



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

11th February 2026



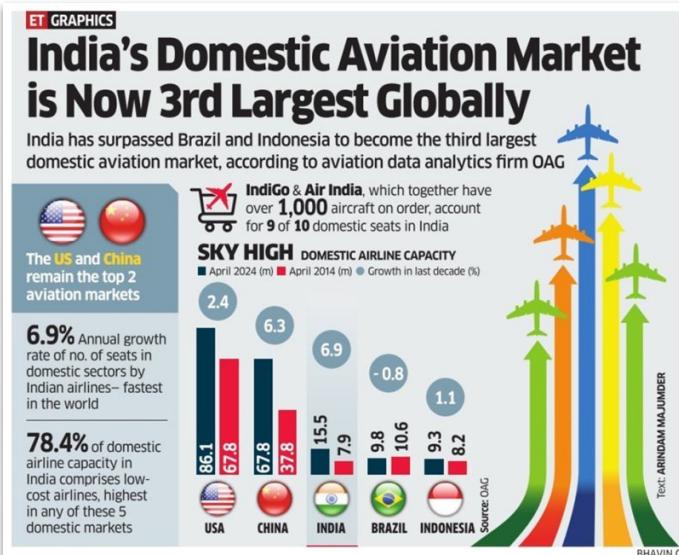
Reckoning for India's aviation sector



CONTEXT: The Indian aviation sector, often celebrated as a "sunrise sector," is currently facing a "perfect storm" of structural failures, safety risks, and market concentration.

Current Status & Key Statistics:

Indicator	Data	Global Rank/Comparison
Total Passengers	376.43 million	3rd largest domestic market
Market Size (2026)	\$16.53 billion	Projected to reach \$26.08B by 2030 (12.03% CAGR)
Operational Airports	159-160 (74 in 2014)	Targeting 220+ by 2030
Women Pilots	15% (vs. 5% global average)	3x higher than world
Freight Handled	3,365.65 MMT	Growing at 8-10% YoY
Green Airports	80+ (100% renewable energy)	



AVIATION: Roles & Opportunities:

Three Pillars Driving India's Aviation:

1. **Aspirational population** = growing demand.
2. **Young innovators** = strength in AI, robotics, clean energy.
3. **Pro-industry policy ecosystem.**

Legal & Institutional Measures

✓ **New Indian Aircraft Act:** Aligns India's laws with **global best practices**.

驵 **Cape Town Convention** adopted: boosts aircraft leasing.

驵 **GIFT City:** Attractive aircraft leasing hub

驵 **Mission Manufacturing** announced in Budget 2025, 26 to promote industrial aviation growth.

Infrastructure Growth & Investment Boom

驵 2014: 74 airports → Now: **162 airports**.

驵 **2,000+ new aircraft** ordered by Indian carriers.

驵 **MRO sector:** 96 units (2014) → **154 now**. Target: \$4 billion MRO hub by 2030.

Tech-Led Reforms & Digital Leadership

驵 **Digi Yatra:** Seamless paperless travel via facial verification (No documents required!).

驵 Focus on **safety, efficiency, and green mobility**.

驵 Shift toward **sustainable aviation fuel** & carbon reduction.

Make in India + Design in India

驵 From **market to value-chain leader**:

驵 **Design → Manufacture → Maintain**.

驵 Global aviation companies invited to **invest, manufacture, innovate** in India.



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India's Civil Aviation Achievements

- 🏅 **3rd largest** domestic aviation market globally.
- 👤 Over **240 million** domestic passengers/year → Projected to reach **500 million by 2030**.
- ✈️ **15 million+ passengers** flown under **UDAN**: regional connectivity revolution.
- 📦 **Air cargo**: from **3.5 million to 10 million metric tons** expected by 2030.

Drones & Inclusion

- 🚁 Drones = critical to agriculture, e-commerce, healthcare delivery.
- 👩 Used by women SHGs → Promoting **financial & digital inclusion**.

Safety, Standards & Sustainability

- ✓ Aligned with **ICAO global safety norms**.
- 📝 **Delhi Declaration** adopted at Asia-Pacific conference for aviation safety.
- 🌿 Commitment to **sustainable fuel, green energy, and reducing carbon footprint**.

The "Duopoly" Trap 🐾 🐾

- **Systemic Risk**
- **No Alternatives: On 60.4% of routes**

The Hindu

IndiGo flight disruptions: Delhi High Court asks IndiGo to file affidavit on refund, compensation

The Delhi High Court on Thursday (January 22, 2026) asked IndiGo to file an affidavit on payment of refund for cancelled tickets and...

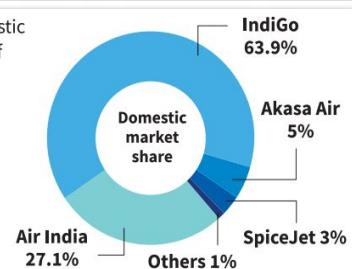
3 weeks ago

- **IndiGo has ~14 pilots per aircraft.**
 - **Global:** Safe operations need **18-20 pilots** per aircraft
- **Capped Flight Time:** Max 60 hours in 7 days (**Note:** Global: 40 hours).



