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Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

05th February 2026



05th February 2026

CONTEXT: Recent Heart wrenching incident of Ghaziabad, brings spotlight on the issue of Digital Addiction and it's management.

Reflections in Past PYQ's - UPSC Mains GS 1 – 2023

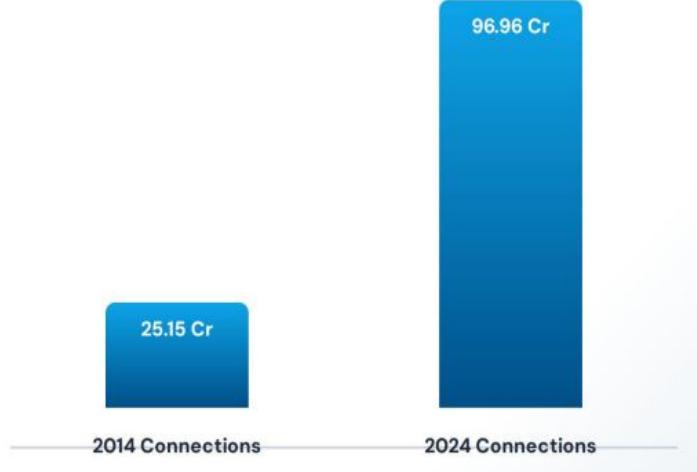
9. भारतीय समाज में नवयुवतियों में आत्महत्या क्यों बढ़ रही है? स्पष्ट कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Explain why suicide among young women is increasing in Indian society.
(Answer in 150 words) 10

10. बच्चे को दुलारने की जगह अब मोबाइल फोन ने ले ली है। बच्चों के समाजीकरण पर इसके प्रभाव की चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Child cuddling is now being replaced by mobile phones. Discuss its impact on the socialization of children.
(Answer in 150 words) 10

Rising Digital Footprint

The Indian Digital Landscape (2024-25)

- ↳ **Economic Contribution:** Digital economy contributed 11.74% to national income in FY23; projected at 13.42% by FY25.
- ⌚ **Internet Surge:** Connections grew from 25.15 crore (2014) to 96.96 crore (2024).
- 📱 **Smartphone Penetration:** 85.5% of households own at least one smartphone (2025 data).
- 👥 **Usage Intensity:** Over 40 crore users for OTT and food delivery; 35 crore on social media.



Rising Digital Addiction

- The digital economy contributed 11.74 per cent to the national income in FY23 { Economic Survey 2025 }
- About 60% of children between the age of 5-16 years exhibit behaviours indicative of **potential digital addiction** - Baatu Tech Survey
- Average screen time of Indian children: ~5 hours/day {ICMR Survey }



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Drivers of Compulsive Engagement



Ubiquitous Access

96.96 cr internet connections and BharatNet (2.18L Gram Panchayats) have removed access constraints, shifting focus to behavioral health.



High-Stimulus Design

Platforms utilize auto-play, short video loops (OTT/Social Media), and endless scrolls to hijack cognitive attention spans.



Real-Money Hooks

Growth of online gambling and wagering apps creates high-stakes financial lures, leading to obsessive engagement patterns.



Ideological Change

Instant Gratification orientation, Excessive consumerism
Parenting role - 85% of parents express inability children's online content consumption



Algorithmic Persuasion

Targeted advertising and curated feeds reinforce binge-watching, translating to roughly 40 crore OTT users in India.



Always-On Culture

With 85.5% smartphone ownership, the boundary between professional, academic, and personal space has significantly eroded.

Impacts Of Digital Addiction

- Sleep Debt
- Brain Rot - impacting cognition
- Inappropriate content Exposure
- Self Esteem Crisis
- Virtual Reality Overpowering objectivity
- Physical impacts
 - Refractive Errors - Myopia rising from 4% to 15%
 - Obesity crisis - A

