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MONTHLY MAGAZINE

JUNE 2026 | COMPLETE EDITION



GS I | GS II | GS III | GS IV | ESSAY | PRELIMS

All the month's major stories, with original analysis, maps, charts and practice

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Days and Themes of June 2026

Top stories this month

- **Monsoon:** June rain 40% below normal, the fifth-driest June since 1901, as El Nino sets in.
- **Diplomacy:** India at the G7 in Evian, summits with France and Slovakia, and BRICS meetings across India.
- **Economy:** 7.7% GDP growth for 2025-26, repo held at 5.25% and wholesale inflation at 9.68%.
- **Polity:** a 38-judge Supreme Court, Rajya Sabha polls and the NEET re-test.
- **Science and security:** Tarapur's life extension, hydrogen from nuclear heat, new missile tests and a new Army Chief.

How to read this magazine

Did you know? | Map | Chart

Prelims pointer | Key points | Revision tick box

About this issue

- The June 2026 issue: every GS paper, Essay and Prelims, with maps, charts, fact boxes, an ethics case study and practice questions.
- Facts are as reported up to 30 June 2026. Full monsoon coverage, the Sarnath heritage decision and the BRICS summit come later; check updates.
- Maps are location diagrams (points by latitude and longitude, no boundaries). Use an official Survey of India map for India's boundaries.

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01 | HISTORY GS 1

The Emergency at 51: Lessons in Constitutional Safeguards

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Post-independence India; GS2: Emergency provisions, amendments, fundamental rights

Context

25 June 2026 marked 51 years since the National Emergency of 1975. The Union government observed the day as **Samvidhan Hatya Diwas**, a name it adopted by notification in 2024. Opposition parties have called the label political; the government argues it keeps alive the memory of a suspension of democratic rights.

Date	Event
12 June 1975	Allahabad High Court set aside Indira Gandhi's election (Raj Narain case)
25-26 June 1975	Emergency proclaimed under Article 352 on grounds of 'internal disturbance'
1976	42nd Amendment: 'socialist', 'secular' and 'integrity' added to the Preamble; Fundamental Duties (Article 51A)
1976	ADM Jabalpur: Supreme Court held that habeas corpus could be suspended
21 March 1977	Emergency lifted after elections were called
1978	44th Amendment: 'internal disturbance' replaced by 'armed rebellion'; Articles 20 and 21 cannot be suspended

Safeguards added after 1977

- **Written advice:** the President can proclaim an emergency only on the written decision of the Union Cabinet.
- **Approval:** both Houses must approve within one month by a special majority; renewal every six months.
- **Revocation:** the Lok Sabha can vote to end it by a simple majority.
- **Courts:** ADM Jabalpur was overruled in *Puttaswamy* (2017).

Did you know?

The Shah Commission (1977) inquired into excesses during the Emergency, including forced sterilisation and press censorship.

Prelims Pointers

- Three kinds of emergency: national (Art. 352), state or President's Rule (Art. 356), financial (Art. 360, never used).
- Article 358 suspends Article 19 automatically only in a war or external aggression emergency.
- Fundamental Duties came from the Swaran Singh Committee's advice.

02 | HISTORY GS 1

Hul Diwas: 171 Years of the Santhal Rebellion

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Tribal uprisings; modern Indian history; personalities

Context

30 June 2026 was the 171st anniversary of the **Santhal Hul** of 1855. The President and the Prime Minister paid tribute to **Sidho and Kanhu Murmu**, and events were held at **Bhognadih** (Sahibganj district, Jharkhand), where the revolt was declared.

Key Points

- Led by the brothers Sidho, Kanhu, Chand and Bhairav, with their sisters **Phulo and Jhano**.
- About 10,000 or more Santhals gathered at Bhognadih and declared an end to exploitation.
- Targets: moneylenders (*mahajans*), zamindars and the colonial police and courts that backed them.
- Region: **Damin-i-Koh** in the Rajmahal hills, where the Company had settled Santhals to clear forest.

Why it matters

- **Outcome:** the revolt was crushed by 1856, but the British created a separate **Santhal Parganas** district with special rules.
- **Land law:** it led over time to protective laws, today the Santhal Parganas Tenancy Act (1949).
- **Legacy:** it preceded 1857 and is remembered as an early mass anti-colonial struggle.

Uprising	Region	Leader
Santhal Hul (1855-56)	Rajmahal hills	Sidho, Kanhu
Kol revolt (1831-32)	Chota Nagpur	Buddhu Bhagat
Munda Ulgulan (1899-1900)	Ranchi region	Birsa Munda
Rampa (1922-24)	Godavari agency	Alluri Sitarama Raju

Prelims Pointers

- 'Hul' means rebellion; 'Ulgulan' (great tumult) is Birsa Munda's movement.
- Santali is in the Eighth Schedule (92nd Amendment, 2003) and uses the Ol Chiki script.
- Birsa Munda's birth anniversary, 15 November, is Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.

03 | HISTORY GS 1

Bankim Chandra and 150 Years of Vande Mataram

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Modern Indian literature; national movement; national symbols

Context

27 June 2026 was the 188th birth anniversary of **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay** (1838-1894). It fell during the year-long commemoration of **150 years of Vande Mataram**, which he wrote in 1875.

Year	Milestone
1838	Born at Kanthalpara near Naihati, Bengal
1858	Among the first graduates of Calcutta University
1865	*Durgeshnandini*, his first Bengali novel
1872	Launched the journal *Bangadarshan*
1875	Wrote *Vande Mataram*
1882	*Anandamath*, set in the Sannyasi rebellion, included the song
1950	Constituent Assembly gave it equal status as national song (24 January)

Why it matters

- **Swadeshi era:** 'Vande Mataram' became the rallying cry against the Partition of Bengal (1905).
- **Debate:** in 1937 the Congress adopted only the first two stanzas, after objections to later verses; the debate continues today.
- **Literature:** he helped shape modern Bengali prose and the historical novel.

Did you know?

Bankim worked as a deputy magistrate in the colonial government for over three decades while writing his novels.

Prelims Pointers

- National song: Vande Mataram; national anthem: Jana Gana Mana (both adopted 24 January 1950).
- *Anandamath* is set in the Sannyasi-Fakir uprisings in late 18th-century Bengal.
- Rabindranath Tagore first sang Vande Mataram at the Congress session of 1896.

04 | ART AND CULTURE GS 1

Yoga Day 2026: Yoga for Healthy Ageing

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Indian culture; GS2: Health; soft power

Context

The **12th International Day of Yoga** was held on **21 June 2026** with the theme **'Yoga for Healthy Ageing'**. The Prime Minister led the main event at **Red Road, Kolkata**.

Key Points

- The UN General Assembly declared 21 June as the International Day of Yoga in December 2014 (resolution 69/131).
- 21 June is the summer solstice, the longest day in the Northern Hemisphere.
- The theme links yoga to India's growing elderly population and to non-communicable diseases.
- India was reported to have topped the medal table at the World Yogasana Championship.

Why healthy ageing matters

- **Demography:** India's share of people aged 60+ is rising fast; care needs will grow.
- **Prevention:** physical activity lowers the risk of diabetes, heart disease and falls.
- **Soft power:** yoga is on UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2016).

Prelims Pointers

- The Ministry of AYUSH is the nodal ministry for Yoga Day.
- Patanjali's Yoga Sutras describe the eight limbs (ashtanga) of yoga.
- Yogasana is recognised as a competitive sport in India.

05 | ART AND CULTURE GS 1

New GI Tags for Jharkhand and Sarnath's World Heritage Bid

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Art and culture; heritage conservation; GS3: Rural livelihoods

Context

Four crafts from Jharkhand received **Geographical Indication (GI) tags** in June 2026: **Bhagaiya Silk, Kuchai Silk, Munda Jewellery and Bamboo Craft**, with support from NABARD. Separately, **Sarnath** is India's nomination for the World Heritage List, to be considered at the 48th session of the World Heritage Committee in **Busan, South Korea (20-29 July 2026)**.

Key Points

- **Kuchai Silk:** tasar silk from the Kuchai area of Seraikela-Kharsawan.
- **Munda Jewellery:** traditional ornaments of the Munda community.
- India has **44 World Heritage Sites** (36 cultural, 7 natural, 1 mixed).
- Sarnath is where the Buddha gave his first sermon (Dhammachakkappavattana).

Why GI tags matter

- **Legal protection:** only registered producers from the region can use the name.
- **Better prices** and branding for tribal artisans.
- **Gap:** tags help only with marketing, quality checks and enforcement after registration.

Sarnath site	Link
Dhamek Stupa	Marks the site of the first sermon
Ashokan pillar	Lion capital, the source of India's national emblem

Sarnath site	Link
Mulagandhakuti Vihara	Modern temple built by the Maha Bodhi Society (1931)

Prelims Pointers

- GI Act 1999 came into force in 2003; the registry is in Chennai.
- Darjeeling tea was India's first GI (2004-05).
- A GI registration is valid for 10 years and can be renewed.

06 | ART AND CULTURE GS 1

Padma Awards Investiture and People in the News

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Personalities; GS2: Appointments

Context

The President presented **65 Padma awards** at the second civil investiture ceremony on **23 June 2026** at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The first batch was given in May.

Key Points

- **Padma Vibhushan:** Justice **K.T. Thomas**, former Supreme Court judge, and **P. Narayanan**.
- **Padma Bhushan (posthumous): Shibu Soren**, founder leader of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha and former Chief Minister.
- **Statistics Day award:** the P.V. Sukhatme national award went to statistician **Arup Bose** (29 June).

Award	Rank	Note
Bharat Ratna	Highest civilian	Up to three a year
Padma Vibhushan	Second	Exceptional and distinguished service
Padma Bhushan	Third	Distinguished service of a high order
Padma Shri	Fourth	Distinguished service

Did you know?

Padma awards are announced on Republic Day. They are not titles under Article 18 (Balaji Raghavan, 1995), so recipients should not use them as prefixes or suffixes.

Prelims Pointers

- Padma awards were instituted in 1954.
- Recommendations go to a Padma Awards Committee chaired by the Cabinet Secretary.
- Total awards in a year should not exceed 120, excluding posthumous and foreign awards.

07 | ART AND CULTURE GS 1

Sport: Praggnanandhaa's Norway Win and the World Cup

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Society and culture; sport as soft power

Context

R. Praggnanandhaa won **Norway Chess 2026** in Stavanger with 18 points, ahead of Wesley So (17) and Alireza Firouzja (15.5). **Bibisara Assaubayeva** of Kazakhstan won the women's event.

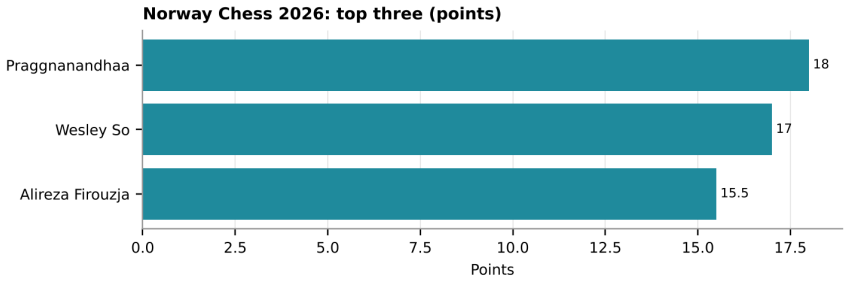


Chart. Norway Chess awards 3 points for a classical win. Source: Tournament results as reported, June 2026.

Other sport

- **FIFA World Cup 2026** opened on **11 June** at the Estadio Azteca, Mexico City; Mexico beat South Africa 2-0. It is the first with **48 teams** and three hosts (USA, Mexico, Canada).
- **Neeraj Chopra** finished fourth at the Doha Diamond League.
- India topped the World Yogasana Championship (reported).

Prelims Pointers

- The Azteca is the first stadium to host matches in three World Cups (1970, 1986, 2026).
- The 2026 World Cup has 104 matches.
- The Diamond League is World Athletics' top one-day meeting series.

08 | GEOGRAPHY GS 1

A Weak Start: June's 40% Rain Deficit

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Indian monsoon; GS3: Agriculture and drought

Context

The monsoon reached Kerala on **4 June 2026**, three days after the normal date. June then turned very dry: India received **99.5 mm**, about **40% below normal**. IMD said it was the **fifth-driest June since 1901** and the driest since 2014. On 29 June the Northern Limit of the Monsoon ran through **Surat, Indore, Mandla, Daltonganj and Motihari**.

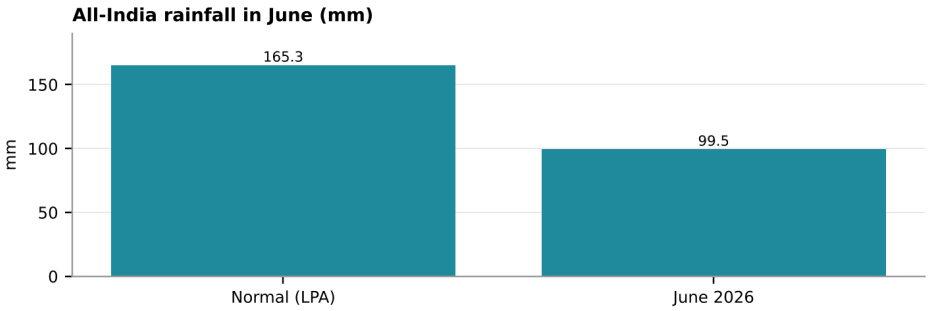


Chart. IMD expects July rainfall at about 94% of its long period average. Source: IMD monthly statement and press briefing, end-June 2026.

Why June was dry

- **El Niño:** a warming central and eastern Pacific weakens the Indian monsoon (see the climate section).
- **MJO:** the Madden-Julian Oscillation was in a phase that did not favour rain over India.
- **Neutral IOD:** no positive Indian Ocean Dipole to offset El Niño.
- **No low-pressure systems** formed over the Bay of Bengal to pull the monsoon inland.

Why it matters

- Kharif sowing lags when June is dry (see agriculture).
- Reservoir levels, drinking water and power demand come under pressure.
- July and August bring most of the season's rain, so June alone does not decide the outcome.

Prelims Pointers

- The Long Period Average for June-September is 87 cm (1971-2020).
- 'Deficient' means rainfall below 90% of LPA for the season.
- The normal date for the monsoon to cover the whole country is 8 July.