Chart 3: Domestic market share of Indian airlines (2024-25)

Source: Indian Oil; Press Information Bureau; Statista



Complete chaos: Passengers distressed over flight cancellations at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Shamshabad, Hyderabad on December 5, 2025. NAGARA GOPAL

Why can't we hire more?

- **5,700 CPL in 4 years**
- **30,000 needed in 10 years**
- **Barriers**

2025: A Year of "Grim" Turbulence

New Players: Hope or False Dawn?

In Dec 2025, Ministry gave **NOCs** to 3 new regional airlines to break the duopoly.

Airline	Base Area	FOCUS
Shankh Air	Noida Int'l Airport	UP regions.
AI Hind Air	Kochi (Kerala)	Connectivity in South.
FlyExpress	Telangana	Passenger & Cargo.

CHALLENGES WITH THIS

Paramount (2010), **Kingfisher** (2012), **Jet Airways** (2019), **TruJet** (2022), **Go First** (2023), **Vistara** (2024)

- **High ATF Prices, Tier-2/3 cities, cost competition**



Reckoning for India's aviation sector

CONTEXT: The Indian aviation sector, often celebrated as a "sunrise sector," is currently facing a "perfect storm" of structural failures, safety risks, and market concentration.

Chart 5: ATF prices across major cities

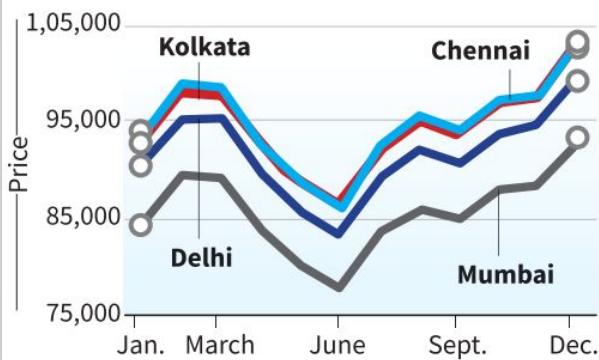
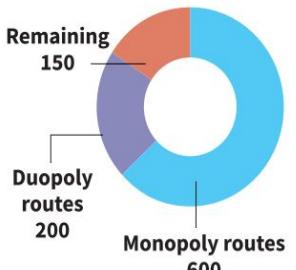
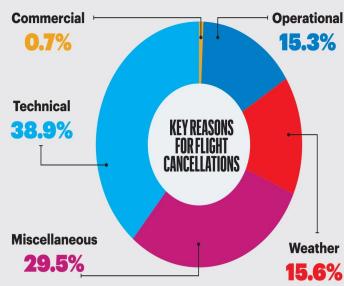


Chart 4: IndiGo's monopoly and duopoly control over 950 routes in India



TECH TROUBLE

Technical snags were a key concern for domestic airlines in March 2024



NOTE: DATA FOR MARCH 2024 SOURCE: DGCA



IN Conclusion: STEPS NEEDED

Way Forward

- Infrastructure Expansion:** 220+ airports by 2030.
- ATF Under GST:** Reduce fuel costs (currently 40-50% taxed)
- More MRO Hubs:** Target \$4B industry by 2030.
- Sustainable Aviation:** Scale up SAF, hydrogen planes.
- Skill Development:** Train 1M+ pilots, engineers, crew.

भारत सरकार
MINISTRY OF
CIVIL AVIATION

Taking Indian Aviation to New Heights



Foundation Stone Laid for New Terminal Buildings



Inauguration of New Airports



Strengthening Regional Connectivity

Enhancing Passenger Experience

Fueling Economic Growth

PM Modi's Push Powers Aviation Takeoff

India becomes the world's 3rd largest aviation market

Surpasses pre-COVID passenger traffic



Stronger airlines
Bigger networks
Better airports

India
Rising!



Source: Media Reports



CONTEXT: The Indian aviation sector, often celebrated as a "sunrise sector," is currently facing a "perfect storm" of structural failures, safety risks, and market concentration.

UPSC PYQ (M)

Examine the development of Airports in India through joint ventures under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. What are the challenges faced by the authorities in this regard? (2017)

Mains Practise Question

The Indian aviation sector is characterized by a paradox of high growth and high fragility. Analyze the structural reasons behind this, with special reference to the recent duopoly and pilot shortages.
(15 Marks, 250 words)

UPSC PYQ (P) 2025

GPS-Aided Geo Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) uses a system of ground stations to provide necessary augmentation. Which of the following statements is/are correct in respect of GAGAN?

1. It is designed to provide additional accuracy and integrity.
2. It will allow more uniform and high quality air traffic management.
3. It will provide benefits only in aviation but not in other modes of transportation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) I, II and III
- (b) II and III only
- (c) I only
- (d) I and II only



New Order: Economics = Foreign Policy



CONTEXT: Trade, technology, supply chains, capital flows, and industrial policy are now core tools of geopolitics — not just economics.

The "Innocuous Paragraph":

Ministry of Commerce & Industry

75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

UNITED STATES-INDIA JOINT STATEMENT

Posted On: 07 FEB 2026 4:29AM by PIB Delhi

- The United States and India agree to strengthen economic security alignment to enhance supply chain resilience and innovation through complementary actions to address non-market policies of third parties, as well as cooperation on inbound and outbound investment reviews and export controls.

