AWARDS & PERSONS

60th Jnanpith Award Goes to Tamil Poet Vairamuthu



The **60th Jnanpith Award** (for the year 2025) was announced for the celebrated Tamil poet, film lyricist and novelist **Dr. Vairamuthu**, making him the **3rd Tamil-language awardee** (after Akilan, 1975 and Jayakanthan, 2002) of India's highest literary honour. The prize is conferred by the **Bharatiya Jnanpith**, a private literary trust founded in 1944 by the Sahu Jain family; the award itself has been given since 1965. It carries **Rs 11 lakh**, a bronze statuette of goddess Saraswati and a citation.

QUICK FACTS

- Awardee: **Dr. Vairamuthu** — Tamil poet, lyricist, novelist; **3rd** Tamil writer to win (after Akilan 1975 and Jayakanthan 2002).
- Instituted by the **Bharatiya Jnanpith** trust (founded **1944**); first awarded in **1965**.
- Prize: **Rs 11 lakh** + bronze **Saraswati** statuette + citation.

- Given for lifetime contribution to Indian literature in a **Scheduled (Eighth Schedule)** language or English.
- First-ever Jnanpith (1965) went to Malayalam writer **G. Sankara Kurup**.

MUST KNOW

- The Jnanpith is a **private trust** award — NOT a Government of India or Sahitya Akademi award.
- Eligibility is limited to writing in an **Eighth Schedule** language or English; a living author (awarded once).
- The **Sahitya Akademi Award** is the statutory National Academy of Letters award — a separate, distinct honour.
- The award medallion depicts **Vagdevi (Saraswati)**, patterned on a Dhar (MP) sculpture.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- First woman Jnanpith laureate: **Ashapoorna Devi** (Bengali, 1976).
- Hindi and Kannada are the languages with the most Jnanpith laureates.
- Bharatiya Jnanpith also publishes literature and reference works (New Delhi based).
- Tamil is a **classical language** of India (first so declared, 2004).

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT static-GK loves testing which body confers which literary award; the Jnanpith is a private trust while the Sahitya Akademi is the statutory National Academy of Letters.

PROVISIONS

Eighth Schedule (22 languages), Article 351

BODIES & CASES

Bharatiya Jnanpith (est. 1944), Sahitya Akademi (Sahitya Akademi Act framework, 1954)

Common Error: Assuming the Jnanpith is a government/Sahitya Akademi award, or that it can be won more than once — it is a one-time private-trust honour.

International Booker Prize: 'Taiwan Travelogue' Wins

AWARDS & PERSONS

The **International Booker Prize**, marking a decade since its 2015–16 reform into an annual prize for a single translated book, went to **'Taiwan Travelogue'** by **Yang Shuang-zi** (written in Mandarin), translated into English by **Lin King**. The **£50,000** prize is **split equally** between author and translator — a signature feature that treats translation as co-authorship. Notably, all six shortlisted titles came from **independent publishers**.

QUICK FACTS

- Winner: **'Taiwan Travelogue'** by **Yang Shuang-zi**, tr. **Lin King**.
- Prize money **£50,000**, **split 50/50** between author and translator.
- Awarded to a single book translated into English and published in the UK/Ireland.
- All **six** shortlisted books were from **independent publishers**.
- The prize took its current annual, single-book form in **2016** (announced 2015).

MUST KNOW

- The **International Booker** (translated fiction) is distinct from the **Booker Prize** (English-language original fiction).
- The equal author-translator split makes the translator's role legally and culturally central.
- Under **Berne Convention Article 8**, the right of translation is an exclusive right of the original author.
- Under Indian law, a translation is a separate copyrightable work but needs the original author's authorisation.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- First Indian-language winner of the International Booker: **'Tomb of Sand'** (Geetanjali Shree, tr. Daisy Rockwell), 2022.
- The **Booker Prize** was founded in 1969; the international version dates to 2005.
- Translation copyright in India is governed by the **Copyright Act, 1957**.
- India joined the **Berne Convention** and is a WTO/TRIPS member.

CLAT / Legal Lens

CLAT tests IPR basics through such prizes — translation as a derivative work, the author's exclusive translation right, and the translator's own copyright and moral rights.

PROVISIONS

Copyright Act, 1957 (Ss. 13, 14, 57), Berne Convention, 1886 (Art. 8), TRIPS Agreement, 1994

BODIES & CASES

Booker Prize Foundation, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Common Error: Confusing the International Booker (for translated fiction, split with translator) with the main Booker Prize (English-language original fiction, author only).

MUST KNOW

- **Urdu** is one of the **22 languages in the Eighth Schedule** of the Constitution.
- The **Padma Shri** is the fourth-highest civilian award; Padma Awards were instituted in **1954**.
- In **Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India (1996)**, the Supreme Court upheld Padma Awards as state recognition, not banned 'titles' under Article 18.
- The **Sahitya Akademi Award** is India's National Academy of Letters honour (Akademi set up 1954).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- Article **350A** mandates mother-tongue primary education (added by the 7th Amendment, 1956).
- The **92nd Amendment, 2003** added Bodo, Dogri, Maithili and Santhali to the Eighth Schedule (14 → 22).
- Urdu was among the **original 14** Eighth Schedule languages.
- **Article 29** protects the right of any section to conserve its language, script and culture.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A poet's Padma Shri is a hook to test Article 18 (abolition of titles) and the Balaji Raghavan ruling that Padma Awards are constitutionally valid as recognition, provided they are not used as prefixes/suffixes to names.

PROVISIONS

Article 18, Article 29, Article 350A, Eighth Schedule (22 languages)

BODIES & CASES

Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India (1996), Sahitya Akademi

Common Error: Thinking Padma Awards violate Article 18 as 'titles' — the Supreme Court held they are permissible recognition and must not be appended to one's name.

Bashir Badr (1935–2026): Voice of the Modern Urdu Ghazal



Legendary **Urdu poet Bashir Badr** died in **Bhopal** on **28 May 2026**, aged 91. Born in **Ayodhya** in **1935**, he reportedly composed his first couplet at seven and went on to modernise the Urdu **ghazal** with everyday, conversational language. He taught at **Aligarh Muslim University** and headed the Urdu department at **Meerut College** for 17 years, before moving to Bhopal after his Meerut home and library were destroyed in the **1987 riots**. He received the **Padma Shri (1999)** and the **Sahitya Akademi Award**.

QUICK FACTS

- Urdu poet who reshaped the modern **ghazal** with simple, spoken idiom.
- Born **1935, Ayodhya**; died **28 May 2026, Bhopal**, aged 91.
- Honours: **Padma Shri (1999)** and the **Sahitya Akademi Award**.
- Career: lecturer at **AMU** → Head, Urdu Dept, **Meerut College** (17 years).
- PhD thesis: **'Aazadi ke Baad Urdu Ghazal Ka Tanqidi Mutala'**.

Maj Gen B. C. Khanduri (1934–2026): Architect of the Highways Programme



Major General Bhuvan Chandra Khanduri, AVSM, a former Army officer who became a two-time **Chief Minister of Uttarakhand** and, as Union **Road Transport & Highways Minister**, was a key architect of the **National Highways Development Project (NHDP)**, died aged 91. He is widely credited with driving the highways build-out — including the **Golden Quadrilateral** — that reshaped India's road connectivity, and later chaired Parliament's Standing Committee on Defence.

QUICK FACTS

- Retired **Major General (AVSM)** turned politician; two-time **CM of Uttarakhand**.
- As Union Minister, a key architect of the **National Highways Development Project (NHDP)**.
- Associated with the flagship **Golden Quadrilateral** highway network.
- Chaired the Parliamentary **Standing Committee on Defence**.
- Passed away aged **91** (born 1934).

MUST KNOW

- **National Highways** are constructed and managed largely through the **NHAI**, set up under the **NHAI Act, 1988**.
- The **Golden Quadrilateral** links Delhi–Mumbai–Chennai–Kolkata; it was NHDP Phase I.
- Uttarakhand was carved out of **Uttar Pradesh in 2000** (the 27th state), initially named Uttaranchal.
- Road transport and highways is a Union subject; NHs are laid under the **National Highways Act, 1956**.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- The three states created in **2000**: Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.
- **NHAI** functions under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.
- **Bharatmala Pariyojana** is the successor umbrella programme for highway development.
- The **AVSM (Ati Vishisht Seva Medal)** is a peacetime military distinguished-service decoration.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Uttarakhand's creation lets CLAT test Article 3 (Parliament's power to form/reorganise states), while NHDP links to the statutory framework for national highways.