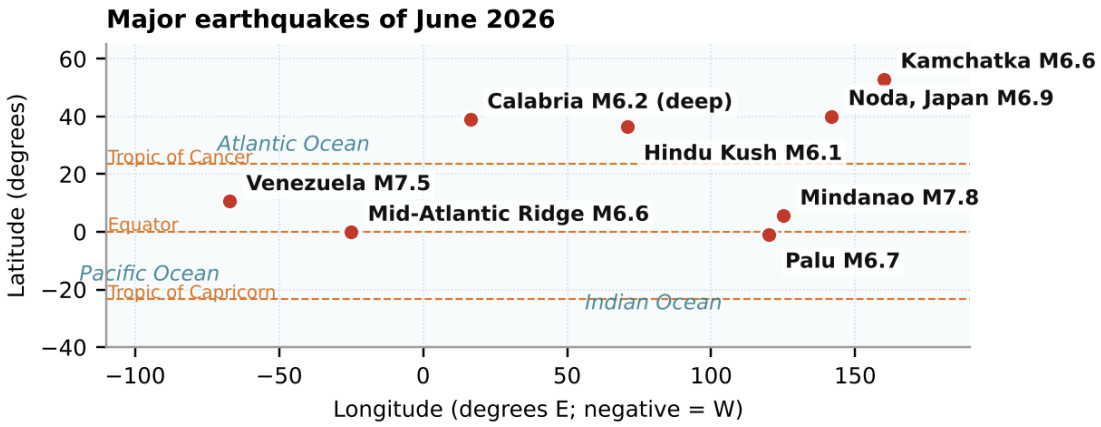
09 | GEOGRAPHY GS 1

A Month of Large Earthquakes: Venezuela and Mindanao

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Earthquakes, plate tectonics; GS3: Disaster management

Context

The USGS recorded **19 earthquakes of magnitude 6 or more** in June 2026. The deadliest was a **doublet in northern Venezuela on 24 June**: an M7.2 and an M7.5. The USGS issued a red PAGER alert; deaths were reported at about 2,295. Earlier, an **M7.8 quake struck off Mindanao, Philippines** (7-8 June), at 57 km depth, raising a 1.4 m tsunami; 35 deaths were reported.



Location diagram. Points plotted by latitude and longitude; boundaries not shown. Points other than Venezuela and Mindanao are approximate.

The science

- **Venezuela:** the boundary between the Caribbean and South American plates is a **strike-slip** system (the San Sebastian and El Pilar faults), where plates slide past each other.
- **Mindanao:** lies on the **Pacific Ring of Fire**, with subduction trenches on both sides.
- **Doublet:** two quakes of similar size close in time and space; the first can load stress onto a nearby fault.
- **Deep quakes** such as Calabria's occur in sinking slabs and are felt widely but cause less damage.

Prelims Pointers

- Magnitude is on a logarithmic scale: each step releases about 32 times more energy.
- USGS PAGER alerts (green, yellow, orange, red) estimate deaths and losses.
- About 80-90% of the world's earthquakes occur around the Ring of Fire.

10 | GEOGRAPHY GS 1

Hot Oceans and a Strengthening El Nino

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Climatology; ENSO; GS3: Climate change

Context

The EU's **Copernicus Climate Change Service** said **June 2026 was the second-warmest June** on record, with a global surface air temperature of 16.54 C. Sea surface temperatures were the **highest ever for June** (20.86 C). Western Europe had its hottest June (20.74 C, 3.06 C above average). NOAA declared **El Nino conditions** in June.

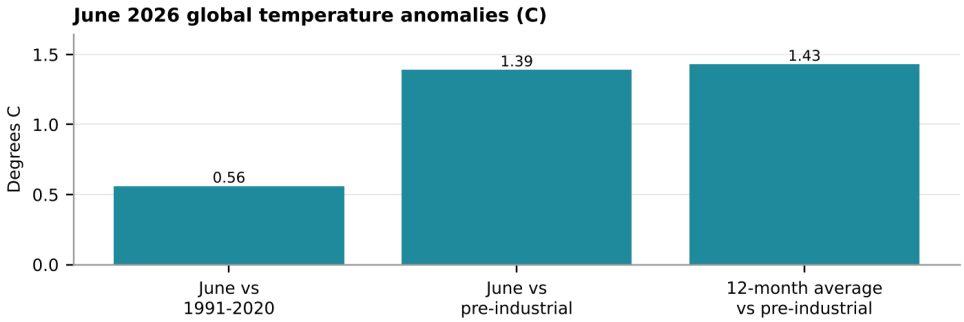


Chart. Pre-industrial means 1850-1900. Source: Copernicus C3S monthly bulletin for June 2026.

El Nino watch

- NOAA issued an **El Nino Advisory** (8 June as reported). The Nino 3.4 index was about +0.7 C and the coastal Nino 1+2 region about +2.1 C.
- NOAA gave a 63% chance of a very strong event by winter (reported).

- **Effects for India:** El Nino years often bring weaker monsoons and hotter summers, though not always (for example 1997).

Key term	Meaning
El Nino	Unusual warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific
Nino 3.4	Key index region (5N-5S, 170W-120W); +0.5 C or more signals El Nino
IOD	Indian Ocean Dipole, a west-east temperature contrast in the Indian Ocean

Prelims Pointers
- ENSO has three phases: El Nino, La Nina and neutral.
- The Southern Oscillation is the air-pressure seesaw between Tahiti and Darwin.
- Copernicus is run by ECMWF for the European Union.

11 | INDIAN SOCIETY GS 1

Census 2027: First Phase Nears Completion

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Population; GS2: Governance and data

Context

The first phase of Census 2027, **houselisting and housing**, was complete in **23 States and UTs** by mid-June 2026. Himachal Pradesh started its phase on 16 June. This phase asks **33 questions** about buildings, amenities and assets. The Census budget is **Rs 11,718 crore**.

Key Points
- First fully **digital** Census, with a mobile app and an option to self-enumerate.
- Phase II, population enumeration, follows in February 2027, with reference date 1 March 2027 (1 October 2026 for snow-bound areas).
- Caste will be enumerated for the first time since 1931 (decided in 2025).

Why it matters

- The last Census was in 2011; schemes still rely on 15-year-old data.
- It will shape **delimitation** and the start of women's reservation in legislatures.
- Housing data guide schemes such as PMAY, Jal Jeevan and Saubhagya.

Prelims Pointers
- Census is a Union List subject (entry 69); the Census Act is of 1948.
- It is run by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner (Home Ministry).
- The first synchronous Census was in 1881.

12 | INDIAN SOCIETY GS 1

Jobs Data and Statistics Day

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Society, women; GS3: Employment

Context

The monthly **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** bulletin for **May 2026** put the unemployment rate (current weekly status, age 15+) at **5.5%**, with urban unemployment at **6.4%**. The female labour force participation rate was **32.8%**. **Statistics Day** on 29 June had the theme **'Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data'**; MoSPI also released its Vision 2026-31.

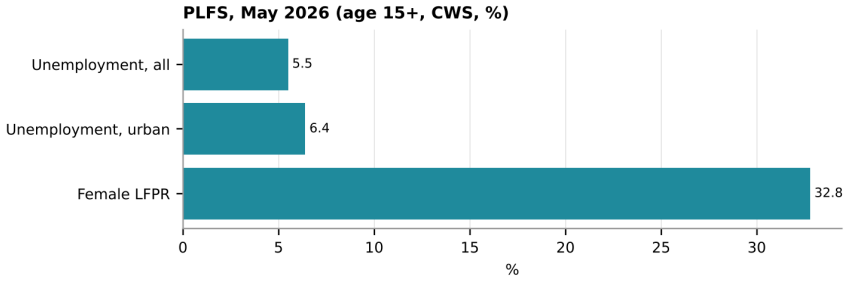


Chart. Source: MoSPI PLFS monthly bulletin, June 2026.

Why administrative data

- Records from GST, EPFO, schemes and registries are large and timely.
- Using them needs common identifiers, privacy safeguards and quality checks.
- Surveys remain needed to measure informal work, which records miss.

Prelims Pointers

- Statistics Day marks the birth anniversary of P.C. Mahalanobis (29 June 1893).
- CWS: a person's status in the 7 days before the survey.
- LFPR counts both the employed and those seeking work.

13 | INDIAN SOCIETY GS 1

Global Displacement Falls for the First Time in a Decade

Syllabus Mapping: GS1: Migration; GS2: International institutions

Context

UNHCR's **Global Trends** report, released for World Refugee Day (20 June), counted **117.8 million** forcibly displaced people. It was the **first fall in a decade**, as some people returned home, notably to Syria. Refugees numbered 41.6 million; only **81,800** were resettled in third countries.

Why it matters

- Funding cuts to aid agencies are reducing support even as needs remain high.
- Most refugees live in low- and middle-income neighbouring countries, not rich ones.
- Climate disasters add to displacement, though climate migrants have no refugee status in law.

Did you know?

India is not a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol. It hosts refugees under administrative policies, and the Foreigners Act governs entry.

Prelims Pointers
- UNHCR was set up in 1950 and is based in Geneva.
- Non-refoulement: no return of a refugee to a place of danger.
- World Refugee Day is on 20 June.

14 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GS 2

India at the G7 Summit in Evian

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Bilateral, regional and global groupings; India's interests

Context

France hosted the **G7 summit at Evian-les-Bains on 16-17 June 2026**. India attended as a **Partner Country**, its regular role at G7 summits since 2019. The Prime Minister spoke in sessions on **growth and artificial intelligence** and held a series of bilateral meetings.

Meeting	Highlights (as reported)
United States	First Modi-Trump meeting since February 2025; trade talks
Canada	Talks on a military information-sharing pact (GSOIA); a 'Raisina Americas' dialogue proposed
United Kingdom	Follow-up on the trade agreement and technology security
UAE	Invitation to the BRICS summit that India will host
Japan, South Korea	Meetings with PM Sanae Takaichi and President Lee Jae-myung
Kenya, Egypt	Global South development and food security

Why it matters

- **Bridge role:** India speaks for Global South concerns, such as energy prices and debt, in a rich-country forum.
- **Resetting ties:** the meetings with the US and Canada followed tense periods over tariffs and the Nijjar case.
- **AI rules:** India argues for inclusive, development-focused AI governance after hosting the AI Impact Summit in February.

Key Points
- G7: US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Canada; the EU also attends.
- No permanent secretariat; the presidency rotates each year.
- Russia was suspended from the G8 in 2014.

Prelims Pointers
- Evian is on the southern shore of Lake Geneva in France.
- India first attended a G8 outreach in 2003, also at Evian.
- The 2025 G7 summit was held at Kananaskis, Canada.

15 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GS 2

France and Slovakia: Innovation and a First Visit

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Bilateral relations; India and Europe

Context

Around the G7 summit, the Prime Minister held a summit with France in **Nice**, where the two sides took up an **Innovation Roadmap 2030** and launched **'Bharat Innovates'** (14 June). 2026 is the **India-France Year of Innovation**. He then made the **first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Slovakia**, where ties were raised to a **Comprehensive Partnership** and 11 agreements were signed.

India-France: key strands

- **Defence:** Rafale (including Rafale M for the Navy), Scorpene submarines, jet engine co-development.
- **Space and nuclear:** long cooperation between ISRO and CNES; Jaitapur nuclear project.
- **Innovation:** start-ups, AI and critical technologies; about 13 outcomes were reported.
- **Horizon 2047:** the roadmap adopted in 2023 for the strategic partnership (since 1998).

Why Slovakia

- A central European EU and NATO member with a strong car and engineering industry.
- A possible base for Indian firms entering EU supply chains as the India-EU FTA nears.
- Cooperation in defence manufacturing, nuclear energy and IT was discussed (reported).

Prelims Pointers

- Bratislava, Slovakia's capital, lies on the Danube.
- India and France have been strategic partners since 1998, India's first such partnership.
- Nice is on the French Riviera (Mediterranean coast).

16 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GS 2

Trade Deals: The US Interim Pact and the EU FTA

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Bilateral agreements; GS3: External trade

Context

India and the US continued talks on an **interim trade agreement**. Negotiators met on **1-4 June** and again on **23-24 June**. US Ambassador Sergio Gor said the deal was '99% finalised', but it was **not signed in June**. The **India-EU FTA**, concluded earlier in 2026, is expected to be signed by December 2026; it would give duty-free access to about **93% of India's exports** by value.

	India-US interim deal	India-EU FTA
Status (June)	Talks; not signed	Concluded; signing expected by Dec 2026
Main Indian aim	Lower US tariffs on Indian goods	Market access for textiles, leather, gems
Partner's aim	Farm, dairy and industrial access; energy and defence purchases	Cars, wine, spirits; services; standards
Sensitive areas	Dairy, GM crops, data	Carbon tax (CBAM), dairy, IPR

Analysis

- **Supporters** say quick deals protect exports during tariff uncertainty and attract investment.
- **Critics** worry about farm and dairy concessions and limited gains on non-tariff barriers such as CBAM.
- Legal review, ratification by the European Parliament and member states, and phasing will shape real gains.

Prelims Pointers

- The EU is one of India's largest trading partners in goods.
- CBAM: the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, with charges from 2026.
- Trade agreements are signed by the executive; India does not need Parliament's ratification.

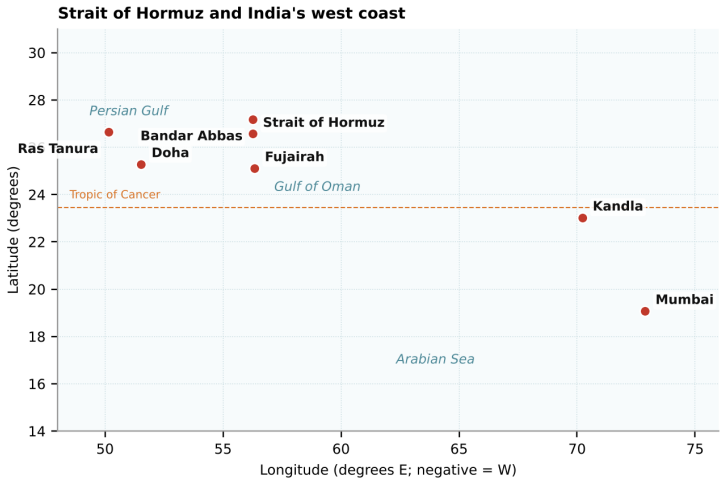
17 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GS 2

Hormuz and the Gulf: Shipping and Indians Abroad

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: India and West Asia; diaspora; GS3: Energy security

Context

The conflict in West Asia continued to disrupt shipping through the **Strait of Hormuz**. A **US-Iran memorandum of understanding** was reported on 17 June. On 23 June the MEA said **11 India-bound ships had crossed** the Strait, while 10 were still in the Gulf. Fertiliser and LPG cargoes were prioritised.



Location diagram. Points plotted by latitude and longitude; boundaries not shown. Points are approximate.

Why it matters

- **Energy:** a large share of India's crude, LPG and LNG imports passes through Hormuz.
- **Diaspora:** several million Indians live and work in the Gulf; remittances support many families.
- **Fertiliser:** urea and DAP inputs come from the Gulf; 15 fertiliser vessels came via Hormuz in the quarter.

Prelims Pointers

- Hormuz links the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman; it is about 39 km (21 nautical miles) wide at its narrowest.
- Bandar Abbas (Iran) and the Musandam peninsula (Oman) flank the Strait.
- Operation Sankalp (2019) is the Navy's ship-escort mission in the region.