Why it matters: It signals the return of **Economic Statecraft** to the center of Grand Strategy.

The New Grammar

Geopolitics is now defined by:

- Trade Flows
- Technology Control
- Capital Investments
- Supply Chains

INDIA-US TRADE DEAL



RECIPROCAL TARIFFS
SLASHED TO

18%

👉 This is Geo-economics or Economic Statecraft

Tariffs	Strategic pressure
Export controls	Tech denial
Supply chains	Power leverage
Investment screening	Security filter
Critical minerals	Strategic assets
Semiconductors	National security

Feature	Old Consensus (1990s–2000s)	New World Order (2010s–2020s)
Philosophy	Globalisation & Efficiency	Economic Security & Resilience
Economics & Security	Treated as Separate Realms . "Trade with everyone, fight with enemies"	Fused Together . "Don't trade with enemies; they weaponize dependence"
Supply Chains	"Just-in-Time" Cheapest source (China)	"Just-in-Case" Trusted source (Friend-shoring)
US Stance	Open Markets.	"America First" / Protectionism.



New Order: Economics = Foreign Policy



CONTEXT: Trade, technology, supply chains, capital flows, and industrial policy are now core tools of geopolitics — not just economics.



4 Major Triggers of This Shift

1 Rise of China

- Manufacturing dominance
- Tech power
- Supply chain control
- Critical mineral monopoly

3 COVID Supply Chain Shock

- Pandemic exposed:
- Pharma dependency
- Semiconductor shortages
- Logistics fragility
- Medical supply vulnerability

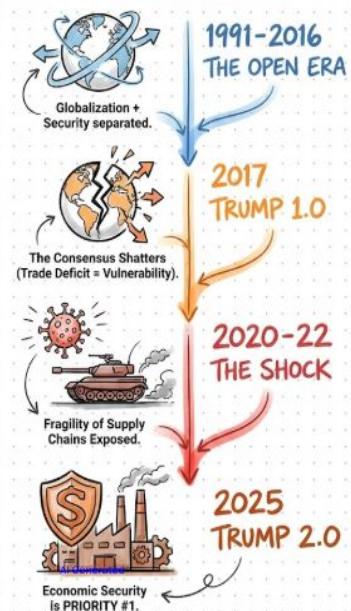
2 US-China Rivalry

- Trade wars
- Chip wars
- Tech bans
- Tariffs
- Export controls

4 Russia-Ukraine War

- Weaponisation of:
- Energy
- SWIFT payments
- Sanctions
- Financial systems

FROM GLOBALIZATION TO SECURITY



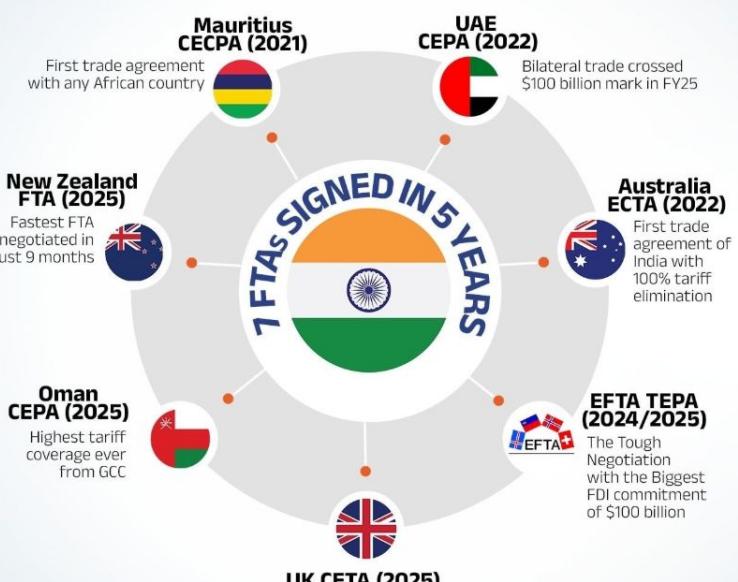
India's Policy Pivot

RCEP (2019)

- **The Turning Point**
- **Realization:**
 - **Competitor to China**
 - **Complementary to West**
- **West needs:** Labor, Services, Market.
- **India needs:** Capital, Technology.

India is now aggressively signing FTAs + US Initiatives

INDIA'S NEW FTA MOMENTUM



*Free Trade Agreement

CONTEXT: Trade, technology, supply chains, capital flows, and industrial policy are now core tools of geopolitics — not just economics.

"Anti-China" Clubs

- **Pax Silica**
- **Critical Minerals Partnership**
- **Supply Chain Resilience Initiative**
- **The Quad**

"addressing non-market policies of third parties"

Overview

What is Pax Silica?

Pax Silica is a US-led strategic initiative to build a secure, prosperous, and innovation-driven silicon supply chain.