PROVISIONS

Article 3 (formation of new states), National Highways Act, 1956, NHAI Act, 1988

BODIES & CASES

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

Common Error: Assuming a state's boundaries can be altered only with its consent — under Article 3, Parliament may do so after merely referring the Bill to the state legislature for its (non-binding) views.

remained holdouts.

- Resistance centred on the **NEP three-language formula** and objections to 'PM' branding; **18 states** had signed earlier.

MUST KNOW

- **Article 21A** (right to free and compulsory education, ages 6–14) was inserted by the **86th Constitutional Amendment, 2002** — it is NOT part of the original Constitution.
- The **RTE Act, 2009** is the enabling statute for Article 21A.
- Education is in the **Concurrent List (List III, Entry 25)**, moved there by the **42nd Amendment, 1976** — hence both Centre and States legislate.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **NEP 2020** replaced the National Policy on Education, 1986; introduced the 5+3+3+4 school structure.
- PM-SHRI schools are meant to showcase NEP implementation and mentor nearby schools.
- Three-language formula traces back to the **Kothari Commission (1964-66)** and NEP 1968.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Federalism + education: why the Centre needs state MoUs (education is Concurrent) and the Article 21A/86th Amendment timeline are prime CLAT fodder.

PROVISIONS

Article 21A, 86th Constitutional Amendment 2002, List III Entry 25 (Concurrent List), 42nd Constitutional Amendment 1976

BODIES & CASES

RTE Act 2009, Ministry of Education, NEP 2020

Common Error: The big trap: assuming Article 21A was always in the Constitution. It came via the 86th Amendment (2002), effective 2010 with the RTE Act — not original.

SECTION 11 / 12

REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES**PM-SHRI Schools: West Bengal Signs; Tamil Nadu & Kerala Hold Out**

The **PM-SHRI** scheme (PM Schools for Rising India) got a renewed push in poll-bound states, with the **West Bengal** Education Department signing the MoU. The scheme upgrades **14,500 government schools** into **NEP 2020** model schools at **Rs 27,360 crore** on a **60:40 Centre-State** basis. Three states had resisted over the **three-language formula** and 'PM' branding; **18 states** had already signed, leaving **Tamil Nadu** and **Kerala** as the last holdouts.

QUICK FACTS

- **PM-SHRI** transforms **14,500** existing schools into NEP 2020 exemplar schools; outlay **Rs 27,360 crore**.
- Funding pattern is **60:40** (Centre:State); a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- **West Bengal** signed the MoU; **Tamil Nadu (CM M K Stalin)** and **Kerala**

NFHS-6 Flags Sharp Rise in Obesity and Diabetes — the 'Double Burden'**REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES**

The **National Family Health Survey-6 (2023-24)**, run by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** with **IIPS Mumbai** as nodal agency and covering about **6.79 lakh households**, reported a sharp rise in **obesity and diabetes**. India now faces a **'double burden'** of malnutrition — under-nutrition and over-nutrition co-existing in the same population — sharpening the policy focus on nutrition and non-communicable diseases.

QUICK FACTS

- **NFHS-6** reference period **2023-24**; sample **~6.79 lakh households**.
- Conducted by **MoHFW** with the **International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS)**, **Mumbai** as nodal agency.
- Headline finding: rising **obesity** and **diabetes** prevalence — the **double burden** of malnutrition.
- Feeds programmes like **Eat Right India**, **FSSAI** front-of-pack labelling and the **NP-NCD** programme.

MUST KNOW

- **Who publishes what:** NFHS = IIPS/MoHFW; HDI = UNDP; **Global Hunger Index = Concern Worldwide + Welthungerhilfe.** Do not mix them.
- **Article 47** (DPSP) directs the State to raise nutrition and public health; read with **Article 21's** right to health.
- 'Double burden' = simultaneous under-nutrition (stunting/wasting) and over-nutrition (obesity/NCDs) in one population.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- NFHS provides data on fertility, family planning, child and maternal health, nutrition and NCDs.
- **FSSAI** operates under the **Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006** and runs Eat Right India.
- Targets align with **SDG-3** (Good Health and Well-being).

CLAT / Legal Lens

A named-report + DPSP crossover: NFHS-6 tests both the issuing body (IIPS/MoHFW) and the Article 47 nutrition mandate under Article 21.

PROVISIONS

Article 21 (right to health), Article 47 (DPSP)

BODIES & CASES

IIPS Mumbai, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, FSSAI, UNDP (HDI), Concern Worldwide/Welthungerhilfe (GHI)

Common Error: Classic 'who publishes what' trap: NFHS is by IIPS/MoHFW — NOT by NITI Aayog, UNDP (that's HDI) or Concern/Welthungerhilfe (that's the Global Hunger Index).

Khet Bachao Abhiyan — A Month-Long Push for Balanced Fertiliser Use



The **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare** announced a month-long **Khet Bachao Abhiyan** from **June 1** to promote balanced fertiliser use and natural farming, unveiled by Union Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** at the two-day **National Kharif Conference** (20 state ministers attending). The drive responds to soil degradation from over-use of subsidised **urea**, with the Centre eyeing product-specific subsidies and an expanded **PM-Kisan 2.0**.

QUICK FACTS

- **Khet Bachao Abhiyan** begins **June 1**, running a month, to push balanced fertiliser use and natural farming.
- Announced by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare** (Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**) at the **National Kharif Conference**.
- Root problem: **urea** stays under government price control while **DAP/MOP** are under the **Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS)**, causing urea over-use and soil imbalance.
- Linked schemes: **PM-PRANAM**, **Soil Health Card**, **National Mission on Natural Farming**, and a mooted **PM-Kisan 2.0**.

MUST KNOW

- **PM-PRANAM** rewards states that reduce chemical-fertiliser use with a share of the subsidy saved.

- **NBS (since 2010)** fixes a per-nutrient subsidy on P and K fertilisers, but **urea is excluded** and stays price-controlled — the price gap drives NPK imbalance.
- **DPSP Article 48** directs modern, scientific agriculture and animal husbandry; pair with **Article 48A** (environment protection).

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Urea** price is controlled under the **Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985**.
- The **Soil Health Card** scheme advises farmers on crop-wise nutrient needs.
- The **Essential Commodities Act, 1955** lets the government regulate fertiliser supply and price.

CLAT / Legal Lens

Agri-economy plus DPSP: the NBS-vs-urea price distortion is a strong current-affairs + Article 48/48A linkage.

PROVISIONS

Article 48 (DPSP), Article 48A (DPSP)

BODIES & CASES

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Nutrient-Based Subsidy regime, Fertiliser Control Order 1985, PM-PRANAM, National Mission on Natural Farming

Common Error: Urea is NOT under the Nutrient-Based Subsidy — it stays under statutory price control (FCO 1985); only phosphatic/potassic fertilisers (DAP, MOP) are under NBS. Reversing this is the common error.

SECTION 12 / 12

STATES IN NEWS

Bengal Orders District 'Holding Centres' Under Foreigners Act, 1946

STATES IN NEWS

The West Bengal Home Department on **23 May 2026** ordered **holding centres in all 23 districts** to detain illegal **Bangladeshi and Rohingya nationals** and foreign convicts who have completed their sentences — pending verification and **deportation under the Foreigners Act, 1946**. The move places the state within the Centre-driven identification-and-deportation framework, raising questions on the constitutional rights available to non-citizens in detention.

QUICK FACTS

- State: **West Bengal**; capital **Kolkata**; CM **Mamata Banerjee**; Governor **C.V. Ananda Bose**.
- Order dated **23 May 2026**; **holding centres in all 23 districts**.
- Targets illegal **Bangladeshis, Rohingya**, and foreign convicts who have finished their jail terms.
- Detention is **pending verification and deportation** under the **Foreigners Act, 1946 (Sec 3)**.
- India is **NOT a party** to the **1951 Refugee Convention** — no statutory refugee status.