18 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GS 2

India's BRICS Chair: Ministers Meet Across India

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Groupings; India's presidency

Context

As **BRICS chair for 2026**, India hosted several ministerial meetings in June, building up to the leaders' summit later in the year.

Meeting	Venue and date	Focus
Agriculture ministers	Indore	Food security, small farmers
National Security Advisers	New Delhi, 22-23 June	Terrorism, cyber, maritime security
Heads of space agencies	Bengaluru, 24 June	Proposed BRICS Space Council; data sharing
Energy ministers	Gurugram, 25-26 June	'Energy for All'; energy security

Challenges for the chair

- **Wider membership:** after expansion, members have different views on the West Asia conflict and the US.
- **De-dollarisation:** India supports trade in local currencies but not a common BRICS currency.
- **China:** India must balance cooperation with border and trade concerns.

Prelims Pointers

- BRIC first met at summit level in 2009 (Yekaterinburg); South Africa joined in 2010.
- The New Development Bank is headquartered in Shanghai.
- India also chaired BRICS in 2012, 2016 and 2021.

19 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GS 2

India and China: Gradual Normalisation

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: India and its neighbours; border management

Context

NSA **Ajit Doval** met Chinese Foreign Minister **Wang Yi** on **23 June 2026**. Both sides spoke of 'gradual normalisation' after the 2024 disengagement agreement. On **20 June**, the first batch of **44 pilgrims** for the **Kailash Mansarovar Yatra** entered Tibet through **Nathu La** (Sikkim).

Key Points

- The Yatra resumed in 2025 after a pause since 2020.
- Routes: Lipulekh pass (Uttarakhand) and Nathu La (Sikkim).
- Steps so far: direct flights, visas, border trade talks, river data sharing.

Analysis

- **Optimists** see steady confidence-building after the 2020 Galwan clash.
- **Sceptics** point to troop build-up near the LAC, China's ties with Pakistan and the trade deficit.
- India's stated line: peace on the border is the basis for normal ties.

Prelims Pointers

- Nathu La connects Sikkim with the Chumbi valley of Tibet.
- Mount Kailash is the source region of the Indus, Sutlej, Brahmaputra and Karnali.
- The Special Representatives mechanism on the boundary dates from 2003.

20 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GS 2

Venezuela's Acting President Visits India

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: India and Latin America; energy diplomacy

Context

Delcy Rodriguez, Venezuela's acting President, visited India from **3 to 7 June 2026**. Talks covered oil, pharmaceuticals and investment. Weeks later, on 24 June, Venezuela was hit by a deadly earthquake doublet (see geography).

Why it matters

- **Oil:** Venezuela has the world's largest proven oil reserves; its heavy crude suits some Indian refineries.
- **Dues:** ONGC Videsh has stakes in Venezuelan oil fields and pending dividends.
- **Sanctions:** trade depends on US sanctions policy, which has shifted often.
- **Latin America outreach:** India is widening links for energy and critical minerals.

Prelims Pointers

- Capital: Caracas. The Orinoco is its main river; the Orinoco Belt holds heavy oil.
- Angel Falls in Venezuela is the world's highest uninterrupted waterfall.
- Venezuela is a founder member of OPEC (1960).

21 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GS 2

Neighbours: Ganga Treaty Talks and Nepal

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: India and its neighbourhood; water sharing

Context

On **8 June 2026**, Bangladesh asked to begin talks on renewing the **Ganga Water Treaty**, which expires in December 2026. Nepal's Foreign Minister **Shisir Khanal** visited India on **5-6 June**.

The Ganga Water Treaty (1996)

- Signed on 12 December 1996 for **30 years**.
- Shares the dry-season flow (January-May) at **Farakka** barrage in West Bengal.
- Includes a minimum guarantee for Bangladesh in critical periods.
- West Bengal's views matter, as the Farakka barrage feeds the Hooghly to keep Kolkata port navigable.

Issues in renewal

- Lower dry-season flows due to upstream use and climate change.
- Bangladesh wants guaranteed minimum flows and a joint study of needs.
- India balances its own irrigation and port needs with good relations with Dhaka.
- Other open river issues: the Teesta, and 54 shared rivers in all.

Prelims Pointers

- Farakka barrage was commissioned in 1975.
- The Joint Rivers Commission of India and Bangladesh was set up in 1972.
- India-Nepal: the Mahakali Treaty (1996) covers the Pancheshwar project.

22 | POLITY GS 2

Supreme Court Grows to 38 Judges

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Judiciary; appointments; ordinances

Context

The **Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance, 2026** raised the Court's sanctioned strength from **34 to 38**, including the Chief Justice. On **2 June**, five new judges were sworn in: Justices **Sheel Nagu, Shree Chandrashekhar, Sanjeev Sachdeva, Arun Palli and V. Mohana**. The working strength rose to 37. Justice **Meenakshi Madan Rai** became Chief Justice of the Patna High Court on 4 June.

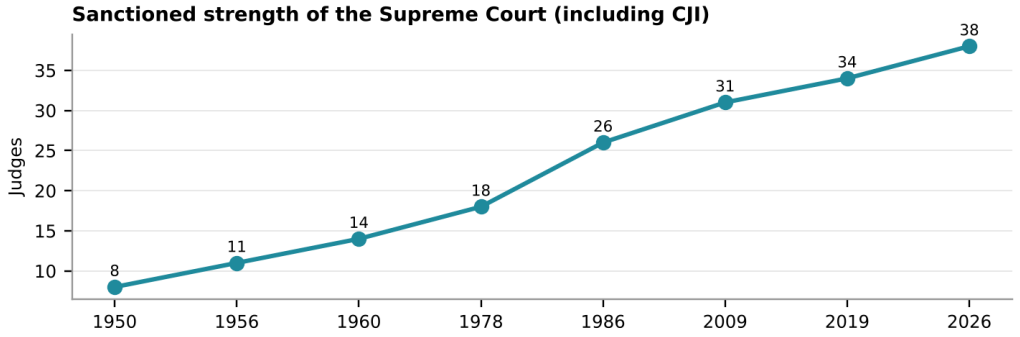


Chart. Source: Constitution (Art. 124) and the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956, as amended.

Why it matters

- **Pendency:** more than 80,000 cases are pending in the Supreme Court.
- **Constitution benches** need five or more judges, which takes judges away from regular benches.
- **Debate:** some argue for a separate national court of appeal so the Supreme Court can focus on constitutional cases.

Prelims Pointers

- Article 124(1): Parliament fixes the number of judges by law.
- An ordinance (Article 123) must be approved within six weeks of Parliament reassembling.
- Judges are appointed under the collegium system (Second and Third Judges cases).

23 | POLITY GS 2

Rajya Sabha Elections: Votes, Cross-Voting and a First for Mizoram

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Parliament; elections; Representation of the People Act

Context

Biennial elections were held for **24 Rajya Sabha seats in 10 states**, plus by-elections. Most seats were filled unopposed. In **Jharkhand** (18 June), votes were counted: Baidyanath Ram 31, Parimal Nathwani 28, Pranav Jha 19, with 3 invalid votes. In **Mizoram**, the ruling **ZPM won its first Rajya Sabha seat**, by 26 votes to 10.

How the election works

- Elected members of state assemblies vote by **single transferable vote** with proportional representation (Article 80).
- **Open ballot:** party MLAs must show their ballot to the party agent (since 2003), to curb cross-voting.
- **No NOTA** in Rajya Sabha polls (Supreme Court, 2018).
- Domicile in the state is no longer required (*Kuldip Nayar*, 2006 upheld this).

Did you know?
Rajya Sabha is a permanent House: one-third of members retire every two years, and each member serves six years.

Prelims Pointers
- Maximum strength 250: 238 elected and 12 nominated (Article 80).
- Seats per state are listed in the Fourth Schedule.
- Cross-voting does not attract the anti-defection law, but parties can act internally.

24 | GOVERNANCE GS 2

NITI Aayog Governing Council: Human Development for 2047

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Federalism; governance; GS3: Inclusive growth

Context

The **11th meeting of the NITI Aayog Governing Council** was held on **12 June 2026**, chaired by the Prime Minister. The theme was **'Inclusive Human Development for Viksit Bharat @2047'**. It was reported that all states attended and that the Lakhpati Didi count had reached 6 crore.

Key Points
- The Council includes all Chief Ministers, Lt Governors of UTs and some Union ministers.
- Focus areas: health, education, skills, nutrition and women-led development.
- States were urged to prepare their own 2047 vision documents.

Analysis

- **Cooperative federalism:** the Council is a forum for Centre-state dialogue.
- **Limits:** NITI has no power to allocate funds, unlike the former Planning Commission.
- **Opposition states** have at times boycotted meetings, citing fiscal grievances.

Prelims Pointers
- NITI Aayog was set up on 1 January 2015 by a Cabinet resolution (not a statutory body).
- The Prime Minister is its Chairperson.
- Lakhpati Didi: SHG women earning at least Rs 1 lakh a year.

25 | POLITY GS 2

Special Intensive Revision: Phase III

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Elections; Election Commission; voting rights

Context

The Election Commission's **Special Intensive Revision (SIR) Phase III** of electoral rolls covers **16 States and 3 UTs** with more than **36 crore electors**, in batches through 2026. Booth-level officers visit homes to verify every elector.

Two views

Supporters say	Critics say
Cleans rolls of dead, shifted and duplicate entries	Large deletions may exclude genuine voters
Article 326 limits voting to citizens; verification is needed	Document demands burden the poor and migrants
Rolls had not been intensively revised for two decades	Time frames are too short for large states

- The Supreme Court has heard petitions on SIR and has asked for the Aadhaar card to be accepted as one of the documents (2025).
- Draft rolls, claims and objections allow corrections before final publication.

Prelims Pointers

- Article 324: superintendence of elections lies with the Election Commission.
- Section 21 of the RP Act, 1950 provides for revision of rolls.
- The Electoral Registration Officer prepares the roll for each constituency.

26 | POLITY GS 2

Supreme Court in June: Key Rulings

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Fundamental rights; judiciary; social justice

Context

The Supreme Court held **partial working days** from 1 June to 12 July 2026, replacing the old 'summer vacation'. In this period it passed about 4,240 orders and 36 judgments (as reported up to month end).

Case and date	What the Court said
Shishu Pal (11 June)	In accident compensation, the value of a homemaker's care work must be counted
Maniyar Iliyaz (12 June)	The right to walk safely on public roads and footpaths is part of Article 21
Kulsum Nisha (12 June)	Married daughters cannot be excluded from welfare benefits only because of marriage
Abbuhurera (25 June)	Issued notice on a challenge to a statutory bar on bail

Why it matters

- **Unpaid work:** recognising care work affects compensation, gender equality and data on women's work.
- **Pedestrians:** cities must plan footpaths and safe crossings, not only roads for vehicles.
- **Liberty:** strict bail bars under special laws keep many undertrials in jail.

Prelims Pointers

- Article 21 has been read to include the rights to livelihood, privacy and a clean environment.
- Article 141: law declared by the Supreme Court binds all courts.
- Motor Vehicles Act claims are decided by Motor Accident Claims Tribunals.

27 | SOCIAL JUSTICE GS 2

NEET Re-Test and the Move to Computer-Based Exams

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Education; transparency and accountability

Context

After NEET-UG 2026 was cancelled in May over a paper leak, the **re-test** was held on **21 June 2026** at **5,440 centres** in 551 Indian cities and 14 cities abroad. On 19 June, the Chief Justice declined an urgent hearing on pleas linked to the exam. The government said NEET will move to a **computer-based test (CBT) from 2027**.

Issues

- **Paper-and-pen risk:** printing, transport and storage create many points of leakage.
- **Students' burden:** a second exam means stress, travel and cost.
- **CBT concerns:** enough secure centres, power and network in rural areas, and fairness across shifts.

Way forward

- Item banks and multiple sets with equating.
- Strict enforcement of the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024.
- Independent audit of the National Testing Agency and its vendors.

Prelims Pointers

- The NTA was set up in 2017 as a society under the Education Ministry.
- The 2024 Act allows jail terms of up to 10 years for organised leaks.
- NEET-UG covers admissions to MBBS, BDS and AYUSH courses.

28 | SOCIAL JUSTICE GS 2

Health: West Bengal Joins PM-JAY; Sickle Cell Mission

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Health; schemes; vulnerable sections

Context

West Bengal joined **Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY** on 7 June 2026, reported as the 36th State or UT to do so, after the new state government took office. On **World Sickle Cell Day (19 June)**, the government said **7.19 crore people** had been screened under the national mission; the President attended an event at Omkareshwar, Madhya Pradesh.

PM-JAY at a glance

- Cover of Rs 5 lakh per family per year for hospital care.
- Launched in 2018; run by the National Health Authority.
- Senior citizens aged 70+ are covered regardless of income (since 2024).

Sickle cell disease

- An inherited blood disorder: red cells become sickle-shaped and block blood flow.
- Common among tribal communities in central and western India.
- The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission (launched 2023 at Shahdol) aims to end it as a public health problem by 2047.
- Tools: screening of people up to 40 years, genetic counselling cards, hydroxyurea.

Prelims Pointers

- Sickle cell disease is autosomal recessive.
- Carriers (sickle cell trait) have some protection against malaria.
- Health is a State List subject (entry 6).

29 | SOCIAL JUSTICE GS 2

QS World University Rankings 2027

Syllabus Mapping: GS2: Higher education; quality

Context

The **QS World University Rankings 2027**, released on **18 June 2026**, listed **52 Indian institutions**. **IIT Delhi** was India's highest at **118th**.

Strengths and gaps

- **Strengths:** employer reputation and research citations have improved.
- **Gaps:** faculty-student ratio and international students and faculty pull scores down.
- **Caution:** rankings use weights that may not suit India's goals of access and equity; the NIRF is India's own framework.

Policy links

- NEP 2020 aims for a gross enrolment ratio of 50% in higher education by 2035.
- Foreign universities may set up campuses under UGC rules (2023).
- Institutions of Eminence scheme gives more autonomy to selected institutions.

Prelims Pointers

- QS is a UK-based company; THE and ARWU (Shanghai) are other global rankings.
- NIRF was launched by the Education Ministry in 2015.
- A Bill introduced in December 2025 proposes a single higher education regulator in place of the UGC, AICTE and NCTE.

30 | ECONOMY GS 3

GDP 2025-26: 7.7% Growth Led by Manufacturing

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Growth and development; national income

Context

On **5 June 2026**, the National Statistics Office (NSO) released provisional estimates for 2025-26. Real GDP grew **7.7%**, and **7.8%** in the January-March quarter. Nominal GDP reached **Rs 346.36 lakh crore** (up 8.9%). Per capita income (net national income) was **Rs 2,27,447**.