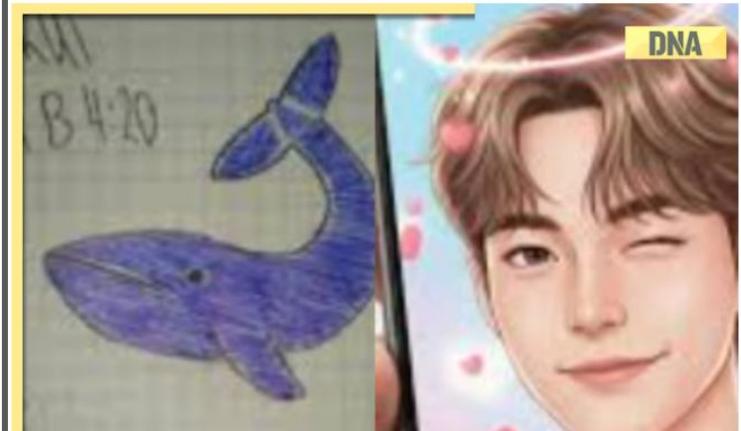
'Korean Love's striking similarities with Blue Whale, fatal online task-based games behind scores of suicides

Like Blue Whale, the Korean Love Game (or Korean Lover) has deep structural and psychological effect, primarily in how it manipulates young users through escalating tasks.



Varsha Agarwal

Updated : Feb 04, 2026, 05:12 PM IST



Digital Addiction : the Fatal Threat



CONTEXT: Recent Heart wrenching incident of Ghaziabad, brings spotlight on the issue of Digital Addiction and it's management.

Impacts Of Digital Addiction

- **Social Challenges**
 - Lack of family bonding
 - Non development of Social Capital
 - Virtual Anchoring of Normative Behavior
 - Catch up of questionable trends
 - Digital Colonisation

Steps Taken

- **Legal -**
 - Online Gaming Regulation Act, 2025 – protect mental and Financial Health of youth
- **Institutional**
 - SHUT Clinic – NIMHANS
 - Pragyatah - MOE , NCPNR guidelines
- **Private Sector -**
 - Zen Mode, YouTube Kids
- **International**
 - Australia and China Model
- **Technological**
 - Forest App
 - Tele Manas 14416 -Tele MANAS app

Way Forward

- **Data Backed Governance** – 2nd Mental Health Survey – NIMHANS and MOHFW
- National Roll out - **Karnataka's** 'Digital Detox Centre - Beyond Screens'
- **Responsible Adult Behaviour**
- **Earmark No Gadget Spaces**
- **Offline Youth Hubs** creation
- **Digital Wellness Curriculum** covering screen time literacy, cyber safety, and mental health awareness
- Tech Interventions – Education only Tablets, Basic phones, Network level intervention by ISP.



- **Australian Model:** Strict ban on social media accounts for children under 16 years of age.
- **China Fatigue System:** Real-name registration; gaming limited to 1 hour/day on weekends for minors.



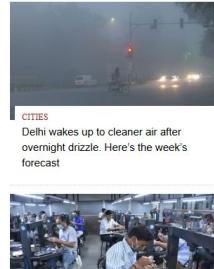
A siren, then 2 hours of digital detox: How a Karnataka village's simple move is helping its kids beat screen addiction

Halaga village in Karnataka sounds a siren every evening in a bid to encourage families to enjoy some much-needed screen-free time for two hours.

Written by: Kiran Parashar 4 min read Bengaluru Dec 24, 2025 02:00 PM IST



YOU MAY LIKE

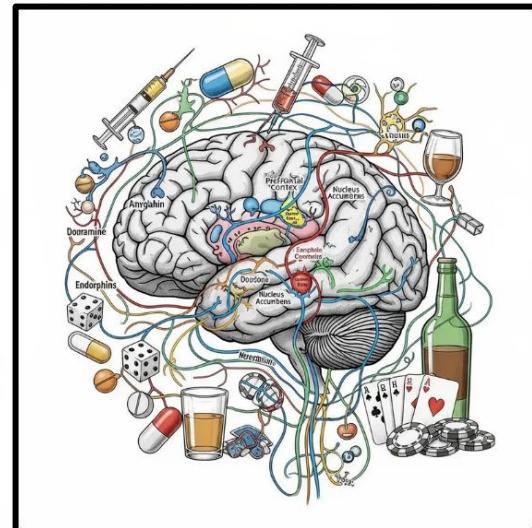


Digital Addiction : the Fatal Threat

CONTEXT: Recent Heart wrenching incident of Ghaziabad, brings spotlight on the issue of Digital Addiction and it's management.

MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION

Question : Discuss the socio-economic impacts of digital addiction in contemporary Indian Society and outline suitable policy and community-level interventions (15 Marks, 250 words)



05th February 2026

CONTEXT: Multiple Global Developments relating to the Nuclear technology Use and Regulation signals a shift towards danger in the Global Nuclear order.

About Start Treaty

- It is known as The New Strategic Arms Reduction **Treaty** (New **START**).
- It is the **last remaining nuclear arms** deal between Russia and the USA
- **Objective:** The New START caps the number of nuclear warheads well below Cold War limits.
- This treaty entered into force on February 5, **2011**.
- The treaty concerns **Strategic weapons**: usually long-range weapons designed to influence the outcome of a war, not merely a battle, by destroying power centres, command and control facilities, or key infrastructure.
- **History** - New START replaced the 1991 **START I treaty**, which expired in December 2009, and superseded the **2002 Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT)**, which terminated when New START entered into force.

Bilateral Collapse: The End of New START

- ⌚ **Treaty Expiration:** The Feb 5 deadline removes final legal caps on the world's two largest arsenals.
- 🛡 **Strategic Rupture:** Suspension of onsite inspections has already eroded mutual predictability.
- ⚠ **Asymmetric Modernization:** Shift from arms reduction to "force optimization" and survivability.

~5,459 **~5,277**

US WARHEADS RUSSIAN WARHEADS

It is now 85 seconds to midnight

2026 Doomsday Clock Statement

Science and Security Board
Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists

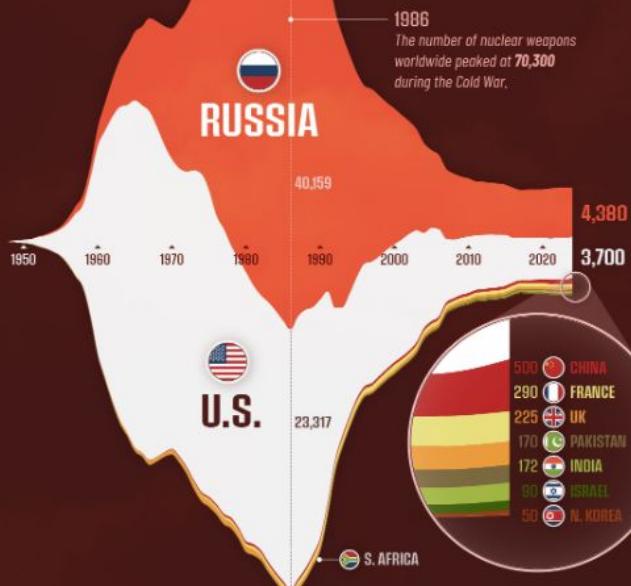
Editor, John Mecklin

January 27, 2026



GLOBAL NUCLEAR WARHEAD STOCKPILES

1945-2024



VISUAL CAPITALIST

voronoi Where Data Tells the Story

Figures are estimates.
Source: Hans M. Kristensen, Matt Korda, Robert S. Norris, Elaina John, and Mackenzie Knight, Federation of American Scientists, 2024.

Available on App Store Available on Google Play



Global Nuclear Order on Shaky Grounds



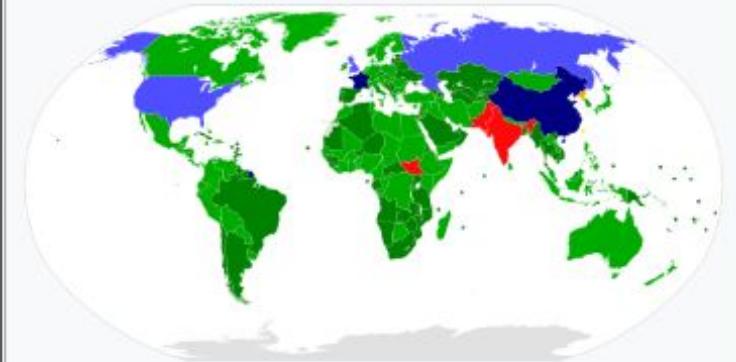
CONTEXT: Multiple Global Developments relating to the Nuclear technology Use and Regulation signals a shift towards danger in the Global Nuclear order.

