



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

12th September 2025



Great Nicobar Island Project

12th September 2025

CONTEXT: The Government of India envisions the **Holistic Development** of **Great Nicobar Island** to transform it into a hub of economic and strategic activity

Mapping related aspects

- **836** islands
 - 31 inhabited
- Closer to **Chennai/ Kolkata**?
- **Barren Island**
- **Indira Point**
- **Maritime borders** with Indonesia, Myanmar and Thailand
 - **Closest?**



UPSC PYQ (P) 2018

Consider the following statements:

1. The Barren Island volcano is an **active** volcano located in the Indian territory.
2. Barren Island lies about 140 km east of Great Nicobar.
3. The **last time** the Barren Island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3
- c. 3 only
- d. 1 and 3

UPSC PYQ (P) 2017

Which of the following is geographically closest to Great Nicobar?

- (a) Sumatra
- (b) Borneo
- (c) Java
- (d) Sri Lanka



12th September 2025

CONTEXT: The Government of India envisions the **Holistic Development** of **Great Nicobar Island** to transform it into a hub of economic and strategic activity

Details of Project

Report NITI Aayog: Mega infrastructure project

International Container Transshipment Terminal 

Capacity of 14.2 Million TEUs

Greenfield International Airport 

To be built to international standards

Power Plant 

450 MVA gas and solar-based

Township 

Spread over 16,610 hectares

Detailed **EIA** and **EMP** by ZSI, BSI, WII

Only **1.82%** forest area diverted.

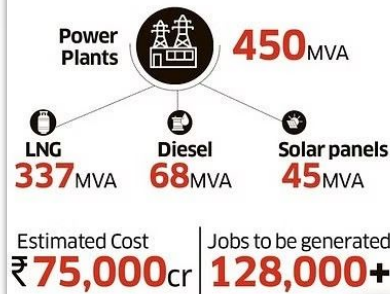
CA in Haryana

8 wildlife corridors

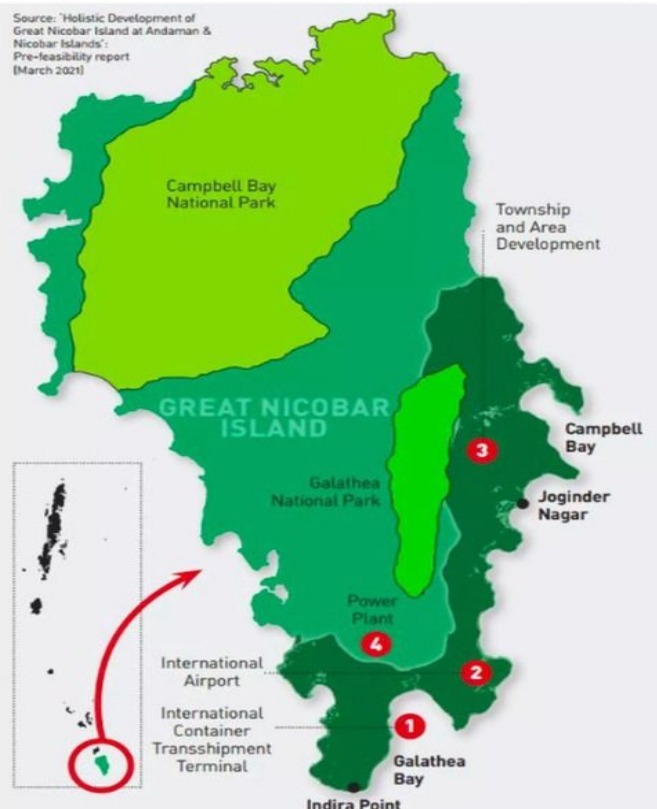


THE PLAN

- An Int'l Container Transshipment Port with cargo handling capacity of 14.2 million TEUs, A Free Trade Warehousing Zone
- A parallel-to-the-coast **Mass Rapid Transit System**
- A **Greenfield Int'l Airport** with peak hour capacity for 4000 passengers
- A **Township** to accommodate **6.5 lakh** people by 2050 over an area of **166 sq km**



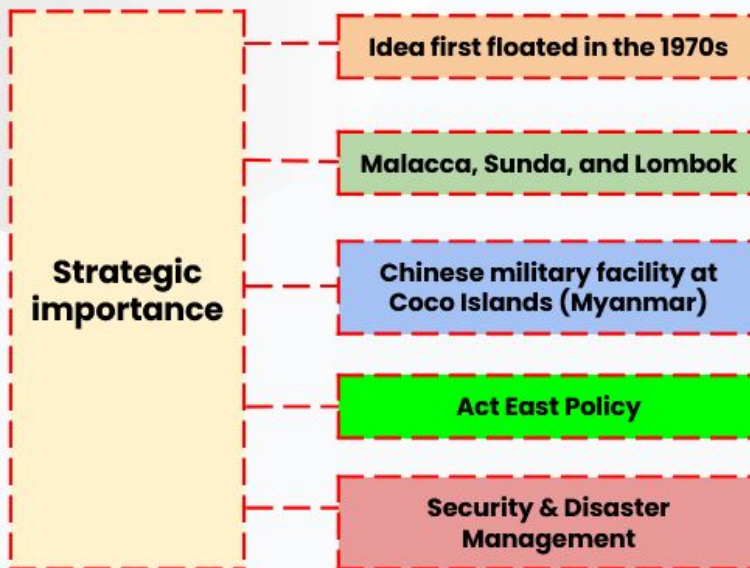
Source: 'Holistic Development of Great Nicobar Island at Andaman & Nicobar Islands': Pre-feasibility report (March 2021)