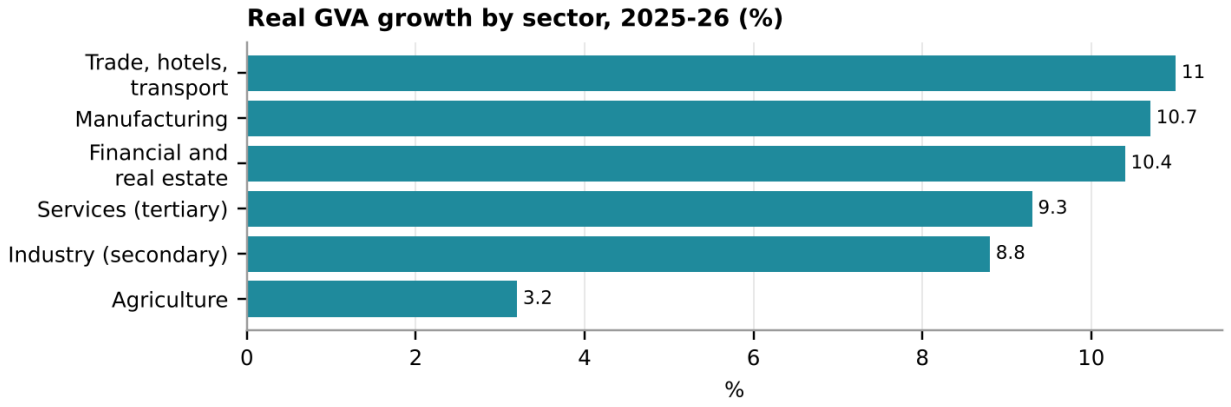


Chart. Source: NSO provisional estimates, 5 June 2026, as reported.

Inside the numbers

- **Investment:** gross fixed capital formation grew 8.2% in the year and 10.8% in the fourth quarter.
- **Low deflator:** nominal growth (8.9%) was only modestly above real growth, because inflation was low for much of the year.
- **Agriculture** grew slowly at 3.2% despite record harvests, as prices were soft.

Concerns

- Slower nominal growth reduces tax buoyancy and makes debt ratios harder to bring down.
- The West Asia conflict, high crude prices and a weak monsoon start cloud 2026-27.
- Private consumption and jobs need to keep pace with output.

Prelims Pointers

- GDP = GVA + product taxes - product subsidies.
- GFCF measures investment in fixed assets such as buildings and machinery.
- The GDP deflator is nominal GDP divided by real GDP (times 100).

31 | ECONOMY GS 3

RBI Holds the Repo Rate at 5.25%

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Monetary policy; inflation; growth

Context

The **Monetary Policy Committee** announced on **5 June 2026** that it had kept the **repo rate at 5.25%**, with a **neutral** stance, by a unanimous vote. It projected 2026-27 GDP growth at **6.6%** and CPI inflation at **5.1%**, with crude assumed at about US$95 a barrel (reported).

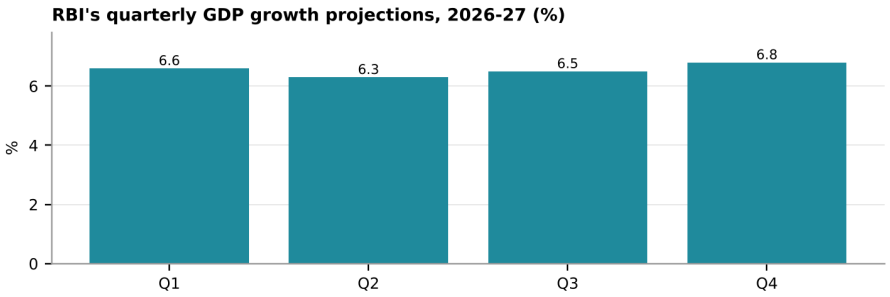


Chart. Source: RBI Monetary Policy Statement, 5 June 2026.

Why a pause

- **Upside risks to prices:** wholesale inflation near 10%, costly crude, a weak rupee and a dry June.

- **Growth support:** earlier cuts are still passing through to loan rates.
- **Neutral stance:** keeps the RBI free to move either way.

Prelims Pointers
- The MPC has six members: three from the RBI (including the Governor) and three appointed by the government.
- Inflation target: 4% CPI with a tolerance band of 2-6%.
- The Governor has a casting vote in a tie.

32 | ECONOMY GS 3

Inflation: A Wide Gap Between Retail and Wholesale

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Inflation; energy prices

Context

Retail (CPI) inflation for **May 2026** was **3.93%**. Wholesale (WPI) inflation rose to a **record 9.68%** on the current series, up from 8.26% in April, driven by fuel. The gap shows that costly crude has hit producers more than consumers so far.

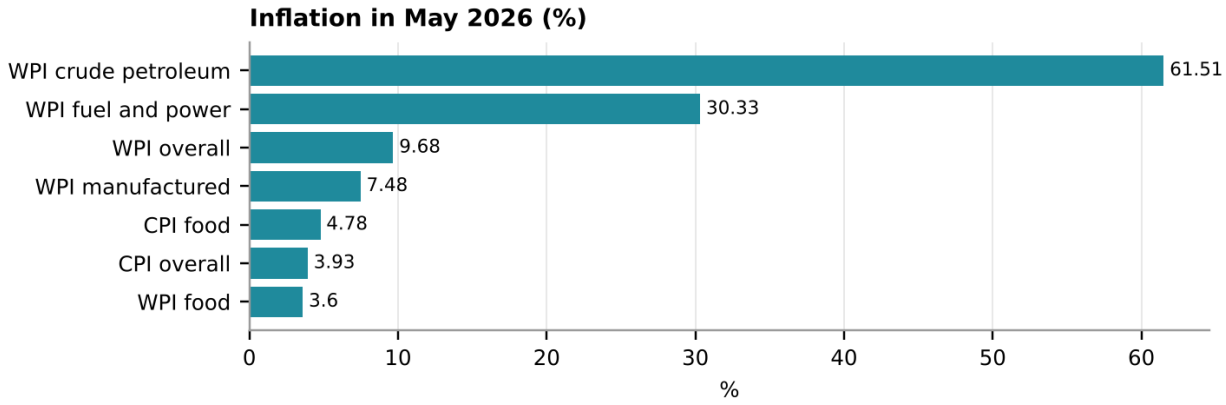


Chart. Rural CPI was 4.25% and urban CPI 3.53%. Source: MoSPI CPI release and Commerce Ministry WPI release, June 2026.

Why it matters

- **Pass-through:** high WPI usually feeds into retail prices with a lag, through transport and goods.
- **Margins:** companies absorb costs for a while, then raise prices.
- **Policy:** the government has raised LPG prices in small steps rather than all at once.

Prelims Pointers
- CPI is compiled by the NSO (MoSPI); WPI by the Office of the Economic Adviser (Commerce Ministry).
- WPI covers goods only; CPI also includes services.
- The RBI targets CPI inflation, not WPI.

33 | ECONOMY GS 3

Industrial Output on a New Base Year

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Industry; data

Context

The **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** now uses **2022-23 as base year**, with a basket of **1,042 products**. Output grew **4.9% in April 2026**; manufacturing rose 6.2% while mining fell 5.1%. Growth for 2025-26 on the new series was 4.3%.

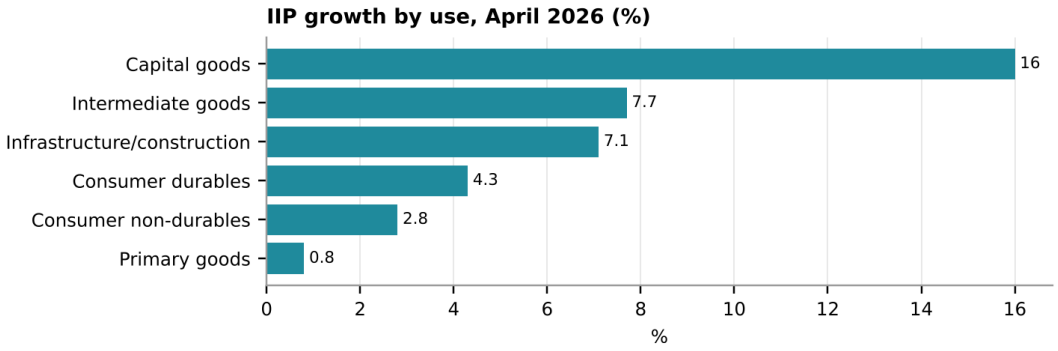


Chart. Source: MoSPI IIP release, June 2026.

Reading the data

- **Capital goods** growth points to rising investment.
- **Weak non-durables** suggest soft rural and mass consumption.
- **New base:** updates weights to today's economy, so growth rates are not directly comparable with the old 2011-12 series.

Prelims Pointers

- IIP is released by the NSO about six weeks after the month ends.
- Manufacturing has the largest weight in IIP.
- The Index of Eight Core Industries covers about 40% of IIP weight (old series).

34 | ECONOMY GS 3

External Sector: Current Account, Trade and Reserves

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Balance of payments; external trade; forex

Context

RBI data showed a **current account surplus of US$7.1 billion (0.7% of GDP)** in January-March 2026. For 2025-26 the **current account deficit was US$25.2 billion (0.6% of GDP)**. Net FDI was US$6.9 billion, while portfolio investors took out US$16.4 billion. In **May**, merchandise exports were **US$45.2 billion** and imports US$73.41 billion, leaving a deficit of US$28.21 billion.

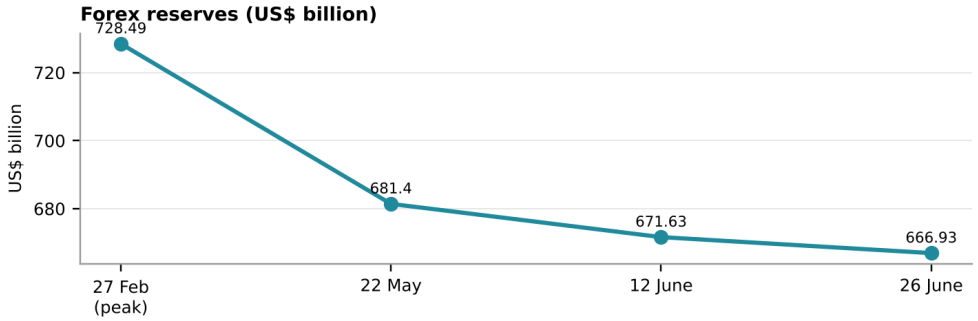


Chart. The fall reflects RBI dollar sales to steady the rupee and valuation changes. Source: RBI weekly statistical supplement, as reported.

Why it matters

- A small CAD is comfortable, but **weak capital inflows** left the rupee exposed.
- Costly oil widens the trade deficit; services exports and remittances cushion it.
- Reserves remain large by historical standards, giving the RBI room to smooth swings.

Prelims Pointers

- Current account = trade in goods and services + income + transfers (remittances).
- Forex reserves include foreign currency assets, gold, SDRs and the IMF reserve position.
- Net FDI = gross inflows minus repatriation and Indian FDI abroad.

35 | ECONOMY GS 3

Banks, Markets and the Global Outlook

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Banking; capital markets; growth forecasts

Context

The RBI's **Financial Stability Report** (30 June) found banks healthy, with gross NPAs reported at about **1.8%**. **SEBI** (19 June) allowed share **buybacks through the stock exchange** route again from 1 August. The **World Bank** projected India's growth at 6.6% and world growth at 2.5%; the OECD put India at 6.3% (reported). GST collections in May were **Rs 1.94 lakh crore** (up 3.2%).

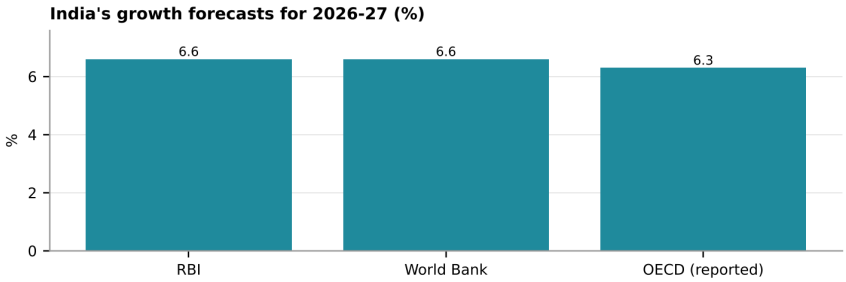


Chart. Source: RBI (5 June); World Bank Global Economic Prospects (June); OECD Economic Outlook (June).

Risks flagged

- Oil shocks and a slower world economy could hurt borrowers and exports.
- Unsecured retail loans and microfinance need close watch.
- Global debt and volatile capital flows remain risks for emerging markets.

Prelims Pointers

- The FSR is published twice a year by the RBI.
- An NPA is a loan with interest or principal overdue for more than 90 days.
- Global Economic Prospects is published by the World Bank in January and June.

36 | AGRICULTURE GS 3

Kharif Sowing Lags; Fertiliser Supplies Hold

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Cropping patterns; inputs; food security

Context

With a dry June, kharif sowing reached about **84 lakh hectares by 12 June**, 3.44 lakh hectares less than a year earlier. Fertiliser supply held up despite the Gulf crisis: urea availability in April-June hit a record 71.55 lakh tonnes (reported), DAP 9.84 lakh tonnes, and 15 fertiliser vessels came through Hormuz. Total stocks were 163.35 lakh tonnes on 2 July.

What farmers face

- **Delayed rain** pushes back paddy transplanting, cotton and pulses sowing.
- **Contingency plans:** short-duration varieties and switching to pulses or millets if rain stays poor.
- **Input costs:** diesel and imported fertiliser prices are high; subsidies keep farm-gate prices fixed.

Fertiliser	Pricing
Urea	Fixed MRP; subsidy covers the gap
DAP, NPK (P and K)	Nutrient Based Subsidy (since 2010); prices set by companies
Nano urea and nano DAP	Liquid forms promoted to cut imports

Prelims Pointers

- Kharif crops are sown with the monsoon (June-July) and harvested in autumn.
- India imports most of its potash and much of its phosphate.
- Neem-coated urea was made mandatory in 2015 to stop diversion.

37 | ECONOMY GS 3

LPG Price Rise and the Oil Shock

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Energy security; subsidies; inflation

Context

On **7 June 2026**, the price of a 14.2-kg **domestic LPG** cylinder rose by **Rs 29 to Rs 942** in Delhi. A 19-kg commercial cylinder cost Rs 3,113.50. Brent crude traded around **US$113-114 a barrel** during the month.

Issues

- **Imports:** India imports about 85% of its crude and over half of its LPG.
- **Under-recoveries:** oil companies lose money when retail prices lag costs.
- **Ujjwala users:** a targeted subsidy cushions poor households.
- **Options:** strategic reserves, diversified suppliers, more domestic output, electric cooking and biogas.

Prelims Pointers

- LPG is mainly propane and butane; an odorant (ethyl mercaptan) is added for safety.
- Strategic petroleum reserves are at Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru and Padur.
- PM Ujjwala Yojana was launched in 2016 at Ballia, UP.