Tripolarity: The Rise of the Third Pillar

- ⚡ **China's Surge:** Expanding stockpile at a rate of 100+ warheads annually since 2023 to reach 600.
- ☒ **UK's:** In 2015, the U.K. reversed a 2006 decision to reduce its stockpile and is at 225 warheads.
- 📘 **Greenland Exposed Rift:** US Vs NATO, Risk of Arms Race in Europe.

"The absence of trilateral arms control creates a 'House of Dynamite' scenario."

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons



Participation in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

■ Recognized nuclear-weapon state ratifiers	■ Acceder that announced its withdrawal (North Korea)
■ Recognized nuclear-weapon state acceders	■ Non-parties (India, Israel, Pakistan, South Sudan)
■ Other ratifiers	■ Partially recognized state that ratified (Taiwan)
■ Other acceders or successors	

NPT: The Global Non-Proliferation Bedrock

THE THREE PILLARS

⚖️ Treaty Framework

- ✓ **Non-Proliferation:** States without nuclear weapons agree never to acquire them.
- ✓ **Disarmament:** The 5 recognized powers (P5) must pursue nuclear cessation.
- ✓ **Peaceful Use:** Inalienable right to civilian nuclear technology (energy/medicine).

THE INDIAN STAND

⌚ Key Criticisms

- ✓ **Structural Inequality:** Treaty creates a permanent divide between "haves" and "have-nots."
- ✓ **Modernization Gap:** Nuclear powers have modernized arsenals instead of disarming.
- ✓ **Withdrawal Risks:** Weak enforcement for states that leave the treaty (e.g., North Korea).



Global Nuclear Order on Shaky Grounds



CONTEXT: Multiple Global Developments relating to the Nuclear technology Use and Regulation signals a shift towards danger in the Global Nuclear order.

NSG: Export Controls and India's Quest

ORIGINS & PURPOSE

>The Trigger List

- Genesis (1974): Formed specifically in response to India's "Smiling Buddha" test.
- Goal: Controlling the export of materials/tech to prevent weapon diversion.
- Decision Making: Works strictly on **unanimous consensus** of all 48 members.

THE MEMBERSHIP DEBATE

India's Path

- 2008 Waiver: A unique exemption allows India to trade globally despite not signing NPT.
- China's Block: Insists on NPT signature as a prerequisite to block India's entry.
- Significance: Entry would grant India a seat at the global rule-making table for trade.

Nuclear Governance in India = India's Nuclear Doctrine

Announced 1999 (Draft) → Formally articulated 2003 by Govt. of India

1. No First Use (NFU)

- India will **not initiate** a nuclear strike & Nuclear weapons used **only in retaliation**

2. Massive Retaliation

- Any nuclear attack on India or Indian forces → **assured, punitive retaliation**

3. Credible Minimum Deterrence

- Maintain **minimum but effective** nuclear arsenal, not arms race

4. Civilian Political Control

- Nuclear command under **Nuclear Command Authority (NCA)**
- Final authority: **Prime Minister / Political Council**

5. Non-Use Against Non-Nuclear States

- Assurance to **non-nuclear weapon states** (with caveats)

6. Survivability & Second-Strike Capability

- Development of **nuclear triad** → Land (Agni missiles), Air (aircraft), Sea (SSBNs like Arihant)

Rooted in **credible minimum deterrence** and strategic restraint



CONTEXT: Multiple Global Developments relating to the Nuclear technology Use and Regulation signals a shift towards danger in the Global Nuclear order.

Other Institution for nuclear governance

IAEA – world's leading intergovernmental organisation for scientific and technical cooperation in the nuclear field.

- The IAEA Statute was approved on 23 October 1956 and came into force on 29 July 1957. HQ – Vienna, Austria
- Functions – The IAEA works to ensure that nuclear technology is used solely for peaceful purposes.
- It applies comprehensive nuclear safeguards, including: Monitoring, On-site inspections, Information analysis.