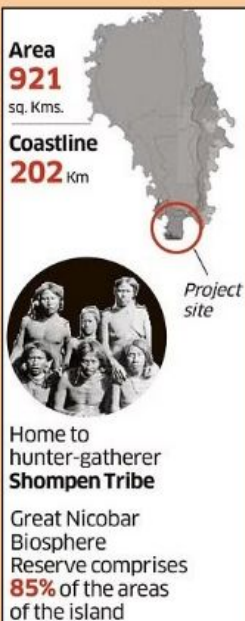
Great Nicobar Island Project

12th September 2025

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Concerns



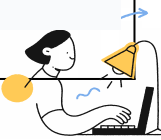
AND THE PERILS

- Over **8.5 lakh trees** to be felled over an area of **130 sq kms**
- Destruction of tropical rain-forests in Galathea National Park, home to **648 species of flora** and **330 species of fauna**, including Nicobar's **wild pig**, **tree shrew**, the Great Nicobar crested serpent eagle, Nicobar paradise flycatcher and the Nicobar **megapode**.
- Threat to the Shompen tribe:** Proposed project areas have been important foraging grounds for the hunter-gatherer nomadic community.
- Threat to nesting sites of iconic species like **Giant leatherback turtle** and the **Nicobar megapode**.
- Threat to coral and marine ecosystem:** ZSI reported presence of 117 species of scleractinian corals in Galathea. But the Environment Impact Assessment of the project states that there is no coral located in the Galathea Bay region.
- Threat to **Dugongs** due to loss of seagrass meadows, rising anthropogenic activities.

CA in Haryana is Ecologically Incomparable

Questionable Consultation

High-seismic Zone V



12th September 2025

Great Nicobar Island Project

CONTEXT: The Government of India envisions the **Holistic Development** of **Great Nicobar Island** to transform it into a hub of economic and strategic activity

Sovereignty, security concerns

Concerns have already been raised about the environmental impact of the existing project but multiple requests for more details have been denied under Section 8(1)(a) of the RTI Act that invokes issues of sovereignty, integrity, security, and the strategic concerns of the country. In November 2022, Mumbai-based researcher Prasad Kale had filed an RTI application asking the Union Environment Ministry for information related to the clearances granted to the project.



Down To Earth

Great Nicobar project: Social impact assessment on 'local community' concluded without consulting original inhabitants

Even as the mega infrastructure project on the Great Nicobar Island continues to draw serious environmental, legal, and ethical scrutiny....

5-Jul-2024



Thorough Review

Consultation with
local tribal councils

NGT 2023: High-Power
Committee for clearances

Balancing the strategic
interests with ecological
and social impacts

Way
ahead

Role of Civil society
and media

Mains Practise Question

The Great Nicobar Island Project represents a classic development vs. conservation dilemma on a grand scale. Comment.

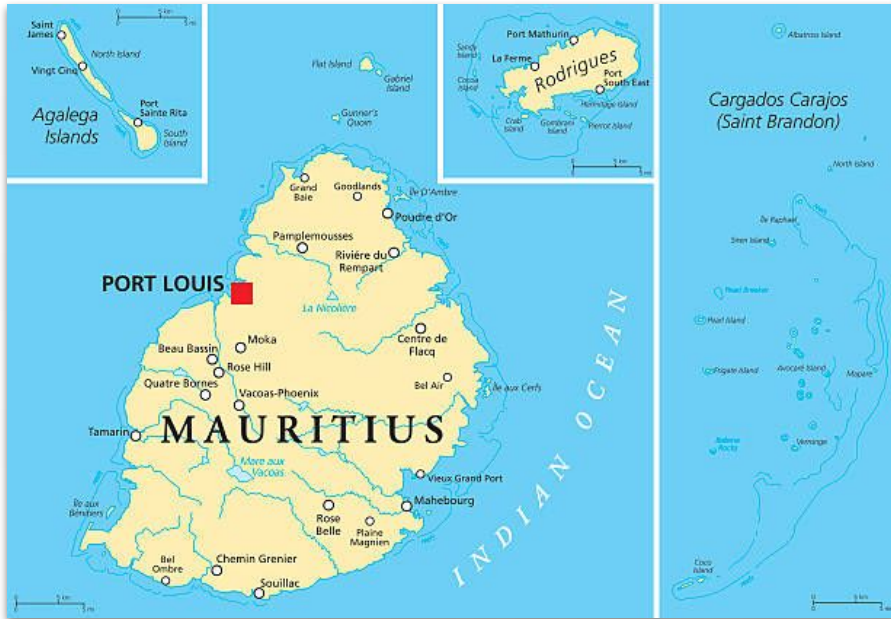
(15 Marks, 250 words)



12th September 2025

CONTEXT: Work towards facilitating **bilateral trade in local currencies** (INR-MUR)

Why Mauritius Matters to India?