MUST KNOW

- **Hans Muller v Superintendent, Presidency Jail (1955)**: foreigners enjoy **Articles 14 and 21** but **NOT Article 19** (only citizens get Art 19 freedoms).
- Power to expel/deport foreigners rests with the **Union**; the **Foreigners Act, 1946** gives sweeping detention/removal powers.
- **Sarbananda Sonowal v Union of India (2005)** struck down the IMDT Act, easing detection of illegal migrants in Assam.
- **Article 355** casts a Union duty to protect states against external aggression and internal disturbance — often cited on infiltration.

STATIC GK & GOOD TO KNOW

- **Citizenship Sec 6A** (Assam Accord cut-off 25 Mar 1971) and **Sec 6B** (CAA route) govern migrant citizenship claims.
- The **Rohingya** are a stateless minority from Myanmar's Rakhine State.
- **Mohammad Salimullah v Union of India (2021)**: SC allowed deportation of Rohingya, holding non-refoulement is not enforceable as India isn't a Convention party.
- 'Detention/holding centres' were earlier set up in Assam following the **NRC** exercise.

CLAT / Legal Lens

A CLAT favourite: which rights extend to non-citizens. Foreigners get Art 14 (equality) and Art 21 (life/liberty) but not Art 19. Detention pending deportation tests the Art 21 'procedure established by law' standard.

PROVISIONS

Article 14, Article 21, Article 355, Foreigners Act 1946 §3, Citizenship Act 1955 §§6A, 6B

BODIES & CASES

Hans Muller v Superintendent, Presidency Jail (1955), Sarbananda Sonowal v Union of India (2005), Mohammad Salimullah v Union of India (2021)

***Common Error:** Assuming foreigners get Article 19 freedoms (speech, movement, residence). Article 19 is reserved for CITIZENS only — Hans Muller (1955) is the anchor authority.*

PERSONAL NOTES — FACTS & MISSES TO REVISE

QUESTION BANK

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

1. FATF mutual-evaluation recommendations cited by MHA relate to:

- A. Beneficial-ownership transparency
- B. Double-passport prohibition
- C. Tax residence
- D. All of the above

2. Which provision of the Constitution prohibits dual citizenship?

- A. Article 5
- B. Article 8
- C. Article 9
- D. Article 11

3. The Citizenship (Amendment) Act 2019 (CAA) provides a pathway to citizenship for persecuted minorities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan belonging to which faiths?

- A. Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians
- B. All non-Muslim communities including atheists
- C. Hindus and Sikhs only
- D. All religious minorities including Ahmadiyyas

4. Section 6A of the Citizenship Act 1955, dealing with persons covered by the Assam Accord, uses the cut-off date of:

- A. 19 July 1948
- B. 26 January 1950
- C. 25 March 1971
- D. 31 December 2014

5. Consider: 1. Census 2021 was postponed due to COVID-19. 2. Census 2027 will be the first digital census with a self-enumeration option. 3. The reference date for Census 2027 has been notified as 1 March 2027 (1 October 2026 for snow-bound regions). Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

6. The Union Cabinet decision in 2024 to include caste enumeration in the upcoming census is significant because:

- A. It revives caste data collection at all-India level for the first time since 1931 (excluding SC/ST which have always been enumerated)
- B. It abolishes OBC reservations
- C. It transfers census to states
- D. It mandates digital-only enumeration

7. FPI outflows of \$4.8 bn YTD impact rupee via:

- A. Higher demand for USD in spot market
- B. Lower forex reserves
- C. Both A & B
- D. Neither

8. Census 2027 introduces caste enumeration first time since:

- A. 1921
- B. 1931
- C. 1951
- D. 1981

9. The Public Trust Doctrine was first explicitly recognised in Indian law in:

- A. M C Mehta v. Kamal Nath (1997)
- B. Vellore Citizens (1996)
- C. T N Godavarman (1996)
- D. Subhash Kumar (1991)

10. Uttarakhand UCC, 2024 and the proposed Gujarat UCC Bill 2025 are similar in that they:

- A. Cover all communities including Scheduled Tribes
- B. Exclude Scheduled Tribes from the UCC's scope
- C. Replace personal laws of only Hindus
- D. Apply only to government servants

11. The Union's exclusive power to enter into treaties with foreign states flows from:

- A. Article 73 read with List I Entry 14 of the Seventh Schedule
- B. Article 162 read with List II
- C. Article 246 read with List III
- D. Article 368

12. Amit Shah's declaration on 24 May 2026 that the UCC will not apply to tribals was made at:

- A. The Constitution Day function at Parliament
- B. The Janjati Suraksha Samagam at the Red Fort marking 150 years of Birsa Munda
- C. The NITI Aayog Governing Council
- D. A BJP National Executive meeting

13. Consider the following: 1. Creamy layer was first introduced for OBCs in Indra Sawhney. 2. Creamy layer for SC/ST promotions was articulated in Jarnail Singh. 3. The current OBC central creamy-layer income ceiling is Rs 8 lakh per annum. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

14. The 50 percent ceiling on reservations and the creamy-layer doctrine for OBCs were laid down in:

- A. Indra Sawhney v. Union of India (1992)
- B. M Nagaraj v. Union of India (2006)
- C. Jarnail Singh v. Lachhmi Narain Gupta (2018)
- D. Janhit Abhiyan v. UoI (2022)

15. Legal Reasoning: 'Reservation is a means to substantive equality, not an end. Once a beneficiary acquires socio-economic mobility, continued benefit may frustrate the equality goal.' Applying this principle, restricting reservation for upwardly mobile beneficiaries:

- A. Violates Art. 14 by carving out an arbitrary class
- B. Is consistent with the equality principle and the creamy-layer logic
- C. Requires constitutional amendment under Art. 368
- D. Is impermissible because reservation is a fundamental right

16. The IT Rules 2026 extend the 'digital news broadcaster' tag to individual creators with followers exceeding:

- A. 10,000
- B. 25,000
- C. 50,000
- D. 1,00,000

17. 'Safe harbour' for intermediaries under Indian law flows primarily from:

- A. Section 66A IT Act
- B. Section 69A IT Act
- C. Section 79 IT Act 2000
- D. Section 124A IPC

18. The Sahyog Portal — a centralised takedown-notice clearinghouse — was launched in:

- A. October 2024
- B. January 2023
- C. August 2022
- D. March 2026

19. Ladakh's recently created four new districts include all EXCEPT:

- A. Nubra
- B. Changthang
- C. Sham
- D. Spiti

20. Under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, specified plants - including certain orchids - are listed in:

- A. Schedule I
- B. Schedule II
- C. Schedule III
- D. Schedule VI

21. Legal Reasoning: 'Inclusion of an area under the Sixth Schedule restricts the transfer of tribal land to non-tribals and protects customary law.' Applying this, extension of the Sixth Schedule to Ladakh would primarily:

- A. Confer statehood on Ladakh
- B. Insulate land, forests and customs from market acquisition and central legislative override
- C. Abolish the LAHDC
- D. Convert Ladakh into a Scheduled Area under the Fifth Schedule

22. Population basis for current LS constituency boundaries (post-87th CAA) is:

- A. 1971 census
- B. 1991 census
- C. 2001 census
- D. 2011 census

23. The 84th Constitutional Amendment 2001 extended the freeze on LS seat readjustment till:

- A. First census after 2026
- B. First census after 2031
- C. 2050
- D. Indefinitely

24. The number of Lok Sabha seats has been frozen since the Census of:

- A. 1951
- B. 1961
- C. 1971
- D. 1981

25. The 84th Amendment (2001) and 87th Amendment (2003) extended the delimitation freeze until:

- A. The year 2026
- B. The first census taken after 2026
- C. The year 2031
- D. The next general election

26. The Moon Agreement (Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies) was adopted by UNGA in:

- A. 1967
- B. 1972
- C. 1979
- D. 1984

27. Section 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 deals with:

- A. Establishment of the Animal Welfare Board of India
- B. Specific offences of treating animals cruelly - beating, kicking, over-driving, abandonment, etc., with penalties
- C. Slaughterhouse regulation
- D. Performing-animal registration

28. India was elevated to Strategic Trade Authorization Tier-1 (STA-1) status by the US in:

- A. 2014
- B. 2016
- C. 2018
- D. 2022

LEGAL & JUDICIARY

29. Before the 2026 ordinance, the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court (including the CJI) stood at 34. This number was reached by which amendment?