38 | ECONOMY GS 3

Power Demand Records and Coal Output

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Energy infrastructure; resources

Context

Delhi's peak demand hit a record **8,748 MW on 29 June 2026**. The all-India record of **270.8 GW** was set in May, according to a reply in Parliament (our May issue cited an earlier figure). Coal output from **captive and commercial mines** in June was 17.88 million tonnes, up 14.9%. New mines at **Urtan, Dhirauli and Bikram** started production.

Why it matters

- Heat and humid nights raise air-conditioner use and night-time demand.
- Coal still supplies most of India's electricity, so mine output protects supply.
- Commercial coal mining (opened in 2020) adds private supply beyond Coal India.

Prelims Pointers

- Commercial coal block auctions began in 2020 under the amended Mines and Minerals Act.
- Grid-India (formerly POSOCO) manages the national grid.
- India has one synchronous national grid since 2013.

39 | ECONOMY GS 3

Noida International Airport Opens at Jewar

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Infrastructure; PPP; regional development

Context

Noida International Airport at Jewar (Gautam Buddh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh) began **commercial flights on 15 June 2026**, starting with IndiGo. It is built by **Yamuna International Airport Pvt Ltd**, a unit of Zurich Airport International, under a PPP, and has a 3,900 m runway.

Why it matters

- A second airport for the National Capital Region, easing load on Delhi's IGI airport.
- Linked to the Yamuna Expressway, freight hubs and a planned film city and industrial zones.
- **Concerns:** land acquisition and fair compensation, and the time needed for metro and rail links.

Prelims Pointers

- Airports Authority of India works under the Civil Aviation Ministry.
- UDAN (2016) is the regional connectivity scheme.
- Greenfield airports are approved under the Greenfield Airports Policy, 2008.

40 | ENVIRONMENT GS 3

Renewables Cross 288 GW

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Energy; infrastructure; climate targets

Context

India added **5,844 MW** of renewable capacity in June 2026, of which 5,106 MW was solar. Total renewable capacity reached **288.59 GW**, and non-fossil capacity **297.37 GW** (including nuclear). Rooftop solar reached 30.11 GW.

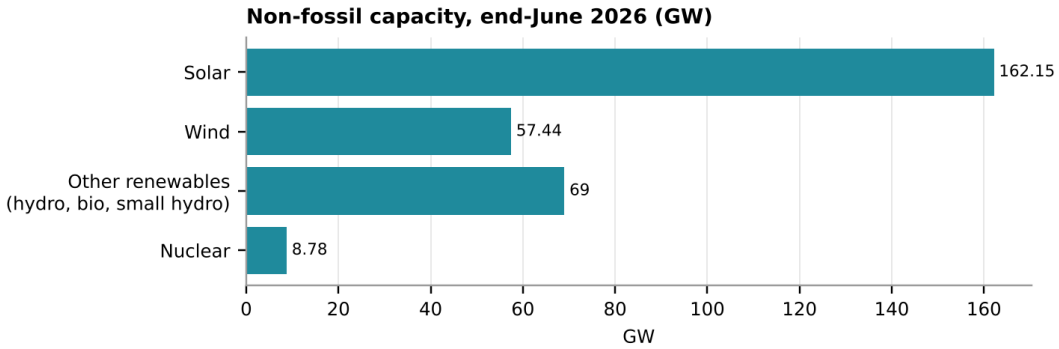


Chart. 'Other' and 'Nuclear' are derived from the published totals. Source: MNRE physical progress, June 2026.

Challenges

- **Evening peaks:** solar fades when demand peaks; storage and pumped hydro are needed.
- **Transmission:** green corridors lag new capacity, so some power is curtailed.
- **Wind** is growing more slowly than solar.

Prelims Pointers

- Target: 500 GW of non-fossil capacity by 2030.
- PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana (2024) supports rooftop solar for 1 crore homes.
- India's updated NDC: 50% of installed power capacity from non-fossil sources by 2030 (already met).

41 | ENVIRONMENT GS 3

World Environment Day and Tree Planting Drives

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Environment conservation; climate action

Context

World Environment Day on 5 June 2026 was hosted by **Azerbaijan**, with a focus on climate action. In India, the **'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'** campaign was reported to have crossed **2.62 billion saplings**. A version of the drive was launched in Kenya's Amboseli to plant 500,000 trees (reported).

Beyond planting

- **Survival rate** matters more than the number planted; few drives publish survival data.
- **Native species** support more biodiversity than fast-growing exotics.
- **Protecting existing forests** stores more carbon than new saplings in the short run.

Prelims Pointers

- WED has been led by UNEP since 1973; UNEP is based in Nairobi.
- India hosted WED in 2018 (theme: beat plastic pollution).
- India's NDC includes an additional carbon sink of 2.5-3 billion tonnes CO2e by 2030.

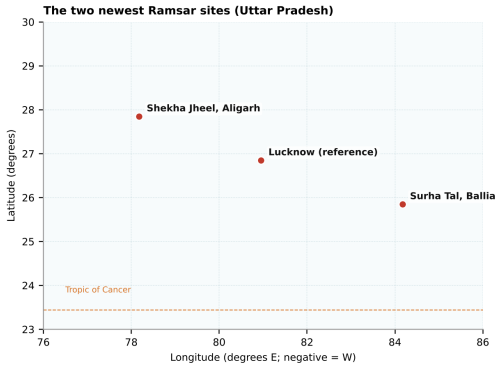
42 | ENVIRONMENT GS 3

India Reaches 100 Ramsar Sites

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Conservation; wetlands

Context

On World Environment Day (5 June 2026), India's Ramsar list reached **100 sites**. The 100th was reported to be the **Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary (Surha Tal)** in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh, and the 99th **Shekha Jheel** in Aligarh. India is reported to rank third in the world by number of sites.



Location diagram. Points plotted by latitude and longitude; boundaries not shown. Points are approximate.

Why wetlands matter

- They store water, recharge groundwater, reduce floods and hold large amounts of carbon.
- They host migratory birds on the Central Asian Flyway.
- **Threats:** encroachment, sewage, invasive weeds and silt.

Prelims Pointers

- Ramsar Convention: signed 1971 at Ramsar, Iran; India joined in 1982.
- India's first Ramsar sites: Chilika (Odisha) and Keoladeo (Rajasthan), 1981.
- Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 govern wetlands in India.

43 | ENVIRONMENT GS 3

Bonn Climate Talks Before COP31

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Climate change; international agreements

Context

The UN climate body's mid-year sessions (**SB64**) met in **Bonn, 8-18 June 2026**, with 9,206 participants. They prepared for **COP31 in Antalya, Turkiye** in November, to be presided over by Turkiye's Murat Kurum.

Key Points

- **Global Goal on Adaptation:** no agreement on how to finalise indicators to track adaptation.
- **Technology:** UNEP will continue to host the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN).
- **Finance:** developing countries pressed for clarity on the new goal of US$300 billion a year by 2035.

India's position

- Adaptation finance must be new and additional, not loans.
- Equity and common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) must guide action.
- Opposes unilateral trade measures such as carbon border taxes.

Prelims Pointers

- SB means Subsidiary Bodies: SBSTA (science) and SBI (implementation).
- The UNFCCC secretariat is in Bonn, Germany.
- COP30 was held in Belem, Brazil (2025).

44 | ENVIRONMENT GS 3

Where the World's Energy Money Goes

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Energy transition; investment

Context

The IEA's **World Energy Investment 2026** (4 June) estimated total energy investment at **US$3.4 trillion**, of which **US$2.2 trillion** went to clean energy. The Energy Institute's **Statistical Review** (30 June) found global energy demand up 1.7% in 2025 and emissions up 1.1%; India's emissions rose 0.9%.

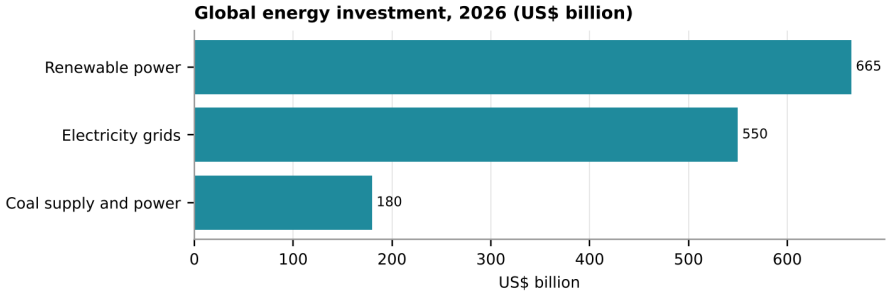


Chart. Total US$3.4 trillion; clean energy US$2.2 trillion. Source: IEA World Energy Investment 2026, as reported.

Takeaways

- Clean investment is about twice fossil fuel investment.
- Grids need more money to keep up with renewables.
- Emerging economies outside China still get a small share of clean investment because of high capital costs.

Prelims Pointers

- The IEA was founded in 1974 after the oil shock; India is an associate member.
- The Statistical Review was published by BP until 2022.
- India is the world's third-largest energy consumer.

45 | ENVIRONMENT GS 3

Western Ghats Eco-Sensitive Area: Toward a Final Notice

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Biodiversity; environmental governance

Context

The Environment Ministry is reported to be moving toward a **final notification** of the Western Ghats Ecologically Sensitive Area of more than **56,000 sq km** across six states, after several drafts since 2014.

Panel	Area proposed	Approach
Gadgil (WGEEP, 2011)	Whole Ghats, three zones of sensitivity	Wide restrictions; strong role for gram sabhas
Kasturirangan (HLWG, 2013)	About 37% (about 60,000 sq km)	Ban on mining, quarrying, red-category industry in the ESA
Draft notifications	About 56,800 sq km (2024 draft)	Based on Kasturirangan, with state changes

Two views

- **For:** landslides in Wayanad (2024) and floods show the cost of unchecked quarrying and construction.
- **Against:** states such as Kerala and Karnataka cite people living in villages that would be covered and seek smaller areas.

Prelims Pointers

- The Western Ghats are a UNESCO World Heritage Site (2012) and a biodiversity hotspot.
- ESAs are notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- States: Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu.

46 | ENVIRONMENT GS 3

Rangelands and Desertification

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Land degradation; pastoralism

Context

Desertification and Drought Day (17 June 2026) had the theme **'Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore.'**, with Kenya as host. 2026 is the UN **International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists**, and UNCCD COP17 will be held in **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**.

Why rangelands matter

- Grasslands and pastures cover about half the world's land and support livestock herders.
- They store carbon in soil, but overgrazing and conversion degrade them.
- **India:** grasslands such as the Banni (Gujarat) and Deccan plateau are often classed as 'wastelands' and diverted.

India's commitments

- Restore **26 million hectares** of degraded land by 2030 (land degradation neutrality).
- ISRO's Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas tracks change.
- Grassland birds such as the Great Indian Bustard depend on open habitats.

Prelims Pointers

- UNCCD came from the 1992 Rio Summit agenda; adopted in 1994.
- India hosted UNCCD COP14 in 2019 (Greater Noida).
- Banni grassland is in Kutch district, Gujarat.

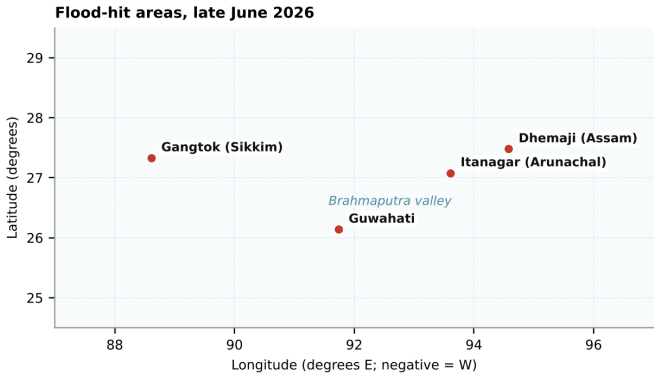
47 | DISASTER MANAGEMENT GS 3

Floods in the Northeast

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Disaster management; floods; infrastructure

Context

Heavy rain from **24 June 2026** caused floods and landslides in the Northeast. **Arunachal Pradesh** reported damage in 12 districts. In **Assam**, a bridge over the Simen river in Dhemaji was hit; in **Sikkim**, the Phee Khola bridge was affected, cutting road links.



Location diagram. Points plotted by latitude and longitude; boundaries not shown. Points are approximate.

Why the region floods

- The Brahmaputra and its tributaries carry heavy silt and change course often.
- Steep slopes and intense rain cause flash floods and landslides.
- Embankments breach often; wetlands that once held water are shrinking.

Way forward

- Basin-level planning with real-time river data, including from upstream countries.
- Climate-resilient bridges and roads; landslide early warning.
- Wetland restoration and raised homes and granaries (as in Majuli).

Prelims Pointers

- The Brahmaputra Board was set up in 1980.
- The NDRF was raised under the Disaster Management Act, 2005.
- Dhemaji lies on the north bank of the Brahmaputra.

48 | DISASTER MANAGEMENT GS 3

Preparing for a Monsoon Deficit

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Drought management; agriculture; water

Context

With June rain 40% below normal and El Nino strengthening, states began drought preparation. IMD expects July rain at about 94% of normal, which is 'below normal'.

How India declares drought

- The **Manual for Drought Management** (2016, updated 2020) sets the process.
- **Mandatory indicators:** rainfall deficit and dry spells.
- **Impact indicators:** crop sowing, vegetation (NDVI), soil moisture and water storage.
- States declare drought; the Centre gives extra help from the NDRF fund after an inter-ministerial team visit.

Preparedness tools

- District contingency plans prepared with ICAR for alternative crops.
- MGNREGA work days can be raised in drought-hit areas.
- Fodder banks and drinking water plans for summer.
- Crop insurance (PMFBY) and quick claim settlement.

Prelims Pointers

- Meteorological drought: rainfall below normal; agricultural drought: soil moisture too low for crops.
- The Agriculture Ministry is the nodal ministry for drought.
- SPI (Standardised Precipitation Index) measures rainfall deficit.

49 | SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GS 3

India's Space Economy and BRICS Space Cooperation

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Space technology; private sector

Context

There was **no ISRO launch in June 2026**. At the **RISE conclave** (14 June), officials said India's space economy of about **US$8-9 billion** could grow to **US$40-45 billion**, with more than 400 space start-ups. On **24 June**, India hosted the **BRICS Heads of Space Agencies** meeting in Bengaluru, where a BRICS Space Council was discussed. ISRO was also reported to have tested the power head of its semi-cryogenic engine.

Building blocks

- **IN-SPACe** authorises private space activity; the Indian Space Policy 2023 sets roles.
- **NSIL** markets ISRO's products and launches.
- 100% FDI allowed in parts of the space sector, with limits for launch vehicles and satellites.
- **Semi-cryogenic engine:** uses refined kerosene and liquid oxygen, for a heavier LVM3 stage.