Historical Connection

Pre-Independence Era

- **French Rule** (1720s)
Puducherry migrants
- **1834 onwards:** ~500,000 Indians (sugarcane, Bih, UP, AP) indentured labourers
- **1901:** Mahatma Gandhi/
National Day on March 12th

Post-Independence Era

1948: India + diplomatic relations;
1968
Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam



Strategic & Maritime

→ **Maritime outpost** = Indian Ocean shipping lanes.
→ India's SAGAR (now **MAHASAGAR** doctrine)

Countering China

→ **China's** "String of Pearls" strategy and its growing presence in the IOR (e.g., Djibouti base).
→ Helps secure India's **Sea Lines of Communication**.

Economic Gateway

→ **Top source of FDI** into India for decades (2nd after Sgpr)
→ **Gateway** for Indian investments to Afr u/**AfCFTA**.

Cultural & Diaspora

→ ~70% of the Mauritian population is of **Indian origin**.
→ **Strong cultural imprint:** Hinduism is the major religion, **Bhojpuri** is widely spoken, and places like **Ganga Talao** are major pilgrimage sites.

Newsline
UK signs deal to hand over Chagos Islands to Mauritius, India welcomes the treaty

The United Kingdom signed an agreement today handing sovereignty over the contested and strategically located Chagos Islands to Mauritius.

22 May 2025



12th September 2025

CONTEXT: Work towards facilitating **bilateral trade in local currencies** (INR-MUR)

Key Highlights of the Varanasi Talks

MAURITIUS PRIME MINISTER HONoured WITH ROYAL WELCOME IN VARANASI, INDIA



Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam reached the holy city for cultural and spiritual events. From traditional dance to soulful music, the celebrations highlighted heritage and strengthened India-Mauritius friendship.

✓ Bilateral trade in local currencies

✓ Indian Ocean security

✓ Support to Mauritius' EEZ

✓ India as "Net Security Provider"

✓ Cultural diplomacy @Ayodhya & Tirupati

\$680 MN ECONOMIC PACKAGE

GRANT-BASED PROJECTS (USD 215 million)

- Construction of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam National Hospital
- Establishment of AYUSH Centre of Excellence
- Setting up of a veterinary School and animal hospital
- Provision of helicopters

GRANT-CUM-LOC PROJECTS (USD 440 million)

- Completion of the Air Traffic Control tower at SSR International Airport
- Development of the Motorway M4
- Expansion of the Ring Road (Phase II)
- Procurement of port-related equipment

\$25 MN BUDGETARY ASSISTANCE TO MAURITIUS

STRATEGIC COOPERATION

- Redevelopment and restructuring of the Mauritius port
- Development and surveillance of Chagos Marine Protected Area

MoUs INKED: 7

From cooperation in the field of science and technology to cooperation in power sector. The two countries also signed an MoU Cooperation for Establishment of Telemetry, Tracking, and Telecommunications Station for Satellites and Launch Vehicles, and for cooperation in the fields of space research, science and application.

Importance of India for Mauritius

Development Partner

→ India is a leading development partner. Has provided over **\$1.1 billion in aid** in the last decade.
→ Executed major projects: Metro Express, Supreme Court, ENT hospital, etc.

Primary Security Provider

→ India assists in patrolling Mauritius's vast Exclusive Economic Zone.
→ Provides hydrographic surveys
→ Supplies defense equipment and training.

First Responder

→ Immediate assistance during disasters:
- Cyclone Chido (2024)
- Wakashio Oil Spill (2020)
- COVID-19 (Vaccine Maitri initiative)

Capacity Building

→ A major beneficiary of the ITEC program (Nearly 5000 officials trained).
→ Customized training for civil servants through the National Centre for Good Governance.



12th September 2025

CONTEXT: Work towards facilitating **bilateral trade in local currencies** (INR-MUR)

UPSC PYQ (P) 2015

With reference to 'Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC)', consider the following statements:

1. It was established very recently in response to incidents of piracy and accidents of oil spills.
2. It is an alliance meant for maritime security only.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Mains Practise Question

Evaluate the role of Mauritius in India's Indian Ocean strategy
(15 Marks, 250 words)

Map of IORA Members



Geopolitical Chessboard

An agreement to use French bases could ensure that Indian warships move across the Indo-Pacific relatively unimpeded



Polygraph Test

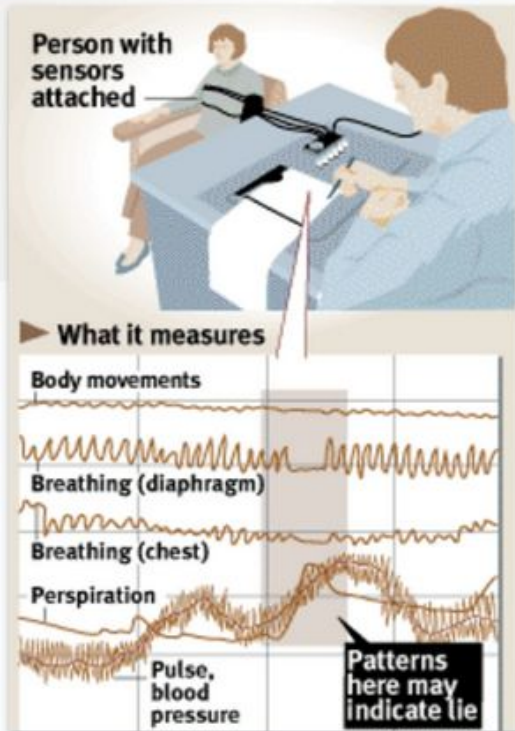
12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Polity