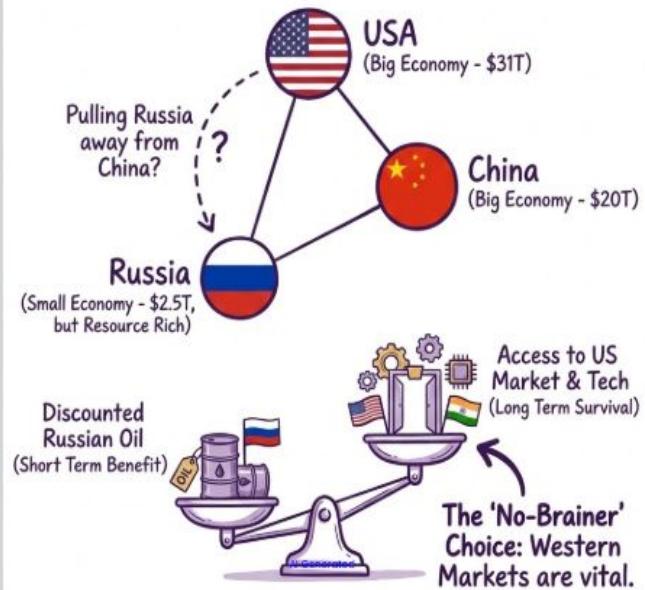
Participating countries

Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, the Netherlands, the UK, Israel, the UAE, and Australia.

Aim: The initiative responds to the growing demand to deepen economic and technological cooperation with the US.



THE RUSSIA FACTOR & INDIA



Risks & Challenges for India:

1 US policy volatility

- Policy swings across administrations

2 US–China–Russia triangular dynamics

- Constantly shifting

3 Pressure on India's balancing strategy

4 Overdependence risk in any one bloc

India's global position will depend on:

Domestic Factors — more than diplomacy alone

- **Economic reform** depth
- **Manufacturing** capacity
- **Tech** modernisation
- **Innovation** ecosystem
- **Industrial policy**
- **Supply chain** integration

Mains Practise Question

In the age of geoeconomics, economic policy has become an inseparable arm of foreign policy. Discuss this statement in the context of India's evolving relations with the West.

(15 Marks, 250 words)



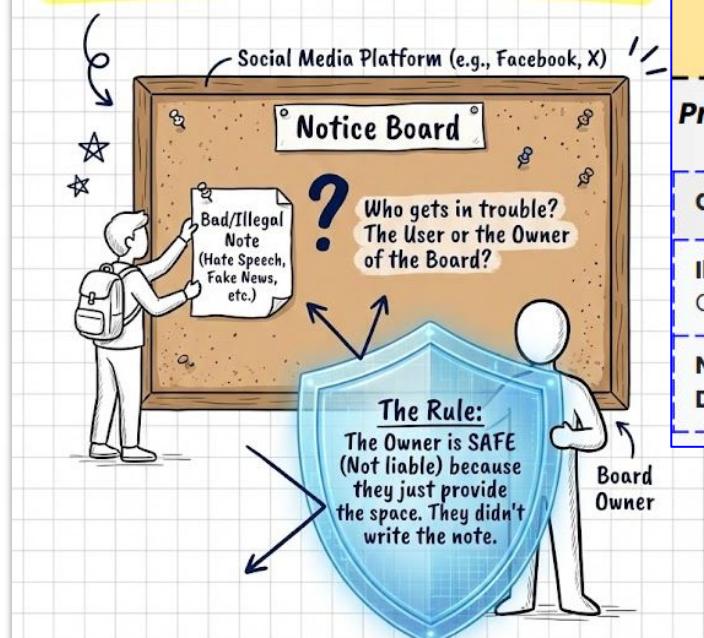
IT Rules on AI Content

SYLLABUS: PRELIMS: **New IT Rules, 2026**

Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number:**

"Safe Harbour"  **Section 79** of **IT Act, 2000**

WHAT IS 'SAFE HARBOUR'?



The Two Major Amendments

Amendment 1: The "Rapid Fire" Takedown Timelines

Previously: 24-36 hours to remove content

Content Type	Old	New Deadline
Illegal Content (Ordered by Court/Govt)	36 Hours	3 Hours 
Non-Consensual Nudity & Deepfakes	24 Hours	2 Hours 

Amendment 2: Mandatory "Prominent" Labelling

Visible label/watermark saying "AI Generated".

User Responsibility

Platform Responsibility:
Label it proactively
Take it down



Removal of Speaker

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Removal of Lok Sabha Speaker **GS 2 : Parliament & State Legislatures** **Newspaper:** The Hindu **Page Number:** 11

Office of Lok Sabha Speaker

Opposition submits notice to move a resolution for removal of Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla



Roles and Responsibilities

Constitutional post established u/ **Article 93** of **Indian Constitution**

- Presiding Officer
- Final Interpreter
- Money Bills
- Casting Vote
- Tenth Schedule
- Joint Sittings

Election and Tenure

• Method of Election	Simple majority
• Term of Office	Lok Sabha
• Resignation	Deputy Speaker



Can the Lok Sabha Speaker Be Removed?