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) (1996)

Prohibits nuclear explosion tests but awaits ratification by key countries

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) (2021)

Legally binds countries to refrain from nuclear weapons activities

Conference on Disarmament (CD) (1978)

Serves as a forum for negotiating arms control agreements

Concerns with Rising Instability in Nuclear Governance

1. **Treaty Erosion:** Collapse/weakening of INF, stalled CTBT/FMCT → less transparency, higher arms-race risk.
2. **Arms Modernisation:** Hypersonics, tactical nukes compress decision time, raise miscalculation.
3. **Doctrinal Ambiguity:** talk of limited use lowers nuclear threshold.
4. **Tech Disruptions:** Cyber/AI/space threats to nuclear C2C I & early-warning systems.
5. **Proliferation Risks:** Weak controls & non-state actors heighten nuclear terrorism danger.

The Countries Armed With Nuclear Weapons

Estimated nuclear warhead inventories (as of Jan. 2025)*



* Deployed warheads as well as warheads in central storage. Excludes retired warheads
Source: SIPRI

Way Forward for Stable Nuclear order

- Inclusive Governance of Nuclear security.
- Regulation of Emerging Strategic Technologies
- Use of Nuclear for global Good.
- Strengthen NPT
 - Exhorting Additional Protocol ratification of IAEA.
- Track – 2 Diplomacy
- Transparency in Nuclear Stockpile.

Mains Practise Question

Question : Discuss the major challenges to the contemporary global nuclear order. Suggest practical measures to strengthen nuclear stability and non-proliferation in the 21st century. (15 Marks, 250 words)



Carbon Capture Technology



SYLLABUS : Prelims Mitigation of Climate Change **GS 3** Environment
Newspaper The Indian Express **Page Number :** 17

Prelims Pointers

- **Carbon capturing Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) - Capturing carbon emitted in different industrial processes, stored over prolonged time period and utilised for various activities.**
- **Bundle of Varieties - not a single technologies**
- **Extent – 40 BN. Tonne Global Carbon Emission ; Barely 50mn. Tonne under CCUS – Globally**
- **CRUCIAL Involvement for Manufacturing sectors decarbonisation - not just by avoiding Burning fuels**
- **Impact of Global Policy Shifts – CBAM**
- **India – Focus – development trajectory - emphasise policy shift.**

The process of CCUS :

- It's a three-step process, involving: capturing the carbon dioxide produced by power generation or industrial activity, such as steel or cement making; transporting it; and then storing it deep underground.
- CCS involves three different techniques of capturing carbon, including post-combustion, pre-combustion, and oxyfuel combustion.
 - In post-combustion, CO₂ is removed after the fossil fuel has been burnt. By using a chemical solvent, CO₂ is separated from the exhaust or 'flue' gases and then captured.
 - Pre-combustion involves removing CO₂ before burning the fossil fuel. "First, the fossil fuel is partially burned in a 'gasifier' to form synthetic gas. CO₂ can be captured from this relatively pure exhaust stream. The method also generates hydrogen, which is separated and can be used as fuel.
 - In oxyfuel combustion, the fossil fuel is burnt with almost pure oxygen, which produces CO₂ and water vapour. The water is condensed through cooling, and CO₂ is separated and captured.
- Out of the three methods, oxyfuel combustion is the most efficient, but the oxygen burning process needs a lot of energy.
- After capture, CO₂ is compressed into a liquid state and transported to suitable storage sites.
 - Possible storage sites for carbon emissions include saline aquifers or depleted oil and gas reservoirs.

INDIA'S 'PANCHAMRIT' AT COP26
 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi

1. Reach non-fossil energy capacity to 500GW by 2030
 2. Fulfil 50% energy requirements via RE by 2030
 3. Reduce 1 bn carbon emissions by 2030
 4. Reduce carbon intensity >45% by 2030
 5. Achieve the target of Net-Zero by 2070

Prelims pointers – Steps taken for CCUS In India

CHALLENGES –

- **Need of innovations in Engineering, Material required**
- **Economic Viability for Projects**
- **Lack of Indigenous technologies**

Steps taken

- **PanchAmrit Goal – 1BN. Tonne Carbon**
- **Budget 2026 – 20,000 Crore Allocation – Sectoral emphasis – Steel, Cement**
- **DST 'S CCUS Strategy and R7D Roadmap 2030**