GS 2: Indian Constitution – features

Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 5**

Polygraph (Lie Detector) Test



Test	Method	Assumption
Polygraph	Measures physiological changes (heart, respiration, sweat)	Lies produce stress reactions
Narco-Analysis	Injection of Sodium Pentothal (truth serum) → sedated state	Person in hypnotic state can't lie
Brain Mapping	Measures brain activity with imaging (EEG, scans)	Brain knowledge → recognition can be detected
<p>◆ Accuracy and Issues</p> <p>✗ Not scientifically foolproof – false positives/negatives.</p> <p>✗ Physiological responses vary (stress, anxiety, medical conditions)</p> <p>✓ Softer alternative to torture in investigations.</p>		

Legal Conundrum & Constitutional Violations

The Core Violation: Article 20(3)

"No person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself."
This is the Right Against Self-Incrimination.



Polygraph Test

12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Polity

GS 2: Indian Constitution – features

Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 5**

NHRC Guidelines for Polygraph Test (2000)

1. Voluntary Consent	Accused must willingly agree . They have the right to refuse without any negative inference.
2. Informed Consent	Explained the test in full— working, questions, implications— police + lawyer.
3. Recorded Consent	Consent recorded / Judicial Magistrate .
4. Documentation	Police prove in court that consent was voluntary
5. Clarification of Statements	Accused be told that any statement made is a statement to the police
6. Judicial Consideration	Judge will consider all circumstances (length of detention, nature of questioning) before giving any weight to the test results.



Can vultures prevent pandemics?

12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: General issues on Environmental ecology

GS 3: Conservation

Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 12**

The Role of Vultures: Nature's Sanitation Workers

Keystone species

Efficient Carcass Removal in
30 minutes

Acidic stomach acids (pH ~1)

Anthrax
Rabies
Botulinum
Brucellosis



Where are India's vultures?

For centuries, vultures have played a vital role in **keeping landscapes clean and preventing the spread of pathogens** like anthrax, *Clostridium botulinum*, and rabies. Photos of carcass dumping sites with hundreds of vultures jostling for a meal were common in the 1980s. In India, the population once numbered **over 40 million**, but since the 1990s, it has **declined by more than 95% due to diclofenac use**. This loss is more than an ecological concern; it represents a slow-burning public health challenge, tying biodiversity decline to the risk of future pandemics.




The Crisis: India's Vanishing Vultures

Veterinary Drug
(**Diclofenac**) 

A painkiller given to cattle. For vultures that feed on their carcasses, it causes kidney failure and death.

Other Threats

- Electrocution by power lines 
- Poisoning from other toxins
- Habitat loss

UPSC PYQ (P) 2012

Vultures which used to be very common in Indian countryside some years ago are rarely seen nowadays. This is attributed to

- the destruction of their nesting sites by new invasive species
- a drug used by cattle owners for treating their diseased cattle
- scarcity of food available to them
- a widespread, persistent and fatal disease among them.



Cost-Benefit: Conservation vs. Outbreak Response

Central Asian Flyway

One of 9 key flight paths (flyways) taken by migratory water birds



India's vulture populations are part of the **Central Asian Flyway (CAF)**, a migratory route connecting breeding grounds in Central Asia to wintering areas across South Asia. This corridor spans more than **30 countries** and is traversed by millions of migratory birds each year. When vultures and other raptors move along this flyway, they **link ecosystems (and disease risks)** across borders. Carcass dumps, stopover sites, or poorly managed landfills can quickly turn into spillover hotspots, highlighting why the issue is regional in scope. The CAF is therefore a biodiversity and a public health corridor.

Action

Invest in Vulture Conservation
(Telemetry, safe zones, banning drugs)

Fight a Full-Blown Pandemic (Vaccines, lockdowns, burden)

Cost

Relatively Modest investment.

Extremely High cost (e.g., COVID-19 cost ₹20 lakh crore+).



12th September 2025

Can vultures prevent pandemics?

SYLLABUS: Prelims: General issues on Environmental ecology

GS 3: Conservation

Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 12**

How are vultures related to pandemics?

As India's National Action Plan for Vulture Conservation (2016-25) nears completion, the next phase offers an opportunity to position vulture conservation as integral to pandemic preparedness. Vultures protect public health by removing carcasses that could otherwise fuel zoonotic spillover.

BIRD'S EYE VIEW

9 RECORDED SPECIES:

Oriental white-backed, long-billed, slender-billed, Himalayan, red-headed, Egyptian, bearded, cinereous and the Eurasian Griffon.