- A. SC (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2008
- B. SC (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2009
- C. SC (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2019
- D. SC (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2022

30. The President's power to promulgate an ordinance increasing the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court flows from which provision read with which statute?

- A. Art. 123 read with the SC (Number of Judges) Act, 1956
- B. Art. 124 read with the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968
- C. Art. 213 read with the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954
- D. Art. 143 read with the Advocates Act, 1961

31. Which constitutional bench decision struck down the National Judicial Appointments Commission, restoring the Collegium system?

- A. Sankari Prasad (1951)
- B. Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association v. Union of India (2015)
- C. Kesavananda Bharati (1973)
- D. S P Gupta (1981)

32. Assertion (A): The Union government can increase the strength of the Supreme Court by ordinance even when Parliament is not in session. Reason (R): The composition of the Supreme Court is governed exclusively by Article 124 and cannot be altered by ordinary law.

- A. Both A and R are true; R is the correct explanation of A
- B. Both A and R are true; R is NOT the correct explanation of A
- C. A is true, R is false
- D. A is false, R is true

33. Which bench issued the 'bail to verdict' directions?

- A. CJI Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi
- B. CJI D Y Chandrachud and Justice Sanjiv Khanna
- C. Justice B V Nagarathna and Justice Surya Kant
- D. Justice J B Pardiwala and Justice R Mahadevan

34. Principle: Personal liberty under Art. 21 requires expeditious disposal of bail and appeal. Facts: Four life convicts' criminal appeals were reserved by a High Court and remained undecided long after arguments concluded. Which is the STRONGEST constitutional objection?

- A. No objection lies as judgment-writing time is unreviewable
- B. Prolonged delay in deciding reserved liberty matters erodes Art. 21 and public confidence, justifying time-bound directions
- C. Only the convicts' lawyers can be penalised
- D. Article 21 has no application to convicts

35. Maneka Gandhi v Union of India (1978) is significant for holding that:

- A. Article 21 procedure must be just, fair and reasonable
- B. Preventive detention is unconstitutional
- C. The President is bound by the Council of Ministers
- D. Reservation cannot exceed 50%

36. Assertion (A): A Union Territory without a legislature cannot be brought under the Sixth Schedule. Reason (R): The Sixth Schedule presupposes a State legislature to confer matching powers on Autonomous District Councils.

- 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

37. Sedition has now been re-cast in which provision of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023?

- A. Section 113 (terrorist act)
- B. Section 150 (acts endangering sovereignty)
- C. Section 152 (acts endangering sovereignty, unity and integrity of India)
- D. Section 196 (promoting enmity)

38. The three-judge bench of the Supreme Court that on 21 May 2026 permitted resumption of pending sedition cases (with accused's consent) was led by:

- A. CJI D Y Chandrachud
- B. CJI Surya Kant
- C. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul
- D. Justice S Ravindra Bhat

39. Section 43D(5) of UAPA, governing bail, applies to offences under:

- A. Chapters IV and VI of UAPA (terrorist acts and terror-financing)
- B. Chapter II only
- C. All Indian Penal Code offences
- D. The Foreigners Act, 1946

40. The two-judge bench that on 22 May 2026 referred the UAPA bail question to a larger bench comprised:

- A. Justices D Y Chandrachud and Sanjay Kishan Kaul
- B. Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh
- C. Justices Sanjiv Khanna and B R Gavai
- D. Justices Hima Kohli and J B Pardiwala

41. Balchand v State of Rajasthan (1977) is the source of which bail maxim?

- A. 'Bail, not jail'
- B. 'Innocent until proven guilty'
- C. 'Speedy trial is part of Art. 21'
- D. 'Right to silence is absolute'

42. In Union of India v KA Najeer (2021), the 3-judge bench of the SC held that:

- A. Sec 43-D(5) UAPA imposes an absolute bar on bail
- B. Constitutional courts can grant bail on the ground of unreasonably long incarceration violating Art. 21, notwithstanding the Sec 43-D(5) bar
- C. Only the Supreme Court can grant bail under UAPA
- D. Default bail under Sec 167 CrPC is not available under UAPA

43. Online money gaming is classified for GST as an 'actionable claim'. Under the CGST Act, actionable claims are otherwise excluded from supply under:

- A. Schedule I
- B. Schedule II
- C. Schedule III Entry 6
- D. Schedule IV

44. The 28% GST is levied on online money gaming at the:

- A. Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR) only
- B. Platform commission only
- C. Full face value of bets / contest entry amount
- D. Net winnings of players

45. The Supreme Court verdict on 28% GST on online money gaming (28 May 2026) was delivered by a bench comprising:

- A. DY Chandrachud and Sanjiv Khanna
- B. JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan
- C. Surya Kant and BV Nagarathna
- D. PS Narasimha and JK Maheshwari

46. The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025 (PROG Act) primarily:

- A. Legalised all online gaming nationally
- B. Imposed a complete ban on online money gaming
- C. Created a self-regulatory body for casinos
- D. Replaced the Public Gambling Act 1867 only for fantasy sports

47. Under the ABC Rules 2023, the primary method prescribed for management of community dogs is:

- A. Mass culling by municipal authorities
- B. Permanent relocation to shelters
- C. Sterilisation, vaccination and release to the same locality (CNVR)
- D. Transfer to private adoption only

48. Article 19 of the Constitution guarantees citizens which set of freedoms relevant to the stray-dog jurisprudence (e.g. petitioners' right to walk safely)?

- A. Right to freedom of speech, assembly, association, movement, residence and profession
- B. Right to silence and privacy only
- C. Right to bear arms
- D. Right to property

49. The Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA) was launched by India during which presidency/summit?

- A. India's G20 Presidency - New Delhi Summit September 2023
- B. India's SCO Presidency 2023
- C. BRICS Johannesburg 2023
- D. QUAD Tokyo 2022

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

50. Principle: India's '4 Cs' diplomacy emphasises Commerce, Connectivity, Culture and Climate. Facts: During the UAE leg, Modi signs MoUs on green hydrogen, semiconductor packaging, food corridors and cultural exchanges. Which C is least directly engaged?

- A. Commerce
 - B. Connectivity
 - C. Culture
 - D. None — all four engaged
4. 3rd India-Nordic Summit at Oslo on May 19 — Arctic, green H2, supply chains

51. The Nordic-5 states participating in the India-Nordic Summit format are:

- A. Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Denmark
- B. Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Estonia
- C. Norway, Sweden, Denmark, UK, Iceland
- D. Norway, Sweden, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania

52. The Nordic 5 comprises:

- A. Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
- B. Denmark, Finland, Estonia, Norway, Sweden
- C. Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
- D. Belgium, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

53. PM Narendra Modi's visit to Oslo for the 3rd India-Nordic Summit in May 2026 was the first by an Indian Prime Minister to:

- A. Sweden
- B. Denmark
- C. Norway
- D. Iceland

54. Consider the following on India-Netherlands ties: 1. The Netherlands is among India's largest sources of FDI inflow. 2. ASML's EUV exports to China are now restricted by Dutch export controls aligned with the US. 3. The Netherlands hosts the International Court of Justice but is not a UN Security Council permanent member. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

55. Tata Electronics' semiconductor fabrication plant under construction in India is located primarily in:

- A. Dholera (Gujarat)
- B. Sriperumbudur (Tamil Nadu)
- C. Visakhapatnam
- D. Manesar (Haryana)

56. Assertion (A): Semiconductor cooperation with the Netherlands enhances India's technological sovereignty. Reason (R): The Netherlands controls upstream lithography, the most chokeable node in the semiconductor value chain.

- 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

57. During the 2026 Rome summit, India and Italy elevated their bilateral ties to which level?

- A. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
- B. Special Strategic Partnership

- C. Strategic Partnership
- D. Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership

58. Consider: 1. India and South Korea have a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) since 2010. 2. South Korea is a major source of FDI in India. 3. The Indian Ocean Region is a stated convergence area for India-RoK strategic dialogue. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

59. Consider: 1. India and Italy have a defence cooperation agreement. 2. Italy's Leonardo S.p.A. has been a defence supplier to India in the past. 3. The 2012 Italian Marines case was tried at the Permanent Court of Arbitration. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

60. Assertion (A): The India-Italy partnership includes a defence industrial roadmap. **Reason (R):** The Strategic Partnership Model 2017 enables Indian private firms to partner with foreign OEMs for indigenous manufacture.