Prelims Pointers

- IN-SPACe was set up in 2020 in Ahmedabad.
- BRICS countries agreed in 2021 on a 'virtual constellation' of remote sensing satellites.
- Bharatiya Antariksh Station: first module targeted for 2028.

50 | SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GS 3

Tarapur 1 and 2: The World's Oldest Working Reactors Get More Time

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Nuclear energy; regulation

Context

On **17 June 2026**, the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) cleared about **10 more years** of operation for **Tarapur Atomic Power Station units 1 and 2** in Maharashtra. Commissioned in **1969**, they are the world's oldest operating commercial reactors and have produced more than 100 billion units of power.

Key Points

- **Boiling Water Reactors (BWRs)** built by General Electric under a 1963 India-US agreement.
- Each unit was derated from 210 MW to 160 MW.
- They use enriched uranium, unlike India's home-grown PHWRs that use natural uranium.

Issues

- **Safety:** extensions need checks on ageing parts, seismic upgrades and post-Fukushima measures.
- **Independence of the regulator:** AERB reports to the Atomic Energy Commission; a statutory regulator has long been proposed.
- **Nuclear goals:** India aims for 100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047.

Prelims Pointers

- AERB was set up in 1983 under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962.
- India's three-stage nuclear programme: PHWR, fast breeder, thorium.
- The SHANTI Act, 2025 opened nuclear power to private participation.

51 | SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GS 3

Hydrogen from Nuclear Heat at Kalpakkam

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Energy technology; green hydrogen

Context

On **26 June 2026**, the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam, opened what it called the world's first facility to make hydrogen by the **copper-chlorine (Cu-Cl) thermochemical cycle** using heat from a nuclear reactor, the **Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR)**.

How it works

- A series of chemical reactions splits water into hydrogen and oxygen; copper and chlorine compounds are recycled.
- Peak temperature is about 500-550 C, lower than other thermochemical cycles, so it suits reactor heat.
- No carbon dioxide is released at the point of production.

Why it matters

- Diversifies green hydrogen supply beyond electrolysis from solar and wind.
- Uses heat that power plants would otherwise lose.
- **Challenges:** scaling up, corrosion from chlorine compounds and cost.

Prelims Pointers

- FBTR at Kalpakkam reached criticality in 1985 and uses mixed carbide fuel.
- National Green Hydrogen Mission (2023): 5 million tonnes a year by 2030.
- Grey hydrogen comes from natural gas; blue adds carbon capture.

52 | SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GS 3

Satellite Spectrum: Draft Rules for Administrative Allocation

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Communication technology; regulation

Context

On **22 June 2026**, the Department of Telecommunications released **draft rules for administrative assignment of satellite spectrum**. As reported, VSAT-type services would pay about 3-4% of adjusted gross revenue (AGR) as spectrum charges, with a lower 1% for BSNL.

The debate

Administrative allocation	Auction
Spectrum is shared by many satellites; auctions would be inefficient	Fair price for a scarce public resource
Global practice (ITU) favours coordination	Level playing field with mobile operators
Faster roll-out to remote areas	Telecom firms argue satcom competes with mobile broadband

- The Telecommunications Act, 2023 lists satellite services for administrative assignment.
- Players include Starlink, Eutelsat OneWeb and Jio-SES, licensed under GMPCS rules.

Prelims Pointers

- LEO satellites orbit at about 500-2,000 km and give low latency.
- TRAI recommended spectrum charges of 4% of AGR for satcom (2025).
- VSAT: very small aperture terminal, a small ground dish.

53 | SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GS 3

Indian AI Models and the IndiaAI Mission

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Artificial intelligence; indigenisation

Context

Start-up **Avataar.ai** released **Varya**, a model built on IndiaAI common compute (12 June). The BHASHINI language platform launched a tool called **VYOMA**. Sarvam AI was reported to have reached unicorn status.

IndiaAI Mission

- Approved in 2024 with an outlay of Rs 10,372 crore over five years.
- Subsidised GPU access for start-ups and researchers.
- Support for foundation models trained on Indian data and languages.
- AIKosh: a platform for datasets and models.

Why sovereign models

- Better performance in Indian languages and local contexts.
- Data stays under Indian law.
- **Challenges:** limited high-quality data, talent, and the cost of compute.

Prelims Pointers

- BHASHINI (2022) is the National Language Translation Mission.
- A large language model (LLM) predicts text after training on large data sets.
- A GPU is a chip that runs many calculations in parallel.

54 | SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GS 3

Science Prizes: Kavli and Kyoto

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Developments in science; awareness

Context

The **Kavli Prizes** (10 June) and the **Kyoto Prizes** (19 June) recognised work from galaxies to microbes. In India, the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) reported (30 June) that about 45% of the heating in solar ejecta happens near Earth.

Prize	Winners	For
Kavli: astrophysics	Vasily Belokurov, Amina Helmi, Rodrigo Ibata	Tracing the Milky Way's past mergers
Kavli: nanoscience	Eva Andrei, Pablo Jarillo-Herrero, Allan MacDonald	Twistronics: twisted layers of graphene
Kavli: neuroscience	C. Holt, K. Martin, E. Schuman, O. Steward	Local protein synthesis in nerve cells
Kyoto: advanced technology	Tsutomu Miyasaka	Perovskite solar cells
Kyoto: basic sciences	Farooq Azam	The microbial loop in oceans
Kyoto: arts	Laurie Anderson	Music and performance art

Key term	Meaning
Twistronics	Changing a material's properties by twisting stacked layers at a small angle
Perovskite	A crystal structure used in cheap, efficient solar cells
CME	Coronal mass ejection: a burst of plasma from the Sun that can disturb satellites and grids

Prelims Pointers

- Kavli Prizes are given every two years by Norway.
- Farooq Azam was born in India and works in the US.
- Aditya-L1 studies the Sun from the L1 point.

55 | INTERNAL SECURITY GS 3

Missile Tests: RudraM-II, LRLACM and Missile Defence

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Defence technology; indigenisation

Context

DRDO carried out several tests in June 2026. **RudraM-II**, an air-to-surface missile, was tested off Odisha on **2 June**. The **Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM)** was tested from Kalam Island on **15 June**. Ballistic missile defence tests were held on 10-11 June, and a maiden test of the **NASM-MR** anti-ship missile was reported.

System	Type	Developer
RudraM-II	Air-launched surface attack missile	DRDO (Research Centre Imarat)
LRLACM	Subsonic land attack cruise missile, about 1,000+ km	DRDO (ADE, Bengaluru)
BMD	Two-tier interceptor shield	DRDO
NASM-MR	Naval anti-ship missile, medium range	DRDO

Why it matters

- Long-range precision strike without risking aircraft.
- Missile defence protects cities and key sites.
- Reduces imports and supports defence exports.

Prelims Pointers

- Kalam Island (Wheeler Island) and Chandipur are DRDO test ranges in Odisha.
- Cruise missiles fly low and are powered throughout; ballistic missiles follow an arc.
- India joined the MTCR in 2016.

56 | INTERNAL SECURITY GS 3

Record Defence Production

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Defence industry; self-reliance

Context

The Defence Ministry said on **17 June 2026** that defence production reached a record **Rs 1.78 lakh crore in 2025-26**, up 15.6% from Rs 1.54 lakh crore.

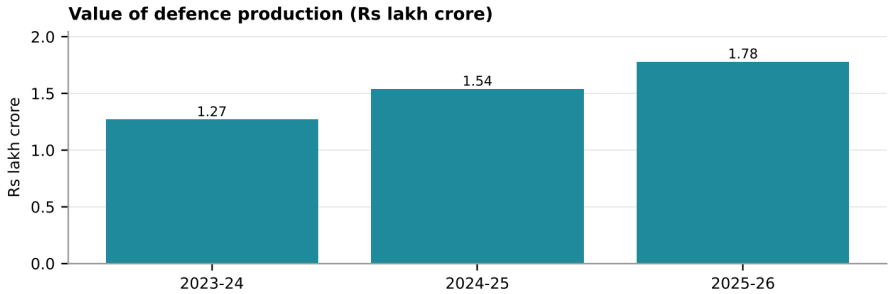


Chart. Source: Ministry of Defence (PIB), 17 June 2026 and earlier releases.

Drivers and gaps

- Positive indigenisation lists bar imports of hundreds of items.

- Private firms supply a growing share, about a fifth of the total.
- **Gaps:** engines, advanced electronics and materials are still imported.

Prelims Pointers

- Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 gives priority to 'Buy (Indian-IDDM)'.
- Defence corridors are in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- iDEX supports defence start-ups.

57 | INTERNAL SECURITY GS 3

New Army Chief and New Ships

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Security forces; GS2: Appointments

Context

General Dhiraj Seth took over as the **31st Chief of the Army Staff** on **30 June 2026**. Correction: the new CDS, General N.S. Raja Subramani, and the Navy Chief, Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, took charge on **31 May** (our May issue said 1 June for the CDS).

Navy and Coast Guard (reported)

- **INS Dunagiri:** a Project 17A stealth frigate.
- **INS Sanshodhak:** a large survey vessel.
- **INS Agray:** an anti-submarine shallow water craft.
- The three were reported commissioned on 21 June; the Coast Guard added ICGS Akshay and new hovercraft.

Priorities

- Theatre commands and jointness among the services.
- Drones, counter-drone systems and long-range fires after Operation Sindoor.
- Ship-building pace and Indian Ocean presence.

Prelims Pointers

- The CDS heads the Department of Military Affairs (created 2020).
- Project 17A frigates are built at Mazagon Dock and GRSE.
- The President is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces (Article 53).

58 | INTERNAL SECURITY GS 3

NETRA Gets Final Clearance; Nuclear Arsenals Grow

Syllabus Mapping: GS3: Defence technology; GS2: Arms control

Context

The **NETRA Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C)** system received **Final Operational Clearance** on **25 June 2026** (PIB). The Army also signed a Rs 449 crore contract for GNSS jammers. SIPRI's Yearbook estimated India's nuclear warheads at about 190 (reported).

NETRA

- A radar on an Embraer jet that detects aircraft and missiles at long range.
- Developed by DRDO's CABS, Bengaluru.
- A larger NETRA Mk II on Airbus A321 aircraft is planned.

Arms trends

- SIPRI says nuclear arsenals in most states are growing or being modernised.
- China's arsenal is growing fastest.
- India's doctrine: credible minimum deterrence and no first use.

Prelims Pointers

- SIPRI is based in Stockholm, Sweden.
- GNSS jammers block satellite navigation signals used by drones.
- India's NavIC is its regional navigation system.

59 | ETHICS GS 4

Case Study: Water for Whom?

Syllabus Mapping: GS4: Ethical dilemmas in public administration; equity; accountability

The case

You are the District Collector of a dry district after a June with 45% less rain than normal. The only reservoir holds water for about 60 days of drinking supply for 4 lakh people. A large bottling and beverage plant, which employs 2,000 local people, holds a permit to draw a fixed quantity from the same reservoir. Farmers want water released into canals to save their nursery paddy. A local MLA asks you to protect the plant's supply, saying jobs will go if it shuts. A farmers' group threatens a road blockade. The State's drought declaration is still pending.

Stakeholders

- Residents, especially poor households without private borewells.
- Farmers and farm workers who depend on canal water.
- Plant workers and the company.
- Elected representatives, the State government and future generations who depend on groundwater.

Ethical issues

- **Priority of needs:** drinking water versus livelihoods.
- **Distributive justice:** who bears the cost of scarcity.
- **Rule of law:** honouring permits versus emergency powers.
- **Political pressure** and the duty to stay impartial.

Option	Merits	Demerits
Keep allocations unchanged	Respects permits; no conflict now	Drinking water may run out in August
Release canal water to farmers	Saves some crops; eases protest	Risks drinking supply if rain fails again
Reserve drinking water first; cut the plant's draw in proportion; give farmers limited, scheduled releases and switch-crop advice; publish all data	Fair, lawful and transparent; shares the burden	Short-term loss for the plant and farmers; needs firm handling of pressure

A reasoned course of action

Choose the third option. The National Water Policy places drinking water first. Use the powers available under disaster and water laws to issue a written, time-bound order that reduces all non-drinking uses in proportion. Meet farmers and plant managers together, explain the data and offer support: short-duration seeds, MGNREGA work and tanker plans. Ask the company to recycle water and to keep workers on pay. Record and report the MLA's request to the State government. Review the order every week as rain data comes in.

Ethics vocabulary to use

- **Rawls's difference principle:** protect the least advantaged first.
- **Public trust doctrine:** the State holds water as a trustee for all (*M.C. Mehta v. Kamal Nath*, 1997).
- **Courage of conviction** and **transparency** under pressure.

60 | ETHICS GS 4

Ethics in the News: Values Behind June's Headlines

Syllabus Mapping: GS4: Ethics in governance, society and international relations

Why read the news for ethics

These links between June's stories and ethical ideas give ready examples for GS Paper IV. For each, practise a paragraph naming the value, giving the example and balancing it against a competing value.

Story	Ethical question	Concepts to use
NEET re-test	How should a system make amends to honest candidates?	Fairness; accountability; restorative justice
Emergency anniversary	What protects liberty when power is concentrated?	Constitutional morality; dissent
Homemaker's care work ruling	Should unpaid care count in money terms?	Dignity; gender justice
Right to walk	Who are cities built for?	Equity; inclusion
Tarapur life extension	How much risk is acceptable for energy security?	Precaution; transparency
Hormuz shipping	What does a state owe citizens abroad?	Duty of care; solidarity
Monsoon deficit	Who bears the cost of scarcity?	Distributive justice
Refugee numbers	What do we owe strangers?	Compassion; non-refoulement

Thinkers to quote

- **B.R. Ambedkar:** constitutional morality must be cultivated. Use it for the Emergency and SIR debates.
- **Mahatma Gandhi:** the 'talisman' of recalling the poorest person. Use it for drought and welfare choices.
- **John Rawls:** justice as fairness. Use it for exams and water allocation.
- **Hans Jonas:** an ethic of responsibility for future generations. Use it for nuclear safety and climate.

61 | ESSAY

ESSAY

Essay Corner: Themes from This Month

Three essay themes from June's news, with a sample outline. Write one practice essay (1,000-1,200 words) this week.

Themes to practise

- **Liberty is never won once and for all.** Lessons of the Emergency.
- **When the rain is late, the whole nation waits.** Monsoon, food and resilience.
- **Old machines, new purposes.** Renewal in science and institutions.

Sample outline: 'Liberty is never won once and for all'

- **Opening:** the night of 25 June 1975, when newspapers in Delhi went to press without power.
- **Meaning:** liberty as freedom from arbitrary power, kept alive by institutions and citizens.
- **History:** the freedom struggle, the Constituent Assembly, the Emergency and the 44th Amendment.
- **Institutions:** courts (ADM Jabalpur and its reversal), a free press, a vigilant Parliament, independent election bodies.
- **New threats:** surveillance, misinformation, polarisation; also non-state threats to freedom.
- **Counter-view:** liberty has limits; security and public order are also constitutional values (Article 19(2)).
- **Way forward:** civic education, strong institutions, a culture of tolerance and dissent.
- **Conclusion:** each generation must defend liberty in its own time.