Tiger Reserves in Telangana



SYLLABUS : Prelims Biodiversity and Habitat **GS 3** Conservation
Newspaper : The Indian Express **Page Number :** 02

Prelims pointers

Amrabad Tiger Reserve:

- One of the largest reserve of India spanning 2,166.37 square kilometres.
- Species hosting tiger, leopard, nilgai, sambar, star tortoise, mugger crocodile, and yellow-throated bulbul, while supporting **Chenchu** tribal livelihoods
- The Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve (Andhra Pradesh) (NSTR) is the largest tiger reserve in India, covering an area of approximately 3,728 sq km across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Drained by Krishna River.

Kawal Tiger Reserve:

- **Covers** 892.23 square kilometres **with dry deciduous forests**,
- **Species** - supports tiger, gaur, sloth bear, cheetal, chousingha, and barking deer amid conservation challenges.
- **River - bordered by Godavari River**

4. From the ecological point of view, which one of the following assumes importance in being a good link between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats ?

- (a) Sathyamangalam **Tiger Reserve**
- (b) Nallamala Forest
- (c) Nagarhole National Park
- (d) Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve

Nagarjunsagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve

IUCN category IV (habitat/species management area)



Srisailam Tiger reserve sign board



100. Among the following **Tiger Reserves**, which one has the largest area under “Critical Tiger Habitat” ?

- (a) Corbett
- (b) Ranthambore
- (c) Nagarjunsagar-Srisailam
- (d) Sunderbans



Tiger Reserves in Telangana



SYLLABUS : Prelims Biodiversity and Habitat **GS 3** Conservation
Newspaper : The Indian Express **Page Number :** 02

Prelims Pointers Tigers in India : Tiger Status Report – NTCA

- India holds just over 66% of the world's estimated population of 5,574 adult wild tigers (ref. IUCN).
- Number Estimate : a minimum of 3,167 to a maximum of 3,925 tigers).
- The results include tiger populations found in 18 States in India.
- The Status of Tigers in India 2022 report classified tiger occupied forests in India into five landscapes; namely
 - (a) Shivalik-Gangetic Plains Landscape,
 - (b) Central Indian and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex
 - (c) Western Ghats Landscape,
 - (d) North-Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains and
 - (e) Sunderbans
- State wise distribution – MP > KA > UK > MH > TN
- State Wise Tiger reserves order ?
- IUCN Status – Endangered – red list, Critically depleted – Green list



Down To Earth

'Critically depleted': IUCN's new Green Status assessment for the tiger in Asia paints sombre though hopeful picture for species



The tiger is 'critically depleted' across much of its indigenous range in Asia. However, conservation can help its survival and also make it...

10 Oct 2025

IUCN

Where Tigers Roar and Communities Rise: Bangladesh Observes Global Tiger Day 2025



On 29 July 2025, the world united to celebrate Global Tiger Day, and in Bangladesh, IUCN marked the occasion with two vibrant events.

8 Aug 2025



05th February 2026

SYLLABUS: Prelims World Mapping GS 2 IR
Newspaper: The Indian Express **Page Number:** 01

Decoding the News

About Seychelles

- **Location:** It is an archipelagic island country located in the western Indian Ocean.
- It is located to the northeast of **Madagascar** and east of mainland Africa.
- Other major islands near Seychelles include Comoros and Mauritius to the south and Maldives to the east.
- It consists of an archipelago of 115 islands (only 8 are permanently inhabited).