Constitutional Provision

Article 94

A **Speaker** or **Deputy Speaker** can be removed:

By a **resolution of the Lok Sabha** passed by a **majority of all the then members** of the House

Constitutional basis for removal of Speaker

- 94(a) Speaker/Deputy Speaker **ceases to be a Lok Sabha member**
- 94(b) Speaker/Deputy Speaker **resigns voluntarily** (written resignation)
- 94(c) Speaker/Deputy Speaker **removed by a resolution of Lok Sabha**

LS Rules of Procedure: Rules 200–203 + Rule 200A

 This **does NOT apply to RS Chairman**



Removal of Speaker

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UPSC PYQ (P) 2022

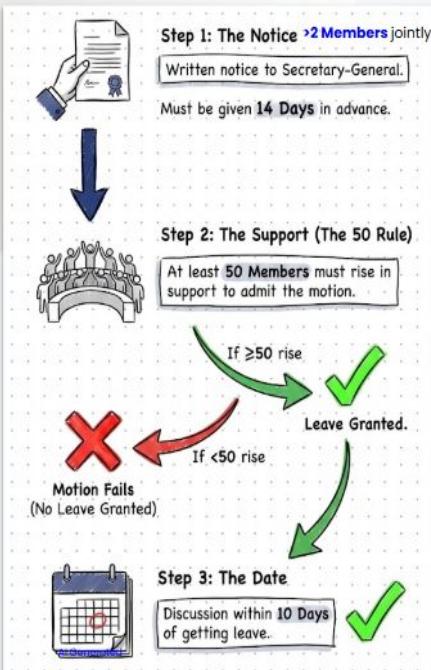
With reference to Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. As per the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the election of Deputy Speaker shall be held on such date as the Speaker may fix.
2. There is a mandatory provision that the election of a candidate as Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha shall be from either the principal opposition party or the ruling party.
3. The Deputy Speaker has the same power as of the Speaker when presiding over the sitting of the House and no appeal lies against his rulings.
4. The well-established parliamentary practice regarding the appointment of Deputy Speaker is that the motion is moved by the Speaker and duly seconded by the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
 (b) 1, 2 and 3
 (c) 3 and 4 only
 (d) 2 and 4 only

Step-by-step procedure to remove the Speaker



Guidelines for the content of the motion (Rule 200A)

Be:

- Specific in charges
- Clearly and precisely worded

Must NOT contain:

- Arguments
- Inferences
- Ironical expressions
- Defamatory statements
- Imputations

Feature	Speaker Removal Motion	Govt No-Confidence Motion
Against	Speaker	Council of Ministers
Article	94	75
Majority	Total membership	Present & voting
Rules	LS Rules 200-203	Rule 198
Frequency	Rare	More common

Removal of Speaker

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Removal of Lok Sabha Speaker **GS 2 : Parliament & State Legislatures** **Newspaper:** The Hindu **Page Number:** 11

Step-by-step procedure to remove the Speaker

Voting Requirement

To remove Speaker:

Required Majority

Majority of **all the then members** of Lok Sabha

Who Presides During Removal Debate?

Deputy Speaker

OR

Another designated presiding member

Can the Speaker Participate in Debate on Their Removal?

Vote in first instance

Past Historical Instances

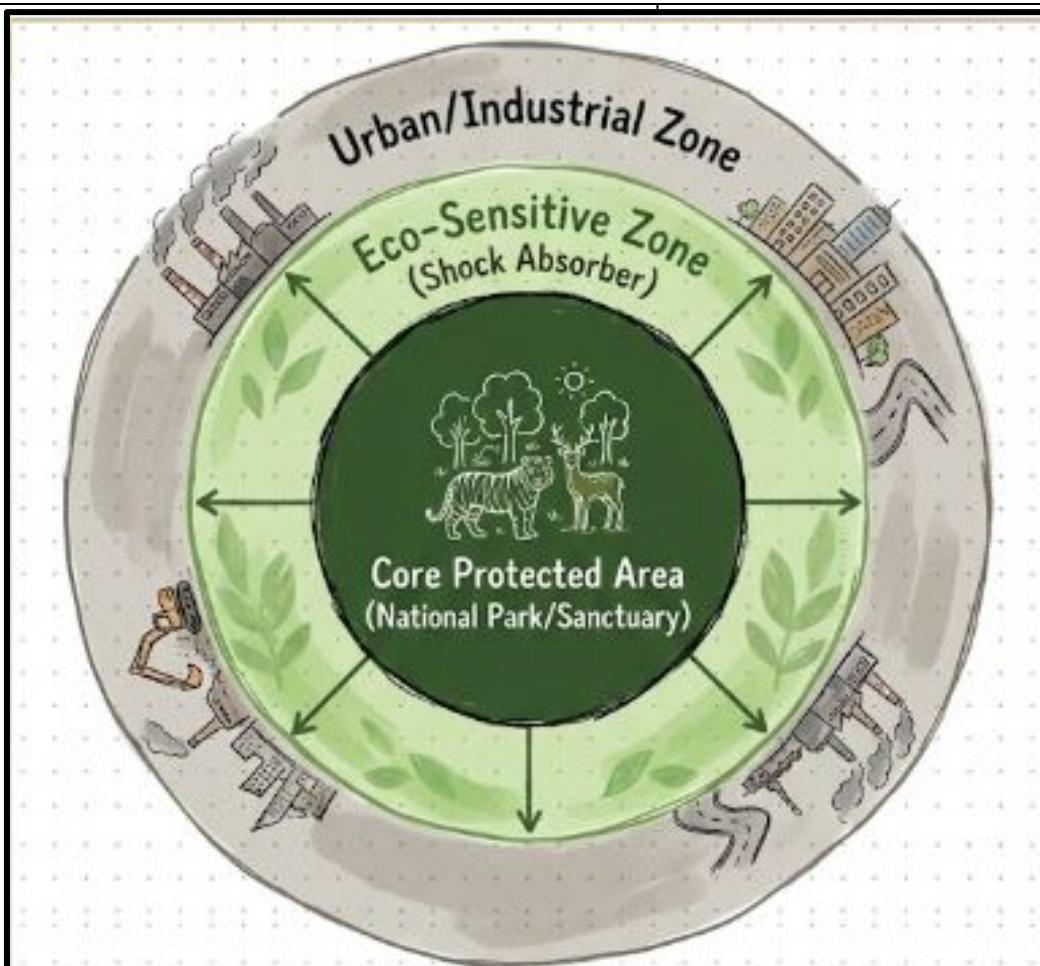
1954	G. V. Mavalankar	Motion failed
1966	Hukam Singh	Motion failed
1987	Balram Jakhar	Motion failed