(4 CRITICALLY ENDANGERED, 1 ENDANGERED, 3 NEAR THREATENED)

THE CRISIS:

A massive dip in vulture populations came into limelight in the mid-90s, and in 2004 the cause of the crash was established as diclofenac, a veterinary nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.



WHAT NEXT AFTER 2006 PROJECT:

■ Testing of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs on vultures, development of new NSAIDs

■ Covering two more species in the breeding programme that earlier focussed on 3 critically

endangered species

■ Additional conservation breeding centres and four rescue centres planned across India

■ Nationwide vulture survey once in four years

The Way Forward: A Five-Pillar Strategy for India

1. Advanced Surveillance

Nationwide satellite **telemetry** to track vultures, Map **carcass dumps**, Potential spillover **hotspots**.

2. Decision Support System (DSS)

Integrate data from wildlife, livestock, human health for **real-time risk analysis** + early **warning**.

3. Cross-Sector Coordination

One Health framework linking **MoEFCC**, Ministry of **Health**, and Ministry of **Animal Husbandry**.

4. Transboundary Collaboration

Lead regional efforts under the **Convention on Migratory Species** and **CAF**

5. Community Stewardship

SURVEY SOON

➤ As a first step towards implementing a coordinated vulture conservation action plan, a survey will be conducted in four south Indian states, tentatively from March 15 to 17

➤ This is expected to help understand population dynamics of vultures in



Red-headed vulture, a critically endangered bird species, at the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary

the habitats across south India, including Wayanad- Mudumalai-Bandipur landscape

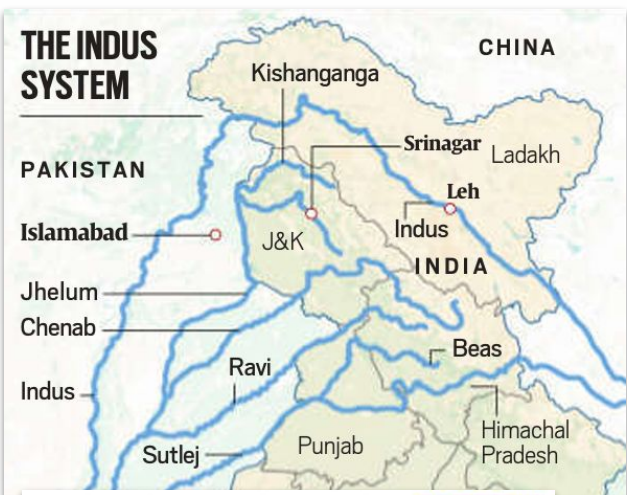
➤ A series of initiatives like genetic studies on population estimation and radio tagging of vultures will be implemented





12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian & World Geography
GS 2: India and its neighborhood- relations
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No : 14**

The Bedrock: Understanding Indus Waters Treaty, 1960



River System	Rivers	Allocation	Primary Use
 Eastern Rivers	Sutlej, Beas, Ravi	India (Unrestricted Use)	Irrigation in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan
 Western Rivers	Indus, Jhelum, Chenab	Pakistan (Unrestricted Use)	~80% of total water flow. Pakistan's lifeline.

That the IWT allowed about 80% of the water in the six rivers of the Indus system to flow uninterrupted to Pakistan has triggered much consternation in India in recent years. Sinha explains that the division of waters was based not on a volumetric assessment but on geography, terrain, gravity, and the natural course of the rivers.

India and Pakistan had different motivations for entering into the Treaty.

Key Institutions under IWT

Permanent Indus Commission

Dispute Resolution Mechanism

Two Sides, Two Narratives: The Motivations

India's Perspective (Under Nehru)

Pakistan's Perspective

- **A Gesture for Peace:** Nehru saw it as a "stabilising gesture" and an "act of magnanimity" to anchor regional peace.
- **Focus on Development:** Wanted to avoid water disputes to focus on nation-building.
- **"Purchased Peace":** Nehru famously said, "We purchased a settlement, if you like; we purchased peace." (Criticized today as appeasement by EAM Jaishankar).

- **Deep-Seated Insecurity:** As a lower riparian, it feared Indian control over its water supply.
- **Strategic Calculation:** Understood the leverage of an upper riparian. The treaty was a way to legally secure flows.
- **No Celebration:** Never celebrated the 80:20 split, as it acknowledged India's strategic advantage and needed to maintain a "victimhood" narrative.



12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian & World Geography
GS 2: India and its neighborhood- relations
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No : 14**



Why the Treaty Survived for So Long & India's Role

Why the Treaty survived

The IWT not just survived, but worked uninterrupted through four wars, repeated terrorist attacks sponsored by Pakistan, and several periods of great tension between the two countries. It is often cited as a model for cross-boundary governance of waters.

The credit for this must go to India – for the

India's Compliance

World Bank's Role

Clarity of Provisions



**Pakistan's
Strategy:
Not Water,
But Control**

India = weapon?

The Kashmir Link

Article IX (Dispute Resolution)

The Indian Express

'On humanitarian grounds': India alerted Pakistan about 'high flood' in Tawi amid suspension of Indus Waters Treaty

On August 14, India rejected the award of the "so-called Court of Arbitration" on issues of general interpretation of the IWT. ... India has...
2 weeks ago



The Road Ahead

Renegotiation?