- 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

61. Which of the following is NOT geographically part of the Eastern Mediterranean basin?

- A. Cyprus
- B. Lebanon
- C. Israel
- D. Estonia

62. Consider the following on India-Cyprus relations: 1. Diplomatic relations were established shortly after Cyprus' independence in 1960. 2. India recognises only the Republic of Cyprus (Greek Cypriot), not the self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. 3. Cyprus is a member of the Non-Aligned Movement. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

63. Assertion (A): The Supreme Court's May 2026 question on continued reservation post-mobility extends the Indra Sawhney creamy-layer logic. **Reason (R):** Both flow from the principle that equality of opportunity in Art. 16(1) is the primary value and Art. 16(4) is an enabling exception.

- 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

64. Legal Reasoning: 'India's foreign policy doctrine of strategic autonomy means that bilateral partnerships, even when called "alliances", do not amount to treaty alliances in the NATO sense.' Applying this, the term 'US-India alliance' as used in the May 2026 press statements:

- A. Creates a binding mutual-defence obligation
- B. Is political rhetoric describing a deepened strategic partnership, not a NATO-style treaty alliance
- C. Triggers Senate ratification automatically
- D. Compels India to send troops to US conflicts

65. Marco Rubio, on his 24 May 2026 visit, met:

- A. Only the PM
- B. EAM S. Jaishankar and PM Narendra Modi
- C. Only the President
- D. Only the Defence Minister

66. The Strategic Partnership Model in DAP was introduced in:

- A. 2010
- B. 2013
- C. 2017
- D. 2020

67. The Next Steps in Strategic Partnership (NSSP) between India and the US was launched in:

- A. 2000 by Clinton
- B. 2004, eventually leading up to the 123 Agreement of 2008
- C. 2014 with Modi-Obama
- D. 2020 with Trump-Modi

68. India AI Impact Summit 2026 was hosted by India after a similar summit in:

- A. Paris (February 2025)
- B. Bletchley Park (November 2023)
- C. Seoul (May 2024)
- D. All of the above as a continuing series

69. The Power of Siberia 1 pipeline transports natural gas from East Siberia primarily into which Chinese province?

- A. Heilongjiang
- B. Xinjiang
- C. Sichuan
- D. Guangdong

70. The 'no-limits' strategic partnership between Russia and China was formally announced in:

- A. February 2022, on the eve of the invasion of Ukraine
- B. October 2014 at APEC Beijing
- C. September 2001 at the founding of the SCO
- D. December 2020 during the COVID surge

71. Gallium Nitride (GaN) is preferred over silicon in certain semiconductor applications because it offers:

- A. Higher breakdown voltage and faster switching at high power
- B. Lower thermal conductivity
- C. Cheaper raw material
- D. Larger wafer size

72. 'Critical and Emerging Technologies' (CET) in the Quad agenda includes all of the following EXCEPT:

- A. Semiconductors
- B. Artificial intelligence
- C. Quantum technologies
- D. Coal-bed methane

73. The Quad Foreign Ministers' meeting referenced was held in:

- A. Tokyo
- B. Canberra
- C. New Delhi
- D. Washington

74. Assertion (A): The India-Cyprus Strategic Partnership strengthens India's Eastern Mediterranean profile and IMEC logistics. **Reason (R):** Cyprus' EU membership and Eastern Mediterranean location offer India a

fintech, energy and connectivity gateway into Europe.

- 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

75. The Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA) initiative was launched at the:

- A. Tokyo Quad Summit, May 2022
- B. Washington Quad Summit, 2021
- C. Hiroshima G7, 2023
- D. Delhi Quad Summit, 2024

76. How many Indian northeastern states share a border with Myanmar?

- A. Two
- B. Three
- C. Four
- D. Five

77. Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing's visit advances which of India's flagship policies?

- A. Look West Policy
- B. Act East Policy
- C. Connect Central Asia
- D. Gujral Doctrine only

78. India shares a land border with Myanmar of approximately:

- A. 1,643 km
- B. 2,400 km
- C. 3,323 km
- D. 4,096 km

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

79. Which three public-sector oil marketing companies absorbed India's multi-year fuel-price freeze?

- A. ONGC, GAIL, OIL
- B. IOC, BPCL, HPCL
- C. Reliance, Nayara, Shell
- D. IOC, Reliance, GAIL

80. Match List I (Scheme) with List II (Ministry): A. FAME-II — 1. Heavy Industries B. PM e-Bus Sewa — 2. Housing & Urban Affairs C. PLI Auto — 3. Heavy Industries D. National Hydrogen Mission — 4. New & Renewable Energy

- A. A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- B. A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- C. A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
- D. A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

81. The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) was set up under:

- A. PNGRB Act, 2006
- B. Petroleum Act, 1934
- C. Oilfields Act, 1948
- D. ONGC Act, 1959

82. Former MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar was convicted in 2019 under which provisions?

- A. IPC + POCSO
- B. POCSO only
- C. IPC only
- D. UAPA + IPC

83. Major sources of RBI's surplus include all the following EXCEPT:

- A. Interest income on its rupee securities
- B. Returns on its foreign currency assets
- C. Open market operations income
- D. Goods and Services Tax revenue

84. Consider the following: 1. The RBI was nationalised in 1949. 2. Section 47 RBI Act requires payment of surplus to the Central Government only. 3. State Governments share a portion of the RBI surplus directly. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

85. The RBI surplus transferred for accounting year 2024-25 is:

- A. Rs 1.76 lakh crore
- B. Rs 2.11 lakh crore
- C. Rs 2.86 lakh crore
- D. Rs 3.50 lakh crore

86. Which best describes 'default bail' versus 'discretionary bail'?

- A. Default bail is a right arising from procedural lapse; discretionary bail depends on merits of the case
- B. Default bail is granted only by the Supreme Court
- C. Discretionary bail is automatic; default bail is conditional
- D. There is no legal distinction between the two

87. Subhash Kumar v State of Bihar (1991) is significant because the

Supreme Court held:

- A. Right to clean and pollution-free environment is part of Art. 21 (right to life)
- B. PILs require advance fee deposits
- C. Industries cannot be closed without compensation
- D. Right to environment is a directive principle only, not enforceable

88. Article VII of the Outer Space Treaty 1967 provides that the State which launches an object into outer space is internationally liable for:

- A. Damage caused by its space object to another State Party or its natural/juridical persons on Earth, in air space, or in outer space
- B. Damage caused only on the territory of the launching State
- C. Damage caused by objects launched by private entities only
- D. Damage to spacecraft only, not satellites

89. GRAP (Graded Response Action Plan) for Delhi-NCR comprises how many stages?

- A. 2 stages
- B. 3 stages
- C. 4 stages
- D. 5 stages

90. OFAC's 'Apparent Violations' designation, used in settlement publications, means:

- A. A conclusive finding of guilt
- B. Conduct that OFAC has reason to believe constituted an apparent violation of sanctions law - typically resolved through a settlement
- C. A criminal conviction by a federal court
- D. A SEC enforcement order

91. OFAC (Office of Foreign Assets Control) administers US economic sanctions primarily under which statute?

- A. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act 1977
- B. International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) 1977
- C. Patriot Act 2001
- D. Trading with the Enemy Act 1917 only

92. Of the 226 anti-dumping investigations filed by India (1 Jan 2021 - 30 Jun 2025), the number targeting Chinese imports is approximately:

- A. 50
- B. 90
- C. 130
- D. 180

93. Principle: Article I GATT (MFN) prohibits discrimination between trading partners; however, anti-dumping duties under Article VI are a permitted exception when based on a positive determination of dumping, injury and causation. Facts: India levies an anti-dumping duty only on Chinese imports of a chemical after a DGTR investigation that finds dumping, material injury and causal link. Which is the STRONGEST WTO-compatibility proposition?