MoEFCC on Eco-Sensitive Zones



SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Eco-Sensitive Zone GS 3 : EIA
Newspaper: The Indian Express Page Number: 14



The Rules (Visual List)

Prohibited



Polluting Industries,
Mining, Large Dams.

Regulated



Tourism Resorts,
Tree Felling,
Infrastructure.

Promoted



Organic Farming,
Rainwater Harvesting,
Renewable Energy.

The 'Default' Rule



If State hasn't defined it
→ Default is 10 KM
(Supreme Court Rule).



MoEFCC on Eco-Sensitive Zones



SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Eco-Sensitive Zone GS 3 : EIA
Newspaper: The Indian Express Page Number: 14

What is an Eco-Sensitive Zone



National Board for Wildlife

- Type:** Statutory Body.
- Parent Act:** Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- Chairman:** Prime Minister
- Standing Committee (SC-NBWL):** Environment Minister
- Role:** Any non-forest activity inside or near a Protected Area needs NBWL clearance.

Environment (P) Act, 1986

Hindustan Times

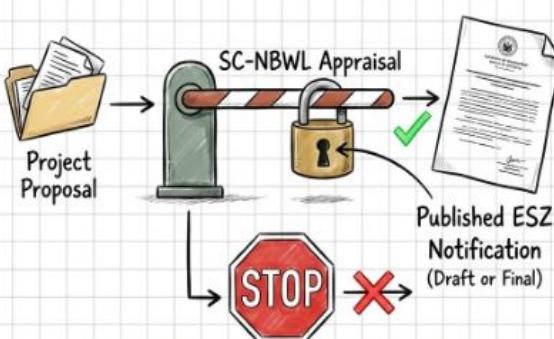
Eco-sensitive zones of 0 km notified by 60 national parks:
[Study | India News](#)

Several states did not notify large ESZs in view of ongoing or upcoming infrastructure projects along the wildlife sanctuaries.

2 May 2023

🚫 New Principle: "No Notification, No Project"

THE NEW ESZ DIRECTIVE (2025)



Exception: Only in extraordinary circumstances with justification.

Projects Will Be Categorised Into:

- Projects in **notified ESZs**
- Projects in **draft ESZ areas**
- Projects where **ESZ not notified**

New Guidelines

- Site-Specific ESZs (Not one-size-fits-all).
- Safeguards for Ecology & Hydrology.
- Regulate Large Solar/Wind projects.



PLFS Report

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Periodic Labour Force Survey **GS 3 : Employment**
Newspaper: The Indian Express Page Number: 17

What is PLFS?

PLFS REVAMP: THE 2025 SHIFT

Pre-2025 The Old Way



Quarterly Bulletins = URBAN Only.

Limited Scope.
Only major cities and towns covered.

Post-Jan 2025 The New Way



New Feature!
Now provides Monthly Estimates (Rural + Urban) for high-frequency tracking.

Quarterly Bulletins = URBAN + RURAL.

Full Coverage.
Comprehensive view of the entire country's workforce.

DATA FREQUENCY: HOW OFTEN?

Frequency	Scope	Metric
✓ MONTHLY ☒	Rural + Urban	Key Indicators (LFPR, WPR, UR) Trends
✓ QUARTERLY ☒	Rural + Urban (Previously Urban only)	Comprehensive Indicators
✓ ANNUAL ☒	Rural + Urban	Usual Status (Long term) + CWS (Short term)



New Schedule Starts Here!

AI Generated

Current Weekly Status

It checks a person's activity in the **last 7 days** preceding survey.

- **LFPR**

$\frac{\text{Employed} + \text{Unemployed (Seeking Work)}}{\text{Total Population}} \times 100$

- **Worker Population Ratio**

$\frac{\text{Employed Persons}}{\text{Total Population}} \times 100$

- **Unemployment Rate**

$\frac{\text{Unemployed Persons}}{\text{Labour Force}} \times 100$

Oct-Dec 2025: Good News: Numbers Improve

Indicator	Jul-Sep 2025 (Previous)	Oct-Dec 2025 (Current)	IMPLICATION
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	4.8% 	Fewer people are jobless. Rural UR dropped to 4%, Urban to 6.7%.
LFPR	55.1%	55.8% 	More people seek work.
WPR	52.2%	53.1% 	More people actually found work compared to last quarter.