India wants **bilateral renegotiation**
Terrorism-linked clause

Strategic Advantage for India

Hydroelectric projects

Long-Term Stalemate

"Cold" water war

Though the flow from natural channels will continue...

...but India's move may impact irrigation and drinking water supply to some extent in two of the four provinces of Pakistan



India will have to increase its water storage capacity and work on

Kishanganga hydro-electric project ||

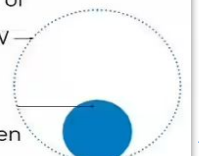
Ratle hydro-electric project ||

Only then will India have more control over water in the long run

India has right to create water storage capacity up to **3.6 million acre-feet** on western rivers as per IWT

Out of estimated power potential of **20,000 MW**

Only **3,482 MW** capacity has been constructed



12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian & World Geography

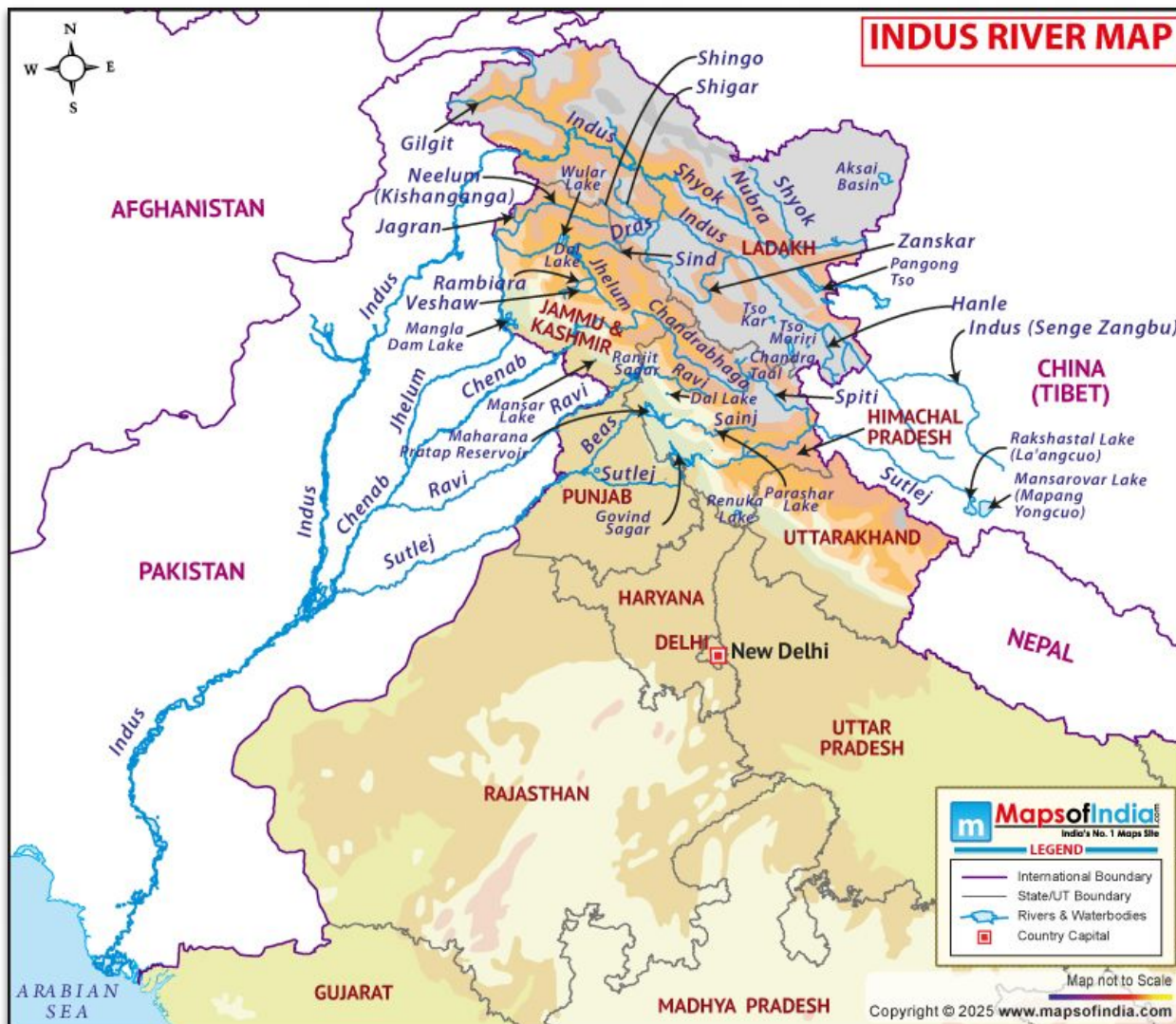
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UPSC PYQ (P) 2021

With reference to the Indus river system, of the following four rivers, three of them pour into one of them which joins the Indus directly. Among the following, which one is such a river that joins the Indus direct?

- (a) Chenab
- (b) Jhelum
- (c) Ravi
- (d) Sutlej



12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Social Development
GS I: Salient features of Indian Society
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No :** Science







Defining Mental Health: It's a State of Well-being

The World Health Organization (WHO) provides a holistic and powerful definition:

"A state of well-being in which every individual realizes their own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively, and is able to contribute to their community."