Did you know?

Use examples from different fields and regions. Keep a notebook of examples from each month's magazine, grouped by theme.

62 | HISTORY

PRELIMS

History, Culture and Sport: Quick Notes

Anniversaries, heritage, people and sport from June 2026.

Anniversaries

- **Emergency (25 June 1975):** 51 years; Samvidhan Hatya Diwas.
- **Bankim Chandra (born 27 June 1838):** 188th anniversary; 150 years of Vande Mataram.
- **Hul Diwas (30 June):** 171 years of the Santhal rebellion of 1855.
- **P.C. Mahalanobis (born 29 June 1893):** Statistics Day.

Culture and people

- **Yoga Day (21 June):** 12th edition; 'Yoga for Healthy Ageing'; main event at Kolkata.
- **GI tags (Jharkhand):** Bhagaiya Silk, Kuchai Silk, Munda Jewellery, Bamboo Craft.
- **Sarnath:** India's World Heritage nomination for July 2026 (Busan).
- **Padma investiture II (23 June):** 65 awards; Padma Vibhushan to Justice K.T. Thomas and P. Narayanan.

Sport

- **Norway Chess:** R. Praggnanandhaa won; Bibisara Assaubayeva won the women's event.
- **FIFA World Cup:** opened 11 June at Mexico City; 48 teams, three hosts.
- **Doha Diamond League:** Neeraj Chopra fourth.

63 | GEOGRAPHY PRELIMS

Geography: Phenomena in the News

Concepts behind June's geography stories.

Monsoon

- **Onset over Kerala:** 4 June 2026 (normal 1 June).
- **Northern Limit of Monsoon:** the line up to which the monsoon has advanced.
- **MJO:** an eastward-moving band of clouds and rain that circles the tropics in 30-60 days.
- **Low-pressure systems** from the Bay of Bengal carry rain into central India.

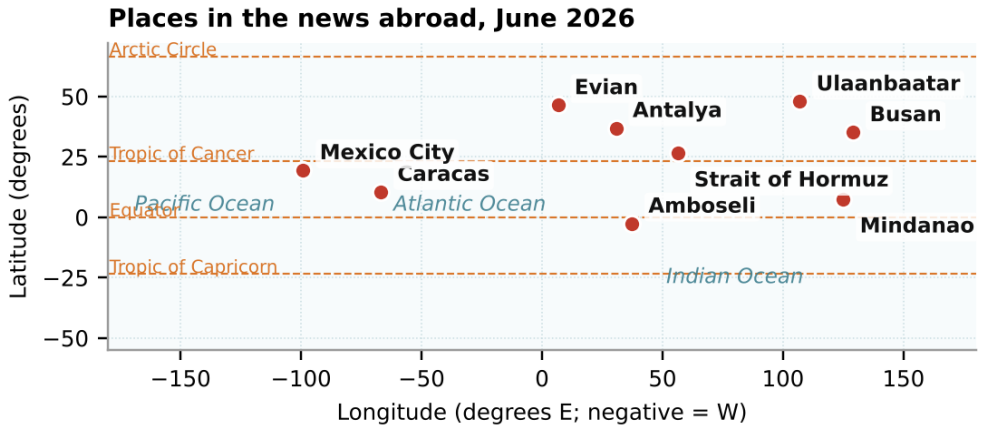
Earth and hazards

- **Strike-slip fault:** blocks slide past each other horizontally (Venezuela).
- **Tsunami:** generated by sudden vertical movement of the seabed (Mindanao).
- **Volcano alerts:** Mayon (Philippines) and Merapi (Indonesia) at Alert Level 3.
- **Atlantic season:** the first named storm, Tropical Storm Arthur, formed on 17 June.
- **Wildfires:** Canada's Northwest Territories saw evacuations, including Fort Simpson.
- **North Indian Ocean:** no cyclone formed in June.

64 | GEOGRAPHY PRELIMS

Places in the News: June 2026 on the Map

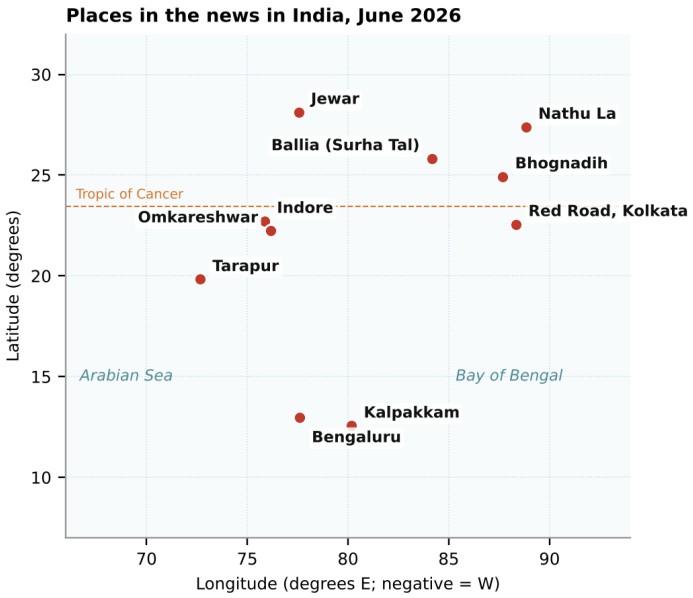
Locate each place and learn one fact about it.



Location diagram. Points plotted by latitude and longitude; boundaries not shown. Red dots mark the places; dashed lines mark the Tropics, the Equator and the Arctic Circle.

Abroad

- **Evian (France):** G7 summit, 16-17 June; on Lake Geneva.
- **Caracas:** capital of Venezuela; deadly earthquakes nearby on 24 June.
- **Mexico City:** World Cup opening match at the Azteca.
- **Ulaanbaatar:** host of UNCCD COP17.
- **Busan:** World Heritage Committee in July; Sarnath nominated.
- **Antalya (Turkiye):** host of COP31.
- **Amboseli (Kenya):** tree planting drive; Kenya hosted Desertification Day.



Location diagram. Points plotted by latitude and longitude; boundaries not shown. Points are approximate.

India

- **Bhognadih (Jharkhand):** where the Santhal Hul began.
- **Jewar (UP):** Noida International Airport opened.
- **Tarapur (Maharashtra):** oldest working reactors, life extended.
- **Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu):** hydrogen from nuclear heat.
- **Nathu La (Sikkim):** Kailash Mansarovar pilgrims.
- **Omkareshwar (MP):** World Sickle Cell Day event.

65 | POLITY

PRELIMS

Polity and Governance: Quick Notes

Appointments, rulings and institutions in June 2026.

Judiciary

- **Supreme Court:** strength 38 by ordinance; five judges sworn in on 2 June.
- **Patna High Court:** Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai Chief Justice (4 June).
- **Partial working days:** 1 June to 12 July.
- **Rulings:** homemaker's care loss (Shishu Pal); right to walk (Maniyar Iliyaz); married daughters' welfare (Kulsum Nisha).

Elections and governance

- **Rajya Sabha:** 24 seats in 10 states; ZPM's first seat from Mizoram.
- **SIR Phase III:** 16 States and 3 UTs; 36 crore+ electors.
- **NITI Governing Council:** 11th meeting, 12 June.
- **Census:** houselisting done in 23 States and UTs by mid-June.

66 | SOCIAL JUSTICE PRELIMS

Society, Health and Welfare: Quick Notes

Reports, schemes and days in June 2026.

Reports and data

- **UNHCR Global Trends:** 117.8 million displaced; first fall in a decade.
- **UNODC World Drug Report 2026:** released on 26 June, the International Day against Drug Abuse.
- **PLFS (May):** unemployment 5.5%; female LFPR 32.8%.
- **QS 2027:** 52 Indian institutions; IIT Delhi 118th.

Schemes and days

- **PM-JAY:** West Bengal joined (7 June, reported).
- **Sickle cell mission:** 7.19 crore screened.
- **World Day Against Child Labour (12 June):** campaign 'Red Card to Child Labour' (ILO).
- **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act:** bans work by children below 14 (2016 amendment).
- **NEET:** re-test 21 June; computer-based from 2027.

67 | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PRELIMS

International Relations: Quick Notes

Visits, groupings and agreements in June 2026.

Visits and summits

- **G7, Evian:** India a Partner Country (16-17 June).
- **Nice:** India-France summit; Innovation Roadmap 2030; 'Bharat Innovates'.
- **Slovakia:** first Indian PM visit; Comprehensive Partnership; 11 agreements.
- **Venezuela:** acting President Delcy Rodriguez in India, 3-7 June.
- **Nepal:** Foreign Minister Shisir Khanal in India, 5-6 June.
- **EAM:** visits to Mongolia and South Korea from 22 June; India-Laos Joint Commission; UK Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper in India.

BRICS under India's chair

- Agriculture ministers (Indore); NSAs (New Delhi, 22-23 June).
- Heads of space agencies (Bengaluru, 24 June); Energy ministers (Gurugram, 25-26 June).

Neighbourhood

- **Ganga Water Treaty (1996):** expires December 2026; Bangladesh sought talks.
- **Kailash Mansarovar Yatra:** first batch via Nathu La, 20 June.

68 | ECONOMY PRELIMS

Economy: Quick Notes

Numbers to remember from June 2026.

Growth and prices

- **GDP 2025-26:** 7.7%; Q4 7.8%; nominal Rs 346.36 lakh crore.
- **Repo rate:** 5.25%, neutral stance (5 June).
- **CPI (May):** 3.93%. **WPI (May):** 9.68%.
- **IIP (April):** 4.9% on base 2022-23.

External and fiscal

- **CAD 2025-26:** US$25.2 billion (0.6% of GDP); Q4 surplus US$7.1 billion.
- **Forex reserves:** US$666.93 billion (26 June).
- **GST (May):** Rs 1.94 lakh crore.
- **SEBI:** buybacks through stock exchanges allowed again from 1 August.
- **World Bank GEP:** India 6.6%; world 2.5%.

69 | ENVIRONMENT PRELIMS

Environment and Ecology: Quick Notes

Sites, reports and conventions in June 2026.

Sites and policy

- **Ramsar:** India reached 100 sites; Surha Tal (Ballia) and Shekha Jheel (Aligarh).
- **Western Ghats ESA:** final notification of 56,000+ sq km under way (reported).
- **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam:** 2.62 billion saplings (reported).

Global

- **World Environment Day:** hosted by Azerbaijan.
- **Desertification Day:** 'Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore.'
- **Bonn SB64:** 8-18 June; COP31 in Antalya.
- **Copernicus:** June 2026 second-warmest June; record ocean temperatures.
- **IEA:** US$3.4 trillion energy investment, US$2.2 trillion clean.

70 | SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PRELIMS

Science and Technology: Quick Notes

Facts from June's science stories.

India

- **Tarapur 1 and 2:** BWRs from 1969; about 10 more years cleared (17 June).
- **IGCAR:** Cu-Cl cycle hydrogen using FBTR heat (26 June).
- **Satcom:** draft administrative spectrum rules (22 June).
- **NETRA AEW&C:** Final Operational Clearance (25 June).
- **IIA:** study on how solar ejecta heat up on the way to Earth.
- **Space:** no ISRO launch in June; RISE conclave on the space economy.

World

- **Kavli Prizes:** galactic archaeology, twistronics and local translation in neurons.
- **Kyoto Prizes:** perovskite solar cells (Miyasaka) and the microbial loop (Azam).
- **Artemis III crew** was reported to be named.

71 | INTERNAL SECURITY PRELIMS

Defence and Security: Quick Notes

Tests, appointments and data from June 2026.

Tests and systems

- **RudraM-II:** tested 2 June off Odisha.
- **LRLACM:** tested from Kalam Island, 15 June.
- **BMD:** interceptor tests, 10-11 June.
- **GNSS jammers:** Rs 449 crore contract.

People and data

- **Army Chief:** General Dhiraj Seth (31st), 30 June.
- **Defence production:** Rs 1.78 lakh crore in 2025-26.
- **SIPRI Yearbook:** India about 190 warheads (reported).
- **Ships (reported):** INS Dunagiri, Sanshodhak and Agray commissioned 21 June.

72 | REVISION REVISION

Days and Themes of June 2026

Important days observed in June, with their 2026 themes where confirmed.

Days

- **World Environment Day (5 June):** hosted by Azerbaijan.
- **World Day Against Child Labour (12 June):** 'Red Card to Child Labour' campaign.
- **Desertification and Drought Day (17 June):** 'Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore.'
- **World Sickle Cell Day (19 June).**
- **World Refugee Day (20 June).**
- **International Day of Yoga (21 June):** 'Yoga for Healthy Ageing'.
- **International Day against Drug Abuse (26 June):** World Drug Report 2026.
- **Statistics Day (29 June):** 'Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data'.

Anniversaries

- **25 June:** Emergency, 51 years.
- **27 June:** Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay.
- **30 June:** Hul Diwas.

73 | REVISION REVISION

Practice Questions: Prelims and Mains

1. The 44th Constitutional Amendment replaced 'internal disturbance' as a ground for national emergency with:

(a) external aggression (b) armed rebellion (c) breakdown of constitutional machinery (d) financial instability

Answer: (b). It also made Articles 20 and 21 non-suspendable.

2. Consider: 1. The Emergency of 1975 was proclaimed under Article 352. 2. The 42nd Amendment added Fundamental Duties. Which is/are correct?

(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both (d) Neither

Answer: (c). Article 51A came in 1976.

3. The Santhal Hul of 1855 was led by:

(a) Birsa Munda (b) Sidho and Kanhu Murmu (c) Buddhu Bhagat (d) Tirot Sing

Answer: (b). It began at Bhognadih on 30 June 1855.

4. 'Vande Mataram' first appeared in which work?

(a) Durgeshnandini (b) Kapalkundala (c) Anandamath (d) Gitanjali

Answer: (c). Written in 1875; included in Anandamath (1882).

5. The theme of the International Day of Yoga 2026 was:

(a) Yoga for One Earth, One Health (b) Yoga for Healthy Ageing (c) Yoga for Self and Society (d) Yoga for Humanity

Answer: (b). The 12th edition.

6. Which of the following received GI tags from Jharkhand in June 2026?

1. Kuchai Silk 2. Munda Jewellery 3. Sohrai painting. Select: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a). Sohrai-Khovar painting got its GI earlier (2020).

7. Sarnath is associated with:

(a) the Buddha's enlightenment (b) the first sermon (c) the Mahaparinirvana (d) the birth of the Buddha

Answer: (b). Enlightenment at Bodh Gaya, death at Kushinagar, birth at Lumbini.