LFPR (%) in CWS during quarter April - June, 2025 to Oct-Dec, 2025 for persons of age 15 years and above



LFPR (%) in CWS during quarter April - June, 2025 to Oct-Dec, 2025 for female of age 15 years and above



SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Periodic Labour Force Survey **GS 3 : Employment**
Newspaper: The Indian Express **Page Number:** 17

Bad News: Quality of Jobs is Falling

Salaried Jobs

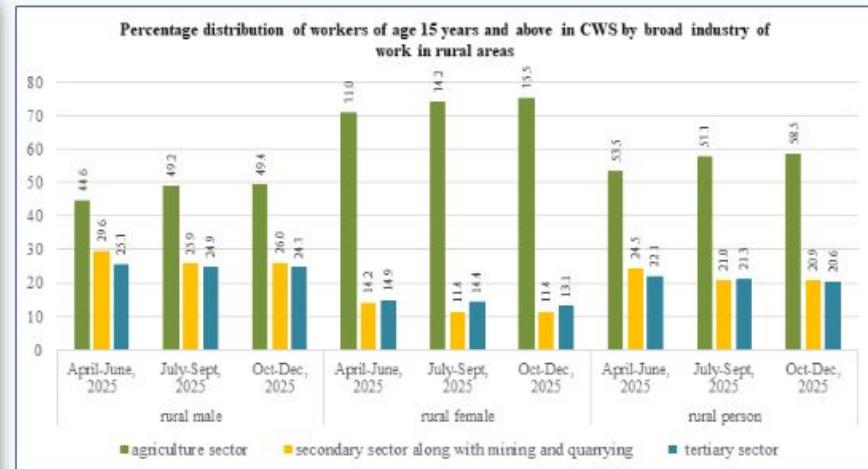
- Declined to **24.9%**
- Impact: across Urban Males, Rural Females, etc.

Agriculture Jobs

- Rose to **43.2%**
- Signals "**Disguised Unemployment**"

Self-Employed

- Rose to **56.3%**



Structural Issues

"K-Shaped" Recovery in Jobs

Rural non-farm sectors

Women = unpaid helpers

UPSC PYQ (P) 2018

Increase in absolute and per capita real GNP do not connote a higher level of economic development, if

- industrial output fails to keep pace with agricultural output.
- agricultural output fails to keep pace with industrial output.
- poverty and unemployment increase.
- imports grow faster than exports.

UPSC PYQ (P) 2013

Disguised unemployment generally means

- large number of people remain unemployed
- alternative employment is not available
- marginal productivity of labour is zero
- productivity of workers is low



Global warming and the colours of nature



SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Anthropocene

GS 1 : Geography – ecosystems

GS 3 :

Ecological Discoloration

Newspaper: The Hindu

Page Number: SCIENCE

Why Do Living Things Have Colour?



Melanin

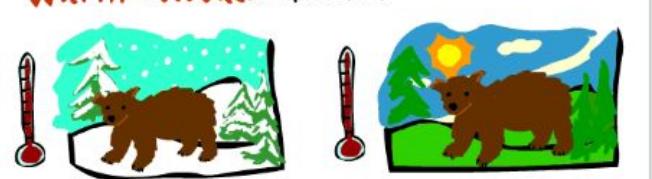
The pigment responsible for color in animals

- **Eumelanin**
 - Dark Brown/Black
- **Pheomelanin**
 - Yellow/Red hues

Function	How Colour Helps
● Camouflage	Hide from predators/prey
● Mating	Attract partners
● Thermo regulation	Absorb/ reflect heat
● UV Protection	Shield from radiation
● Attraction	Plants attract pollinators
● Warning signals	Bright colours warn predators

Why Do Living Things Have Colour?

Scientific Rules (Crucial for Prelims)

Rule Name	The Concept	Application	
Bogert's Rule	<p>Cold Areas = Dark Animals (to absorb heat).</p> <p>Warm Areas = Light Animals (to reflect heat).</p>	Applies mainly to Cold-Blooded animals (Reptiles, Insects).	
Gloger's Rule	<p>Humid/Warm Areas = Darker (Melanin resists bacteria/fungi).</p> <p>Cold/Dry Areas = Lighter.</p>		<p>Warm-blooded ANIMALS</p>  <p>Body temperature stays the same when it's cold or hot outside.</p>



Global warming and the colours of nature

SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Anthropocene

GS 1 : Geography – ecosystems

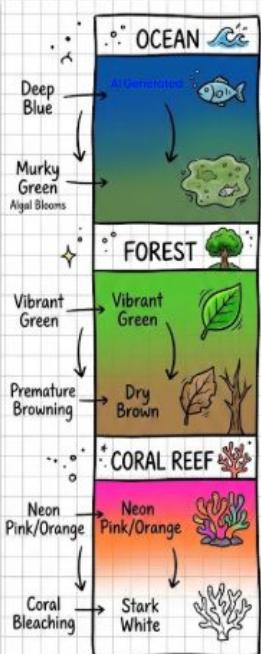
GS 3 :

Ecological Discoloration

Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number:** SCIENCE



What Is “Ecological Discolouration”?