Geographical Features of Seychelles

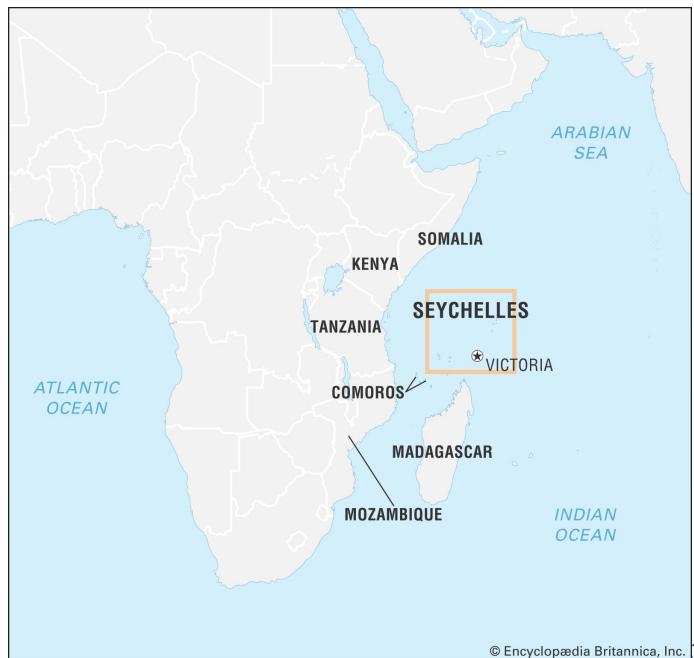
- It is composed of **two main island groups**: the **Mahe group** which are mountainous granitic islands and a second group are **coralline islands**.
- **Mahe Group** is **volcanic** with a narrow coastal strip and rocky, hilly interior; others are relatively flat coral atolls, or elevated reefs; **sits atop the submarine Mascarene Plateau**.
- **Highest Point:** The highest point in Seychelles is **Morne Seychellois**.
- **Climate:** The climate is tropical oceanic, with little temperature variation during the year.
- **Capital City:** Victoria

Prelims pointers : Significance

- ~ 1.35 mn. Sq km. EEZ.
- Diaspora Connect
- Trade - India exported goods worth US\$ 64.88 million and imported goods worth US\$ 8.96 million from Seychelles during 2022-23.

Recent Progress in ties

- Seychelles became 6th Member of Colombo Security Conclave
- Earlier members of CSC - It is a regional security grouping comprising India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Mauritius, and Seychelles.
- Indian Navy's Training Squadron Reached Seychelles - Sept 2025



SYLLABUS : Prelims Tribes of India **GS 2:** Vulnerable section, and **GS 1:** Diversity of India **Newspaper:** The Hindu **Page Number:** 12

Who are Denotified Tribes and What are their demands?

- History of Struggle - Misclassification, Suppression, Marginalisation
- Denotified by Act
- Committees formed - Idate Commission for uplifting status of these communities.
- Issues lie - in implementation, underutilisation

Prelims pointers : Idate Commission

- Established in 2014, the Commission was reconstituted in 2015 to prepare a state-wise list of DNT/NT/SNTs. It conducted over 300 field visits, 9,000 household surveys, and 600 group discussions to evaluate their status.
- Key Recommendations:
 - **Permanent Commission:** Establish a permanent commission for DNT/NT/SNTs, similar to those for SCs, STs, and OBCs.
 - **Classification:** Formally categorize these communities, placing those not covered under SC/ST/OBC into the OBC category (Issue raised by Members now)
 - **Legal Protection:** Amend the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, to include a third schedule for protecting these communities

Count the uncounted

Denotified tribes seek 'separate column' and formal identity after decades of misclassification

Classification & numbers

- They were labelled 'criminal tribes' under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871
- The Act was repealed in 1952, after which these communities were denotified



- The previous National Commission identified nearly 1,200 communities
- Nearly 267 communities remain outside the SC, ST, and OBC lists
- Estimates suggest up to 7 crore people in Uttar Pradesh alone

Key demands

- Separate Census column for denotified tribes
- Dedicated Constitutional Schedule
- Sub-classification to reflect graded backwardness within communities

- **Development:** Create a National Finance Development Corporation for their economic upliftment.
- **Data Collection:** Conduct a detailed, comprehensive survey to determine accurate population and distribution data.

SEED Scheme for DNT's

What is the SEED scheme?