- A. The measure violates Article I as it singles out China
- B. The measure is compatible - Article VI permits country-specific anti-dumping duties on a positive DGTR finding
- C. Only Parliament-enacted duties are WTO-compatible
- D. The lesser duty rule is mandatory under WTO and was breached

94. Of the 170 anti-dumping measures currently in force, the share relating to chemicals and allied industries is approximately:

- A. 10%
- B. 25%
- C. 51%
- D. 75%

95. The Digital Services Act (DSA) — under which Temu has been fined — is formally:

- A. EU Regulation 2022/2065
- B. EU Directive 2016/680
- C. GDPR (Reg. 2016/679)
- D. EU Regulation 2022/1925 (DMA)

96. Principle: A VLOP is liable for systemic failures to protect consumers from illegal products on its marketplace. Facts: The Commission finds that Temu's onboarding allows recidivist sellers and lacks effective product traceability. Which is the STRONGEST liability proposition under DSA?

- A. No liability — sellers alone are liable
- B. Temu is liable for failing systemic-risk-mitigation duties (Art. 34-35) regardless of individual seller liability
- C. Liability arises only if Temu had actual knowledge of each illegal listing
- D. DSA exempts non-EU companies

97. Under the DSA, the user threshold for designation as a Very Large Online Platform (VLOP) is approximately:

- A. 10 million EU users
- B. 25 million EU users
- C. 45 million EU users
- D. 100 million EU users

98. Principle: Net neutrality bars discriminatory treatment of traffic, but application-agnostic technical management may be permissible. Facts: Airtel offers paid-priority connectivity during congestion via slicing, claiming it does not throttle or block others' traffic. Which is the STRONGEST argument that the service may still raise net-neutrality concerns?

- A. Paid prioritisation of some users' traffic risks a two-tier internet, a core net-neutrality concern even if technically application-agnostic
- B. Slicing is illegal under the Constitution
- C. Only the government can offer 5G
- D. Net neutrality has no application to postpaid users

99. 5G network slicing is best described as:

- A. Splitting one physical 5G network into multiple isolated virtual 'slices' for different use cases
- B. Reducing the area of network coverage
- C. Blocking specific websites
- D. Merging 4G and 5G spectrum

100. The Airtel 'Priority Postpaid' service uses which 5G technology to offer premium connectivity?

- A. Carrier aggregation
- B. Network slicing
- C. Beamforming only
- D. Zero-rating

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

101. Under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Hoolock gibbon is listed in:

- A. Schedule I
- B. Schedule II
- C. Schedule III
- D. Schedule V (vermin)

102. A 'canopy bridge' over a forest-bisecting railway line is best understood as a:

- A. Mitigation measure to maintain habitat connectivity for arboreal species
- B. Tourist infrastructure
- C. Forest fire-line
- D. Boundary marker under the Indian Forest Act

103. The Hoolock gibbon is listed in CITES Appendix:

- A. I
- B. II
- C. III
- D. Not listed

104. In which case did the Supreme Court hold that the right to a clean environment is part of the right to life under Article 21?

- A. Subhash Kumar v State of Bihar (1991)
- B. M C Mehta v Union of India (Oleum Gas)
- C. Indian Council for Enviro-Legal Action v Uol (1996)
- D. All of the above

105. Assertion (A): The ICJ's 2025 climate AO can be invoked before domestic courts in India. Reason (R): International law, where not in conflict with municipal law, may inform constitutional interpretation under Articles 51 and 253.

- 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

106. Assertion (A): The Centre's stand against new Upper Ganga hydel projects rests on cumulative impact assessment. Reason (R): A river-stretch can absorb a finite ecological load, beyond which downstream flow and biodiversity collapse.

- 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

107. The T V Somanathan Committee (2024) on hydropower in the upper Ganga was constituted at the instance of:

- A. The Supreme Court
- B. The MoEF&CC; alone
- C. The National Green Tribunal
- D. The Uttarakhand High Court

108. Assertion (A): Coral bleaching is reversible if heat stress abates within weeks but becomes fatal if ventilation collapses. Reason (R): At about 37°C, oxygen exchange in coral polyps via cilia is disrupted, leading to tissue death.

- 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

109. According to IPCC AR6, at 1.5°C global warming, the projected loss of coral reefs is approximately:

- A. 10-20 percent
- B. 30-40 percent
- C. 70-90 percent
- D. Less than 5 percent

110. The 4th global coral bleaching event was officially declared in April 2024 by:

- A. UNEP and UNESCO
- B. NOAA and the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)
- C. IPCC alone
- D. World Bank

111. Project Lion, the species-recovery plan for Asiatic lions, was approved in:

- A. 2014
- B. 2018
- C. 2020 (announced)/2021 (approved)
- D. 2024

112. The Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 lists Asiatic lion under which Schedule?

- A. Schedule I (highest protection)
- B. Schedule II
- C. Schedule III
- D. Schedule V (vermin)

113. The Supreme Court order of 15 April 2013 in CWP No. 337 of 1995 (Centre for Environmental Law v Union of India) directed:

- A. Closure of Gir as a national park
- B. Translocation of some Asiatic lions from Gir to Kuno-Palpur (Madhya Pradesh) within 6 months
- C. Ban on cheetah reintroduction
- D. Merger of Project Lion and Project Tiger

114. MCD's mechanised road-sweeping fleet of 76 against the CAQM-recommended 505 represents a shortfall of approximately:

- A. 10%
- B. 40%
- C. 60%
- D. 80%

115. The right to a pollution-free environment was first read into Article 21 in:

- A. Subhash Kumar v. State of Bihar (1991)
- B. Vellore Citizens Welfare Forum (1996)
- C. M C Mehta v. Uol (Oleum) 1986
- D. T N Godavarman 1996

116. According to recent source-apportionment studies referenced in the 25 May 2026 report, road dust contributes approximately:

- A. 12% of Delhi PM_{2.5}
- B. 38% of Delhi PM_{2.5} and 28% of PM₁₀
- C. 5% of PM_{2.5}
- D. 60% of PM_{2.5}

117. Consider the following on storage: 1. BESS bids in 2024-25 saw tariffs fall below Rs 4 lakh/MW/month. 2. Pumped hydro is the largest installed storage mode globally. 3. India's storage obligations are now being framed as a sub-target of RPOs. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only

- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

118. Assertion (A): Even where water supply is a State subject, the Centre may run a centrally sponsored scheme on it. **Reason (R):** Article 282 permits the Union or a State to make grants for any public purpose, even if not within its legislative competence.

- 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

119. The Electricity Act, 2003, recognises renewable energy by mandating:

- A. Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPOs) for distribution licensees
- B. Compulsory thermal power purchase
- C. Abolition of state regulators
- D. Privatisation of all discoms

120. The principle of 'Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities' (CBDR-RC) is enshrined in:

- A. UN Charter Art. 2
- B. UNFCCC, 1992 Art. 3
- C. Stockholm Declaration 1972 only
- D. Rio Declaration 1992 Principle 7 and UNFCCC Art. 3

121. Consider the following about the National Security Act, 1980: 1. It allows preventive detention for up to 12 months. 2. Grounds of detention must be communicated within five days, extendable to fifteen. 3. An Advisory Board must review detention within three weeks. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

122. The ICJ issued its landmark advisory opinion on State obligations on climate change on:

- A. 12 December 2015
- B. 5 June 2022
- C. 23 July 2025
- D. 1 January 2026

SCIENCE, TECH & HEALTH

123. The blood test described measures which set of biomarkers?

- A. Abeta-42, Abeta-40 and p-tau217
- B. Haemoglobin A1c only
- C. Troponin and BNP
- D. CA-125 and CEA

124. Principle: Section 12 of the Indian Contract Act provides that a person is competent to contract if at the time of contracting he is of sound mind and capable of understanding it and forming a rational judgement. **Facts:** A 62-year-old, biomarker-positive for Alzheimer's pathology but pre-symptomatic, signs a complex property contract. Which is the **STRONGEST** proposition under Sec 12?

- A. The contract is void ab initio because of biomarker positivity
- B. Capacity is judged at the time of contracting; biomarker positivity alone, without proof of incapacity, does not invalidate the contract
- C. All contracts by persons over 60 are voidable
- D. Section 12 has been repealed by MHCA 2017

125. The senior author of the UCSF / NIH-funded study is:

- A. Kristine Yaffe
- B. Reisa Sperling
- C. Anil Venkitachalam
- D. Atul Gawande

126. Consider: I. KS Puttaswamy (2017) recognised privacy as a fundamental right under Art. 21. II. The judgment laid down a four-fold test of legality, legitimate aim, proportionality and procedural safeguards. Which is/are correct?