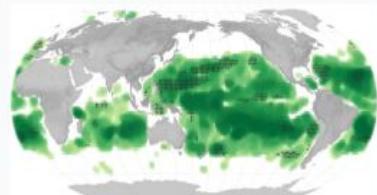
1. Oceans Turning Greener

More than half of the world's oceans have become greener in the last 20 years

- Warmer surface waters
- Nutrient runoff (fertilisers, sewage)
- Increase in phytoplankton & algae
- Changing rainfall & currents

Effects

- Blocks sunlight penetration
- Reduces underwater photosynthesis
- Creates low-oxygen zones
- Disrupts marine food chains



What Is “Ecological Discolouration”?

2. Forests Browning Prematurely

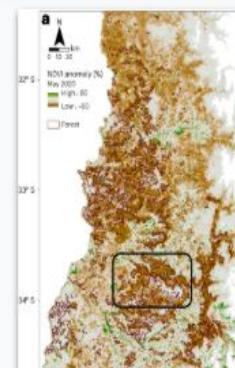
Causes

- Heat stress
- Drought
- Fires
- Deforestation
- Soil degradation

Leaves lose:

- Chlorophyll
- Water content
- Photosynthetic activity

Leads to **early senescence** (aging)



CHLOROPHYLL (GREEN PIGMENT) IN ABUNDANCE

CHLOROPHYLL PRODUCTION ENDS, CAROTENES (YELLOW PIGMENT) ARE REVEALED

ANTHOCYANINS (RED PIGMENT) ARE CREATED AS CHLOROPHYLL AND CAROTENE DECAY

ANTHOCYANINS AND CAROTENE BOTH PRESENT

TANNINS (BROWN PIGMENT) ARE REVEALED AS CAROTENE DECAY



Global warming and the colours of nature



SYLLABUS : PRELIMS : Anthropocene

Ecological Discoloration

Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number:** SCIENCE

GS 1 : Geography – ecosystems

GS 3 :

What Is “Ecological Discolouration”?

URBAN vs. RURAL: The Color Divide

RURAL Leaf Green

URBAN Smoky Grey

Rural = Colorful & Bright. Urban = Darker & Duller.

Factory Smoke/Soot

Heavy Metals (Lead)

Binds with Melanin

Darker Feathers

CASE STUDY: THE OWL

Milder Winters = Brown Owls survive better than Grey ones

(Genetic Shift)

3. 🌌 Pollution & Urbanization

Industrial Melanism in the Peppered Moth

Generation 0 10% dark phenotype

After a few times 80% dark phenotype

Coral Bleaching

How a coral becomes bleached

- 1** **HEALTHY**
Coral requires algae to survive – it's both coral's primary food source and what makes it colorful.
- 2** **STRESSED**
Rising ocean temperatures and overexposure to sunlight stress coral and cause algae to abandon it.
- 3** **BLEACHED**
With the algae gone, the coral turns white and is more susceptible to disease and death.

Source: NOAA
Credit: Sarah Frostenson

Coral Reefs in India

INDIA

Gulf of Kutch

Mumbai

Goa

Arabian Sea

Lakshadweep Islands

Palk Bay

Sri Lanka

Nicobar Islands

Bay of Bengal

The Extent of Global Coral Bleaching Events

Event	Year	Share (%)
1st event	1998	20%
2nd event	2010	35%
3rd event	2014-2017	56%
4th event	2020+ present	54%

* As of April 2024
Source: State of the Oceans 2024

statista

Consequences

- ✗ Reef collapse
- ✗ Fish decline
- ✗ Biodiversity loss
- ✗ Coastal protection reduced

Vox

11th February 2026

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the concept of “Safe Harbour” under the Information Technology Act, 2000:

1. It protects social media intermediaries from legal liability for third-party content hosted on their platforms, subject to certain conditions.
2. It applies only to government-owned digital platforms and not to private social media companies.
3. The protection is lost if the intermediary fails to remove unlawful content after receiving actual knowledge or a lawful notice.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: b

Q2. With reference to the constitutional provisions regarding the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha can be removed by a resolution passed by a simple majority of members present and voting.
2. The Speaker ceases to hold office if he or she resigns or ceases to be a member of the Lok Sabha.
3. The provisions related to the removal of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha are contained in Article 94 of the Constitution.

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

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

Answer: b

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL):

1. It is a statutory body constituted under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The Prime Minister of India serves as the Chairperson.
3. Any non-forest activity inside or near a Protected Area requires clearance from the NBWL.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: d

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS):

1. The PLFS provides estimates of key labour market indicators, including the Labour Force Participation Rate, Worker Population Ratio, and Unemployment Rate.
2. Under the revised system starting in 2025, quarterly bulletins cover both rural and urban areas.
3. The Current Weekly Status (CWS) measures a person's activity status based on the last 30 days preceding the survey.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: a

Q5. Consider the following statements :

1. Melanin is a pigment responsible for animal colouration.
2. Eumelanin produces yellow and red hues.

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: a





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