- It was launched by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Components of the scheme:

- **Free Coaching:** The objective of this component is to enable them to appear in competitive examinations/ admission to professional courses like medicine, engineering, MBA, etc. for obtaining an appropriate job in the Public/Private Sector.
- **Health Insurance:** The primary objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to National Health Authority (NHA) in association with State Health Agencies (SHAs). These agencies will provide a health insurance cover of Rs.5 lakhs per family per year for families as per norms of "Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana".
- **Livelihood Initiatives:** The primary objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM). It would enhance productivity growth in key livelihood sectors for employment generation through investments in institutional support, and technical assistance.
- **Financial support for Housing:** It is for those who have not taken benefit of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana as SC, ST, OBC and are living below the poverty line. The admissible support is Rs 1.20 lakhs in plains and 1.30 lakhs in hilly areas (per unit assistance).



Denotified Tribes



SYLLABUS : Prelims Tribes of India **GS 2:** Vulnerable section, and **GS 1:** Diversity of India **Newspaper:** The Hindu **Page Number:** 12

Prelims pointers : Difference from PVTGs

- Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) are the most disadvantaged sub-groups among India's ST's.
- Committee - Dhebar Committee.
- In the Fifth Five-Year Plan (1974-79) the government officially listed 52 Primitive Tribal Groups; the category was renamed Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) and expanded over time to 75 groups

51. Consider the following statements about Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India :

- PVTGs reside in 18 States and one Union Territory.
- A stagnant or declining population is one of the criteria for determining PVTG status.
- There are 95 PVTGs officially notified in the country so far.
- Irular and Konda Reddi tribes are included in the list of PVTGs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

5

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

PVTGs are identified using a combination of socio-economic and demographic features. Typical criteria used by official bodies include:

- Dependence on forest or pre-agricultural livelihood systems.
- Low levels of literacy and health indicators.
- Small, stagnant, or declining population.
- Relative isolation and limited contact with mainstream services.

These criteria guided the original Dhebar recommendations and subsequent government



Places in News – Cuba

SYLLABUS : Prelims Places in News GS 2 IR
Newspaper : The Hindu **Page Number :** 16

Prelims pointers

- Cuba in World History – Site of Cuban Missile Crisis – 1962
- One of the few communist strongholds in World.
- **Location:** Island country in the **Caribbean Sea**, largest island in the Caribbean
- **Capital:** Havana
- **Political System:** Socialist one-party state; governed by Communist Party
- **Language:** Spanish

Geography

- Lies **south of Florida (USA), west of Haiti, north of Jamaica**
- Surrounded by **Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, Atlantic Ocean**
- Major physical feature: **Sierra Maestra Mountains**
- Frequent **hurricanes & tropical storms**
- **Earlier famous for Sugar and Boxers**
- **2nd largest in Luxury Cigar producer after DR.**



67. Consider the following statements :

1. Vietnam has been one of the fastest growing economies in the world in the recent years.
2. Vietnam is led by a multi-party political system.
3. Vietnam's economic growth is linked to its integration with global supply chains and focus on exports.
4. For a long time Vietnam's low labour costs and stable exchange rates have attracted global manufacturers.
5. Vietnam has the most productive e-service sector in the Indo-Pacific region.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- 2 and 4
- 3 and 5
- 1, 3 and 4
- 1 and 2



05th February 2026

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS):

1. CCUS refers to a single technology that captures carbon emissions only from fossil fuel combustion.
2. It involves capturing carbon emissions from industrial processes, storing them for long durations, and utilising them for various applications.
3. It is considered important for decarbonising manufacturing sectors beyond merely reducing fossil fuel consumption.

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: b

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Tiger Reserves in India:

1. The Amrabad Tiger Reserve is one of the largest tiger reserves and supports the livelihoods of the Chenchu tribe.
2. The Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve is the largest in India and spans across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

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

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Seychelles:

1. Seychelles is an archipelagic island country located in the western Indian Ocean.
2. It is located to the southwest of Madagascar and west of mainland Africa.

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

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs):

1. PVTGs are identified based solely on the income of the Tribes.
2. High literacy levels and improved health indicators are among the criteria used to identify PVTGs.
3. Relative isolation and limited contact with mainstream services are considered while identifying PVTGs.

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

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

Answer: a

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding Cuba:

1. Cuba follows a multi-party democratic political system with periodic competitive elections.
2. Cuba is the largest island country in the Caribbean Sea, and its capital is Havana.
3. The Sierra Maestra Mountains are an important physical feature of Cuba.

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: b





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