The Indian Context: Alarming Statistics

Adult Population Affected	15% (≈ 150-200 million)
Urban vs. Rural Prevalence	Urban: 13.5% Rural: 6.9%
Lifetime Prevalence	13.7%
Treatment Gap	70-92% (NMHS)
Psychiatrist Availability	0.75 per 1 lakh pop. (WHO: 3)

Common Conditions	Severe Conditions
Anxiety Disorders 	Bipolar Disorder 
Depression 	Schizophrenia 
Stress-Related 	Personality Disorders 

Key Drivers of India's Mental Health Crisis

 Urban Stress	Rapid urbanization, overcrowding, pollution, and loneliness
 Financial Pressure	Job insecurity, unemployment, agrarian distress, and rising cost of living
 Professional Competition	Intense pressure from exams, workplace competition, performance anxiety,
 Digital Overload	Excessive social media use, cyberbullying, misinformation
 Stigma & Awareness Gap	Equate mental illness with "madness" or weakness

form for mental health services based in Kolkata says that a **lack of resources and experts** who can volunteer for this work, offering free help, is the problem. "There is a window of crisis when people make the call. At that point, if the helpline does not work, it can feel like the whole society is failing you," he says.

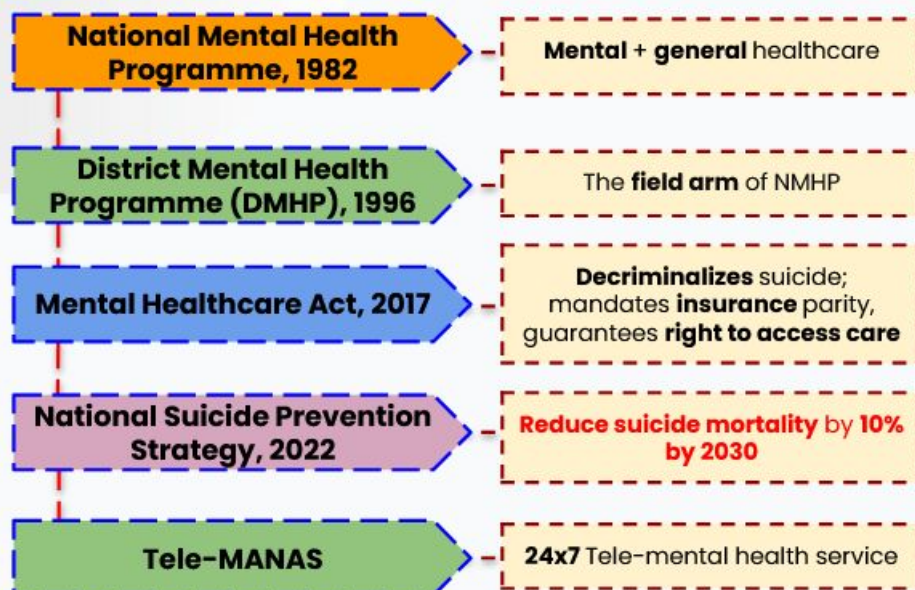
Gaps in the system
One critical gap is a **shortage of trained mental health professionals**. Estimates indicate that India has **0.75 psychiatrists per 1,00,000 population**, **dismally lower** than the World Health Organization's recommended 3. There is al-



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✓ Government Initiatives & International Frameworks



✓ Government Initiatives & International Frameworks

Efforts in States

Broader, community efforts have been trialled in some States, often linking existing or new services to the Tele-MANAS helpline, to stem suicide numbers.

State	Initiative Name & Details
Karnataka	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. N-SPRITE (NIMHANS): A national centre for suicide prevention. 2. SURAKSHA Project: A community-based model in Ramanagara dist. (Public-Private Partnership). 3. USHAS Project: Identified & counseled 15,623+ individuals with repeated self-harm history across 19 govt. hospitals.
Kerala	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jeevanraksha: Community "Gatekeeper" model. Trained volunteers (teachers, ASHAs, cops) provide psychological first aid and referrals. 2. Other Programs: Specific programs for tackling post-partum depression.
Tamil Nadu	Tele-MANAS Integration: Linked with helplines of School Education & Social Welfare Depts. Proactive outreach to students who failed Board/NEET exams with month-long follow-up.



World Suicide Prevention Day

12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Social Development

GS 1: Salient features of Indian Society

Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No :** Science



The Road Ahead: A Multi-Pronged National Strategy

Policy & Governance

- Increase **Funding**
- Strengthen the **District Mental Health Programme**
- Enforce **Mental Healthcare Act, 2017**

Community & Society

- Build "**Ecosystems of Empathy**"
- Expand **Gatekeeper Models**
- Strengthen **Community Mental Health Centers**

Individual & Immediate Care

- Improve **Helplines**
- Integrate with **Physical Infrastructure**
- **School & College** Programs



12th September 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Current events of National & International importance

GS 2: Welfare Schemes

Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 1, 3



What is PM CARES?