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

127. Entry 59 of List I (Union List), Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, covers:

- A. Banking and insurance
- B. Cultivation, manufacture, and sale for export, of opium
- C. Inter-state trade
- D. Foreign exchange

128. Vikram lander of Chandrayaan-3 soft-landed on the Moon on:

- A. 22 July 2023
- B. 5 August 2023
- C. 23 August 2023
- D. 14 September 2023

129. ChaSTE (Chandra's Surface Thermophysical Experiment), the payload on Vikram lander, primarily measured:

- A. Lunar magnetic field
- B. Thermal conductivity and temperature profile of the lunar regolith (soil) near the south pole
- C. Solar wind composition
- D. Cosmic rays

130. The International Health Regulations (IHR) currently in force were adopted in:

- A. 1969
- B. 1995
- C. 2005
- D. 2015

131. India's primary epidemic-era statute, used during COVID-19, is:

- A. Disaster Management Act 2005 only
- B. Epidemic Diseases Act 1897
- C. Public Health Act 2018
- D. Indian Penal Code

132. Which Article of the Indian Constitution casts a duty on the state to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of public health?

- A. Article 39
- B. Article 41
- C. Article 47
- D. Article 48A

133. The Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992, addresses invasive alien species under:

- A. Article 6
- B. Article 8(h)
- C. Article 14
- D. Article 19

134. Which of the following has been declared a PHEIC at some point?

- A. H1N1 (2009)
- B. Polio (2014)
- C. Ebola (2014, 2019), COVID-19 (2020-2023), Mpox (2022 and 2024), Zika (2016)
- D. All of the above

135. Which of the following has NEVER been declared a PHEIC?

- A. 2014-15 West African Ebola
- B. 2016 Zika virus
- C. COVID-19 in 2020
- D. Annual seasonal influenza

136. Match List I (Country) with List II (India partnership tier): A. Russia — 1. Special & Privileged Strategic Partnership B. United States — 2. Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership C. France — 3. Strategic Partnership (1998, upgraded) D. UAE — 4. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

- A. A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- B. A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- C. A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
- D. A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

137. Article 12 of the IHR 2005 specifically empowers the WHO DG to:

- A. Determine whether an event constitutes a PHEIC
- B. Impose binding travel sanctions
- C. Override national sovereignty in vaccine rollout
- D. Convene the World Health Assembly

138. Assertion (A): Opening the civil nuclear sector to private players requires amending both the Atomic Energy Act 1962 and possibly the CLNDA 2010. Reason (R): The 1962 Act reserves atomic energy to the Centre and its companies.

- 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

139. Section 17(b) of the CLNDA 2010 — controversial with foreign suppliers — provides for:

- A. Operator's right of recourse against supplier for defective equipment
- B. Operator's automatic indemnity by Centre

- C. Strict criminal liability
- D. Mandatory state insurance

140. The Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 caps the operator's liability at:

- A. Rs 500 crore
- B. Rs 1,000 crore
- C. Rs 1,500 crore
- D. Rs 2,500 crore

141. The Indo-US Civil Nuclear Agreement (123 Agreement) was signed in:

- A. 2005 (Joint Statement) / 2008 (123 Agreement)
- B. 2010
- C. 2014
- D. 2020

DEFENCE & SECURITY

142. Section 35 of the UAPA 1967 empowers the Central Government to add to or remove from the First Schedule:

- A. Restricted military equipment
- B. An organisation declared as a 'terrorist organisation' (Sec 35(1)); since the 2019 amendment, also a person declared as a 'terrorist' (Sec 35(2))
- C. States under President's Rule
- D. Banned books and publications

143. The Registration Convention 1976 obliges:

- A. States of registry to furnish information about their space objects to the UN Register maintained by the Secretary-General
- B. Registration only of military satellites
- C. Annual financial reporting on space budgets
- D. Sharing of launch trajectories with rivals

144. India's Aditya-L1 mission, India's first solar observatory at the Sun-Earth L1 Lagrange point, was launched in:

- A. August 2023
- B. September 2023
- C. January 2024
- D. March 2024

145. India's principal anti-bribery domestic legislation is the:

- A. Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 (as amended in 2018 - covering both bribe-takers and bribe-givers, including commercial bribery)
- B. Indian Penal Code 1860 only
- C. Companies Act 2013
- D. FCRA 2010

146. Assertion (A): The 114-Rafale procurement is being progressed through a Letter of Request (LoR) to France. Reason (R): LoR is the formal expression of interest beginning a Government-to-Government (IGA) acquisition process.

- 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

147. India's existing Rafale inventory includes:

- A. 36 IAF Rafale + 26 Navy Rafale-M contracted
- B. Only 18 IAF Rafale
- C. 60 IAF Rafale + no Navy variant
- D. 100 IAF Rafale already inducted

148. Of the proposed 114 Rafales, the production split is reportedly:

- A. All 114 fly-away from France
- B. All 114 Made-in-India
- C. 90 Made-in-India via Dassault + Indian partner; 24 fly-away
- D. 57 each

149. AMCA stands for:

- A. Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft
- B. Advanced Multi-role Combat Aircraft
- C. Aerial Mission Combat Aircraft
- D. Air Mobility Combat Aircraft

150. The foundation stone for the AMCA prototype facility was laid by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu

- B. Karnataka
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Telangana

151. AMCA is being developed by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) under the:

- A. DRDO
- B. HAL
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. Ministry of Civil Aviation

152. The Border Security Force (BSF) was raised under which statute?

- A. BSF Act, 1968
- B. CRPF Act, 1949
- C. Armed Forces Act, 1950
- D. CISF Act, 1968

153. The BSF is one of India's Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs). Which of the following is NOT a CAPF?

- A. CRPF
- B. CISF
- C. Indian Army
- D. ITBP

154. Under a contested 2021 MHA order, the BSF's jurisdiction was extended up to 50 km inside the border in:

- A. Rajasthan, Gujarat and Jammu
- B. Punjab, West Bengal and Assam
- C. Maharashtra, Bihar and Odisha
- D. Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka

ART, CULTURE & HISTORY

155. Udant Martand was launched in which colonial city?

- A. Bombay
- B. Madras
- C. Calcutta
- D. Delhi

156. Bennett Coleman v Union of India (1973) dealt with press freedom in the context of:

- A. Newsprint control policy
- B. Television licensing
- C. Defamation law
- D. Sedition

157. Hindi Journalism Day is observed on 30 May to mark the launch of:

- A. Kesari
- B. Udant Martand
- C. Pratap
- D. Aaj

158. Tarakasi, the silver-filigree craft that received a Geographical Indication tag in 2024, is native to which city?

- A. Cuttack, Odisha
- B. Bidar, Karnataka
- C. Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh
- D. Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu

159. Consider Tarakasi's crisis: 1. The artisan count has fallen from approximately 3,000 in 1996 to around 500. 2. A 15% import duty on silver inputs has squeezed margins. 3. GI registration grants exclusive rights but does not by itself ensure economic viability. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

160. Assertion (A): A GI tag prevents producers outside the registered region from using the designation 'Cuttack Silver Filigree'. Reason (R): Section 22 of the GI Act 1999 makes such use an infringement.

- 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

SPORTS

161. The Jal Jeevan Mission's flagship target is to provide Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) by:

- A. 2022
- B. 2024
- C. 2026
- D. 2028

162. Assertion (A): Storage is the missing leg of India's renewable energy transition. Reason (R): Without firm, dispatchable renewable supply, RE cannot displace baseload coal economically.

- 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

163. Assertion (A): India's semiconductor strategy emphasises packaging and compound semiconductors over leading-edge fabrication. Reason (R): Packaging and compound semiconductors offer higher value capture and faster time-to-market than sub-3nm fabs.

- 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

164. Assertion (A): The 'death zone' on Everest refers to altitudes above 8,000 metres where atmospheric oxygen is insufficient for sustained human survival. Reason (R): Atmospheric pressure at 8,000 m is roughly one-third of sea-level pressure.

- 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

AWARDS & PERSONS

165. Vairamuthu is which Tamil-language writer to receive the Jnanpith Award?

- A. 1st
- B. 2nd
- C. 3rd
- D. 5th

166. Assertion (A): Pension forfeiture under Reg 16 of the Army Pension Regulations 2008 is subject to judicial review. Reason (R): Service jurisprudence treats pension as property under Art. 300A and a right under DS Nakara, making any deprivation reviewable.