8. Padma awards are not 'titles' under Article 18, as held in:

(a) Indra Sawhney (b) Balaji Raghavan (c) S.R. Bommai (d) Minerva Mills

Answer: (b). Decided in 1995.

9. The 2026 FIFA World Cup is hosted by:

(a) USA only (b) USA and Canada (c) USA, Mexico and Canada (d) Mexico and Canada

Answer: (c). 48 teams, 104 matches.

10. India's June 2026 rainfall was about 40% below normal. Which factor did NOT favour rain?

(a) El Nino (b) an unfavourable MJO phase (c) absence of low-pressure systems (d) a strong positive IOD

Answer: (d). The IOD was neutral; a positive IOD usually helps the monsoon.

11. The Nino 3.4 region lies in the:

(a) western Indian Ocean (b) central-eastern equatorial Pacific (c) north Atlantic (d) South China Sea

Answer: (b). 5N-5S, 170W-120W.

12. The Venezuelan earthquakes of June 2026 occurred along a boundary between:

(a) Nazca and South American plates (b) Caribbean and South American plates (c) Cocos and Caribbean plates (d) Pacific and North American plates

Answer: (b). A mainly strike-slip boundary.

13. Consider: 1. Census is in the Union List. 2. The Census Act was enacted in 1948. 3. Census 2027 will be the first digital Census. Which are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d). Entry 69, Union List.

14. National Statistics Day marks the birth anniversary of:

(a) C.R. Rao (b) P.C. Mahalanobis (c) P.V. Sukhatme (d) V.K.R.V. Rao

Answer: (b). Born 29 June 1893.

15. Which is correct about India and the 1951 Refugee Convention?

(a) India ratified it in 1951 (b) India is party only to the 1967 Protocol (c) India is party to neither (d) India signed it with reservations

Answer: (c). India hosts refugees under administrative policies.

16. Which country hosted the G7 summit of June 2026?

(a) Italy (b) Canada (c) France (d) Japan

Answer: (c). At Evian-les-Bains.

17. India's first strategic partnership (1998) was with:

(a) Russia (b) USA (c) France (d) Japan

Answer: (c). Upgraded through Horizon 2047.

18. The Ganga Water Treaty between India and Bangladesh shares water at:

(a) Tehri (b) Farakka (c) Bhagalpur (d) Haldia

Answer: (b). Signed 1996 for 30 years.

19. Nathu La connects Sikkim with:

(a) the Chumbi valley (b) the Kailash range (c) Lhasa directly (d) Nepal

Answer: (a). One of two Kailash Yatra routes; the other is Lipulekh.

20. The New Development Bank is headquartered at:

(a) New Delhi (b) Shanghai (c) Moscow (d) Johannesburg

Answer: (b). Set up by BRICS in 2014.

21. The Strait of Hormuz connects the Persian Gulf with the:

(a) Red Sea (b) Gulf of Aden (c) Gulf of Oman (d) Caspian Sea

Answer: (c). Flanked by Iran and Oman's Musandam peninsula.

22. Under Article 124(1), the number of Supreme Court judges is fixed by:

(a) the President (b) the CJI (c) Parliament by law (d) the collegium

Answer: (c). Raised to 38 including the CJI in 2026.

23. In Rajya Sabha elections: 1. Voting is by open ballot for party members. 2. NOTA is available. Which is/are correct?

(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both (d) Neither

Answer: (a). The Supreme Court ruled out NOTA in 2018.

24. NITI Aayog was set up by:
(a) an Act of Parliament (b) a constitutional amendment (c) a Union Cabinet resolution (d) a presidential ordinance
Answer: (c). On 1 January 2015.

25. The right to walk safely on public roads was linked by the Supreme Court in June 2026 to:
(a) Article 14 (b) Article 19(1)(d) (c) Article 21 (d) Article 47
Answer: (c). Maniyar Iliyaz, 12 June.

26. The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act was passed in:
(a) 2017 (b) 2022 (c) 2024 (d) 2026
Answer: (c). Covers NTA, UPSC, SSC and others.

27. Sickle cell disease is:
(a) caused by a virus (b) an autosomal recessive disorder (c) a nutritional deficiency (d) sex-linked
Answer: (b). Carriers have some protection against malaria.

28. India's GDP growth for 2025-26 (provisional estimates) was:
(a) 6.5% (b) 7.2% (c) 7.7% (d) 8.2%
Answer: (c). Released on 5 June 2026.

29. Which statement about WPI is correct?
(a) It includes services (b) It is compiled by MoSPI (c) It is compiled by the Office of the Economic Adviser, Commerce Ministry (d) It is the RBI's target
Answer: (c). CPI is the RBI's target.

30. Forex reserves of India include: 1. Gold 2. SDRs 3. Reserve tranche position in the IMF. Select:
(a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
Answer: (d). Plus foreign currency assets.

31. The Nutrient Based Subsidy scheme applies to:
(a) urea only (b) P and K fertilisers (c) bio-fertilisers only (d) pesticides
Answer: (b). Since 2010.

32. India's Strategic Petroleum Reserves are at:
(a) Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru, Padur (b) Mumbai, Kochi, Paradip (c) Jamnagar, Haldia, Chennai (d) Kandla, Vadinar, Mangaluru
Answer: (a). Run by ISPRL.

33. Ramsar Convention was signed in:
(a) 1971 (b) 1975 (c) 1982 (d) 1992
Answer: (a). India joined in 1982.

34. Which panel recommended about 37% of the Western Ghats as an ESA?
(a) Gadgil (b) Kasturirangan (c) Subramanian (d) Swaminathan
Answer: (b). High Level Working Group, 2013.

35. The UNFCCC secretariat is located in:
(a) Geneva (b) Nairobi (c) Bonn (d) New York
Answer: (c). Mid-year sessions are held there.

36. Tarapur units 1 and 2 are:
(a) PHWRs (b) BWRs (c) fast breeders (d) VVERs
Answer: (b). Built by GE; commissioned 1969.

37. The copper-chlorine cycle is used to produce:
(a) ammonia (b) hydrogen by splitting water (c) chlorine gas (d) copper metal
Answer: (b). Using heat at about 500-550 C.

38. 'Twistronics', recognised by the 2026 Kavli Prize, involves:
(a) spintronics in magnets (b) twisting stacked layers of 2D materials (c) twisted optical fibres (d) DNA folding
Answer: (b). Magic-angle graphene.

39. Kalam Island, used for missile tests, is located off:
(a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Odisha (c) Tamil Nadu (d) Gujarat
Answer: (b). Formerly Wheeler Island.

40. NETRA is:

(a) a satellite (b) an airborne early warning and control system (c) a cyber-security platform (d) a submarine sonar

Answer: (b). Developed by DRDO's CABS.

41. SIPRI is headquartered in:

(a) Oslo (b) Geneva (c) Stockholm (d) Vienna

Answer: (c). Publishes an annual Yearbook.

42. Noida International Airport is located at:

(a) Hindon (b) Jewar (c) Greater Noida West (d) Palwal

Answer: (b). Commercial flights from 15 June 2026.

Mains Practice

- **Q1.** The Emergency of 1975 exposed weaknesses in constitutional safeguards. Examine the changes made by the 44th Amendment and assess whether they are adequate. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q2.** Tribal uprisings in the 19th century were not merely local revolts but early resistance to colonial land and revenue systems. Discuss with reference to the Santhal Hul. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q3.** Discuss the role of Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's writings in shaping cultural nationalism in India. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q4.** Geographical Indication tags can improve tribal livelihoods only if they are backed by market support. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q5.** Explain how El Nino, the MJO and the Indian Ocean Dipole interact to influence the Indian monsoon. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q6.** Why do strike-slip plate boundaries cause destructive earthquakes even without subduction? Illustrate with recent examples. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q7.** Census 2027 will be both digital and caste-inclusive. Discuss its opportunities and challenges. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q8.** Low female labour force participation is a structural feature of India's labour market. Analyse its causes and suggest remedies. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q9.** Assess the significance of India's participation in G7 outreach for its Global South leadership. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q10.** India's trade agreements with the US and the EU must balance market access with protection of sensitive sectors. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q11.** Security of sea lanes in the Gulf is vital to India's energy and diaspora interests. Examine India's options during disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q12.** As BRICS chair, what priorities should India pursue amid the grouping's expansion and divergent interests? (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q13.** 'Gradual normalisation' with China needs both confidence-building and deterrence. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q14.** The renewal of the Ganga Water Treaty is a test of India's neighbourhood policy. Discuss the issues involved. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q15.** Increasing the number of judges alone will not solve pendency in the Supreme Court. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q16.** Examine the safeguards against cross-voting in Rajya Sabha elections. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q17.** Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls must balance purity of rolls with inclusion. Analyse. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q18.** Recognition of unpaid care work in compensation law has wider implications for gender justice. Discuss with reference to recent judgments. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q19.** Recurring paper leaks call for structural reform of national entrance examinations. Suggest measures. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q20.** Wide gaps between WPI and CPI inflation hold lessons for monetary policy. Explain. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q21.** Discuss the significance of revising the base year of the IIP and the GDP series. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q22.** Weak portfolio flows rather than the current account have driven pressure on the rupee. Examine. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q23.** Discuss the measures needed to protect kharif output when the monsoon starts weakly. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q24.** Rapid growth of solar capacity must be matched by storage and transmission. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q25.** Rangelands are among the most neglected ecosystems in India. Discuss their importance and the threats they face. (10 marks, 150 words)

- **Q26.** Examine the debate between the Gadgil and Kasturirangan approaches to conserving the Western Ghats. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q27.** What lessons do recurrent floods in the Northeast hold for disaster-resilient infrastructure? (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q28.** Life extension of old nuclear reactors raises questions of safety and regulatory independence. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q29.** Should satellite spectrum be assigned administratively or auctioned? Give reasons. (10 marks, 150 words)
- **Q30.** Record defence production shows progress toward self-reliance, but critical gaps remain. Analyse. (15 marks, 250 words)
- **Q31.** A district administrator faces competing demands for scarce water in a drought. What ethical principles should guide the decision? (10 marks, 150 words)

Official Sources to Bookmark

Scan or click to open the official sites used most for monthly current affairs.

Press Information Bureau
https://pib.gov.in
Scan or click to open the official source.

Ministry of External Affairs
https://www.mea.gov.in
Scan or click to open the official source.

Reserve Bank of India
https://www.rbi.org.in
Scan or click to open the official source.

India Meteorological Department
https://mausam.imd.gov.in
Scan or click to open the official source.

Ministry of Statistics (MoSPI)
https://www.mospi.gov.in
Scan or click to open the official source.

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Sources and Notes

- **History and culture:** PIB and AIR (Samvidhan Hatya Diwas; Hul Diwas tributes; Bankim Chandra; Yoga Day; Padma investiture, 23 June); NABARD and reports (Jharkhand GI tags); UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC48); tournament reports (Norway Chess); FIFA (World Cup opening).
- **Geography and disasters:** IMD press releases and monthly statement (onset, June rainfall, July outlook, Northern Limit); USGS earthquake catalogue and PAGER; Copernicus C3S June 2026 bulletin; NOAA CPC ENSO advisory; PHIVOLCS and PVMBG (volcano alerts); NHC (Tropical Storm Arthur); state disaster reports (Northeast floods).
- **Society:** MoSPI (PLFS bulletin; Statistics Day; Vision 2026-31); Census and Home Ministry updates; UNHCR Global Trends 2026; UNODC World Drug Report 2026; QS rankings; Health Ministry (sickle cell mission); ILO (child labour day).
- **International relations:** MEA (G7 bilaterals; India-France outcomes and Innovation Roadmap; Slovakia joint statement; Venezuela and Nepal visits; Hormuz shipping briefing, 23 June; Kailash Mansarovar Yatra); BRICS India 2026 releases; Commerce Ministry and reports (US and EU trade talks).
- **Polity:** Supreme Court and Law Ministry notifications (ordinance; oath of judges; Patna HC CJ); LiveLaw, SC Observer and Bar and Bench (rulings and partial working days); ECI (Rajya Sabha polls; SIR Phase III); NITI Aayog (Governing Council).
- **Economy and agriculture:** MoSPI (GDP, CPI, IIP); Commerce Ministry (WPI, trade); RBI (MPC statement, BoP, weekly reserves, FSR); SEBI board meeting (19 June); World Bank GEP; OECD Economic Outlook; Finance Ministry (GST); Agriculture Ministry (kharif sowing); Fertilisers Department; oil marketing companies (LPG prices); MNRE physical progress; Coal Ministry; Delhi SLDC; Civil Aviation and YIAPL (Noida airport).
- **Environment:** MoEFCC (Ramsar sites; Western Ghats; Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam); UNEP (World Environment Day); UNCCD (Desertification Day; COP17); UNFCCC (SB64 outcomes); IEA World Energy Investment 2026; Energy Institute Statistical Review 2026.
- **Science and security:** ISRO and IN-SPACe (RISE conclave; BRICS heads of space agencies); AERB and NPCIL (Tarapur); DAE and IGCAR (Cu-Cl facility); DoT (draft satellite spectrum rules); IndiaAI and BHASHINI; Kavli Prize and Inamori Foundation (Kyoto Prize); IIA; PIB Defence and DRDO (RudraM-II, LRLACM, BMD, NETRA, production data, Army Chief); SIPRI Yearbook 2026.
- **Icons:** Font Awesome Free (CC BY 4.0). **Maps:** location diagrams drawn from latitude and longitude only.

Please verify before use

- **Facts are as reported up to 30 June 2026.** Full monsoon coverage, the World Heritage decision on Sarnath, COP31 and the BRICS summit fall after the month; check later updates.
- **Corrections to our May issue:** the CDS and the Navy Chief took charge on 31 May (not 1 June for the CDS); the all-India peak demand record for May was 270.8 GW (per a Parliament reply), above the 257.37 GW we cited.
- **Reported, not confirmed from primary documents:** the 100th and 99th Ramsar sites and India's global rank; Venezuela and Mindanao death tolls; NOAA 'very strong' El Nino odds and advisory date; RBI crude assumption; urea record; FSR gross NPA ratio; OECD forecast; US-Iran MoU; West Bengal joining PM-JAY as the 36th State/UT; NITI attendance and Lakhpati Didi figure; Western Ghats final notification; India-France outcome count; Slovakia agreement details; ship commissionings (Dunagiri, Sanshodhak, Agray); SIPRI warhead count; NASM-MR test; semi-cryogenic test; Sarvam valuation; Artemis III crew; World Yogasana medal table; Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam total.
- **Figures or dates that differ between sources:** NOAA advisory date; Kailash Yatra batch size; Rajya Sabha seat counts including by-polls; the WPI 'record' is on the current 2011-12 series.
- **Approximate map points:** earthquake points other than Venezuela and Mindanao, Bhognadih, flood sites and wetland locations are approximate; all maps are location diagrams without boundaries.
- The ethics case study and essay themes are original practice material, not reports of real events.

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