Feature	PM CARES	PMNRF
Year Started	2020	1948
Legal Status	Public Charitable Trust	Trust under PM's discretion
Trustees	PM + 3 Min + 3 Nom	PM + officials
RTI Coverage	✗ No	✓ Yes
Foreign Donations	✓ Allowed	✗ Not Allowed
Audit	✗ No CAG audit	✓ CAG audit

 **Voluntary Donations**

 **No Budgetary Support**

 **Foreign Donations**

 **Tax Benefits**  **CSR Eligible**

The Prime Minister, who could not conduct an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas due to bad weather, announced **comprehensive support for children who lost their parents in the floods or rain-**

related incidents under the PM CARES Fund.

Mr. Modi met the families affected by the recent floods and expressed condolences to the kin of those who lost their lives.

Emphasising the need



Government stands with children **who lost their parents due to COVID-19**



Such children to **get a monthly stipend** once they **turn 18** and a fund of 10 lakh when they **turn 23 from PM CARES**



Free education to be ensured for children who lost their parents to COVID-19



Children will be assisted to **get an education loan for higher education & PM CARES will pay interest on the loan**



Children will **get free health insurance of 5 lakh under Ayushman Bharat till 18 years** & premium will be paid by PM CARES



Children represent the future of the country and we will do everything to support and protect the children: **PM Narendra Modi**



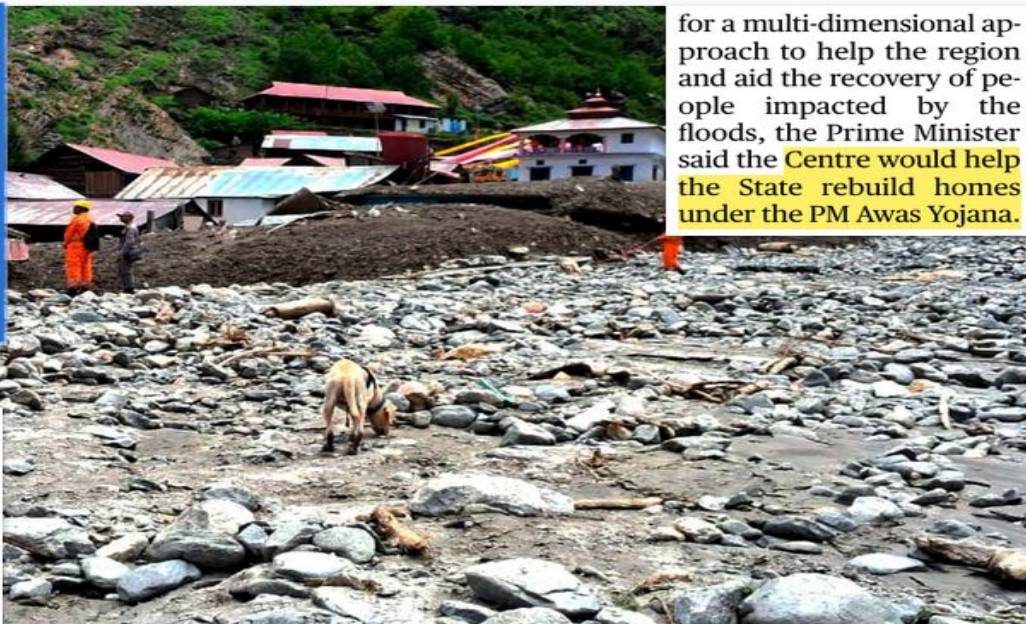
It is our duty, as a society, to care for our children and instil hope for a bright future: **PM Narendra Modi**



Breaking Down the Announcement

P rime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday announced financial assistance of **₹1,200 crore for flood-affected Uttarakhand** during his visit to the State. He also announced **ex gratia of ₹2 lakh for the families of the deceased and ₹50,000 for those injured in rain-related incidents.**

The Centre will also provide assistance in restoring national highways, reconstructing schools, distributing mini kits for livestock, and providing relief through the **PM National Relief Fund.**



for a multi-dimensional approach to help the region and aid the recovery of people impacted by the floods, the Prime Minister said the Centre would help the State rebuild homes under the PM Awas Yojana.



12th September 2025

Q1. Arrange the following from North to South:

1. Indira Point
2. Car Nicobar
3. Port Blair
4. 10° Channel

Which of the following is the correct order?

- a) 3 → 2 → 1 → 4
- b) 2 → 3 → 4 → 1
- c) 4 → 3 → 2 → 1
- d) 3 → 4 → 2 → 1

Answer: d

Q2. How many of the following countries are members of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)?

1. Australia
2. France
3. Mauritius
4. Tanzania
5. Nigeria

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a) Only Two
- b) Only Three
- c) Only Four
- d) All Five

Answer: c

Q3. Regarding the Indus Water Treaty, consider the following statements:

1. The Eastern Rivers—Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi—are allocated for India's unrestricted use.
2. The Western Rivers—Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab—are allocated for Pakistan's unrestricted use.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

Q4. Regarding Mental Healthcare in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, criminalises suicide in India.
2. The National Suicide Prevention Strategy (2022) aims to reduce suicide mortality by 10% by 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the PM CARES Fund:

1. It falls under the purview of the Right to Information Act.
2. Foreign donations are allowed under the fund.
3. It is audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: a





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