- 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

167. The Jnanpith Award currently carries:

- A. A Vagdevi (Saraswati) bronze idol, a citation, and Rs 11 lakh prize
- B. A gold medal and Rs 1 crore
- C. Only a citation
- D. A National Award trophy and Rs 5 lakh

168. The International Booker Prize, in its current form recognising a single translated work of fiction with equal split between author and translator, dates to the reform of:

- A. 2005
- B. 2010
- C. 2015
- D. 2020

169. The right of translation is internationally protected primarily under:

- A. Berne Convention, 1886 (Article 8 and Article 11ter for translations of texts)
- B. Universal Copyright Convention only
- C. WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty
- D. Madrid Agreement

170. According to the 25 May 2026 editorial, urea sold to Indian farmers at roughly \$70/MT compared to international prices around:

- A. \$200/MT
- B. \$500/MT
- C. \$935/MT
- D. \$2,000/MT

171. The Sahitya Akademi was established in:

- A. 1947
- B. 1950
- C. 1954
- D. 1956

172. Bashir Badr, who passed away on 28 May 2026, was a:

- A. Hindi novelist
- B. Urdu ghazal poet
- C. Bengali playwright
- D. Tamil lyricist

173. Consider: I. Bashir Badr moved to Bhopal after the 1987 Meerut riots destroyed his home and library. II. His couplet 'Log toot jaate hain ek ghar banane mein...' is often associated with that displacement. Which

is/are correct?

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

174. 'AVSM' the gallantry/distinguished-service decoration held by Maj Gen Khanduri, stands for:

- A. Ati Vishisht Seva Medal
- B. Atyant Vishisht Sena Medal
- C. Akhil Vishisht Suraksha Medal
- D. Aam Vishisht Sangram Medal

175. As Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Maj Gen B C Khanduri's tenure (1999-2004) is principally remembered for:

- A. Launching the Bharatmala project
- B. Spearheading the Golden Quadrilateral and NSEW Corridors under NHDP, leading India's modern highway-infrastructure transformation
- C. Privatising the Indian Railways
- D. Building the first Delhi Metro line

176. The 'Javelin' is a:

- A. Air-to-air missile
- B. Man-portable, shoulder-fired fire-and-forget anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) co-produced by Raytheon and Lockheed Martin
- C. Surface-to-air missile
- D. Cruise missile

177. Major General Bhuvan Chandra Khanduri belonged to which arm of the Indian Army?

- A. Infantry
- B. Corps of Engineers (Bengal Sappers / EME background was civil/military engineering)
- C. Armoured Corps
- D. Artillery

REPORTS, INDICES & SCHEMES

178. Several states (TN, Kerala, WB, Delhi, Punjab) initially refused to sign PM-SHRI MoU because:

- A. They opposed CBSE alignment
- B. They opposed three-language formula and centralisation
- C. They objected to fund-sharing ratio
- D. Both B and C

179. Consider: 1. PM-SHRI fund-sharing ratio is 60:40 between Centre and states (90:10 for NE/Himalayan). 2. The scheme is linked to NEP 2020 implementation. 3. Schools selected through challenge-mode competition. Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

180. Match List I with List II: A. Crude oil reserves — 1. Venezuela (largest) B. Crude oil production — 2. USA (largest) C. Crude oil import — 3. China (largest) D. Refining capacity — 4. USA (largest)

- A. A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- B. A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- C. A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
- D. A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

181. Education was moved from the State List to the Concurrent List by which Amendment?

- A. 42nd Constitutional Amendment 1976
- B. 44th Constitutional Amendment 1978
- C. 73rd Constitutional Amendment 1992
- D. 86th Constitutional Amendment 2002

182. Compared to NFHS-5 (24%), the rise in overweight/obese women in NFHS-6 (30.7%) is about:

- A. 2.1 percentage points
- B. 4.4 percentage points
- C. 6.7 percentage points
- D. 10.0 percentage points

183. Principle: Rising non-communicable disease (NCD) burden engages the State's positive obligations under the right to health. Facts: NFHS-6 shows obesity sharply higher among urban women (42.8% vs rural 25.5%) and rising diabetes. Which is the STRONGEST policy-constitutional inference?

- A. Obesity is purely a private matter outside State concern
- B. The data triggers State duties under Art. 47 (and right to health under Art. 21) to act on diet, NCD screening and public health
- C. NFHS data cannot inform policy
- D. Only rural health is a constitutional concern

184. The Directive Principle directing the State to raise the level of nutrition and improve public health is:

- A. Article 39
- B. Article 41
- C. Article 47
- D. Article 48

185. Principle: Subsidy design can distort agronomic behaviour and degrade long-term soil fertility. Facts: Cheap subsidised urea under NBS encourages imbalanced N-P-K application, harming soil health over time. Which is the STRONGEST policy proposition?

- A. Subsidies should be abolished entirely overnight
- B. Moving toward product-specific subsidy and promoting balanced/natural inputs can correct distortions while protecting farm incomes
- C. Soil health is unrelated to fertiliser policy
- D. Only states, not the Centre, can regulate fertilisers

186. The Khet Bachao Abhiyan was announced on the concluding day of the:

- A. National Rabi Conference
- B. National Kharif Conference
- C. Krishi Vigyan Mela
- D. Global Agriculture Summit

187. The Khet Bachao Abhiyan, a month-long campaign, was announced to begin on:

- A. 1 April
- B. 1 June
- C. 1 July
- D. 1 October

STATES IN NEWS

188. In Mohd. Salimullah v. Uol (2021), the Supreme Court:

- A. Granted refugee status to Rohingya in India
- B. Declined to stay the deportation of detained Rohingya, observing the right not to be deported is concomitant with citizenship
- C. Held that all foreigners enjoy Article 19
- D. Issued a writ of habeas corpus in favour of all Rohingya

189. Hans Muller of Nuremberg v. Superintendent, Presidency Jail, Calcutta (1955) held that:

- A. Foreigners can claim all fundamental rights
- B. Foreigners are entitled to Articles 14 and 21 but NOT Article 19
- C. Foreigners have no rights in India
- D. Foreigners are governed only by international law

190. Foreigners Tribunals were established under:

- A. Foreigners Act, 1946
- B. The Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964 issued under the Foreigners Act
- C. Citizenship Act, 1955
- D. Passports Act, 1967

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 D	2 C	3 A	4 C	5 D	6 A	7 C	8 B	9 A	10 B
11 A	12 B	13 D	14 A	15 B	16 C	17 C	18 A	19 D	20 D
21 B	22 C	23 A	24 C	25 B	26 C	27 B	28 C	29 C	30 A
31 B	32 C	33 A	34 B	35 A	36 D	37 C	38 B	39 A	40 B
41 A	42 B	43 C	44 C	45 B	46 B	47 C	48 A	49 A	50 D
51 A	52 A	53 C	54 D	55 A	56 A	57 B	58 D	59 D	60 A
61 D	62 D	63 A	64 B	65 B	66 C	67 B	68 D	69 A	70 A
71 A	72 D	73 C	74 A	75 A	76 C	77 B	78 A	79 B	80 A
81 A	82 A	83 D	84 A	85 C	86 A	87 A	88 A	89 C	90 B
91 B	92 C	93 B	94 C	95 A	96 B	97 C	98 A	99 A	100 B
101 A	102 A	103 A	104 D	105 A	106 A	107 A	108 A	109 C	110 B
111 D	112 A	113 B	114 D	115 A	116 B	117 D	118 A	119 A	120 D
121 D	122 C	123 A	124 B	125 A	126 C	127 B	128 C	129 B	130 C
131 B	132 C	133 B	134 D	135 D	136 A	137 A	138 A	139 A	140 C
141 A	142 B	143 A	144 B	145 A	146 A	147 A	148 C	149 A	150 C
151 A	152 A	153 C	154 B	155 C	156 A	157 B	158 A	159 D	160 A
161 D	162 A	163 A	164 A	165 C	166 A	167 A	168 C	169 A	170 C
171 D	172 B	173 C	174 A	175 B	176 B	177 B	178 D	179 D	180 A
181 A	182 C	183 B	184 C	185 B	186 B	187 B	188 B	189 B	190 B



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