



**VAJIRAM & RAVI**  
Institute for IAS Examination

# The Analyst

**CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout**

**23rd April 2026**



**CONTEXT:** India must move from being a participant in global systems to a “shaper” of them.

## Context: India’s Trade Strategy in a Changing World

- India–EU Free Trade Agreement
- Trade Understanding – U.S.
- The EU FTA – Features –
- Indicate – India’s *deepening integration into global trade*
- Breakdown of Rule–Based Globalisation –
- Trade Basis – PAST vs PRESENT –

## Emerging Challenges: GLOBAL

- Decline of Rule–Based Order – Alignments vs Efficiency
- Decline of Institutions –
- Limits of Bilateral Pacts –
- Major Power “Behaviour” – Trade ~ ‘STRATEGIC TOOL’
  - China
  - US

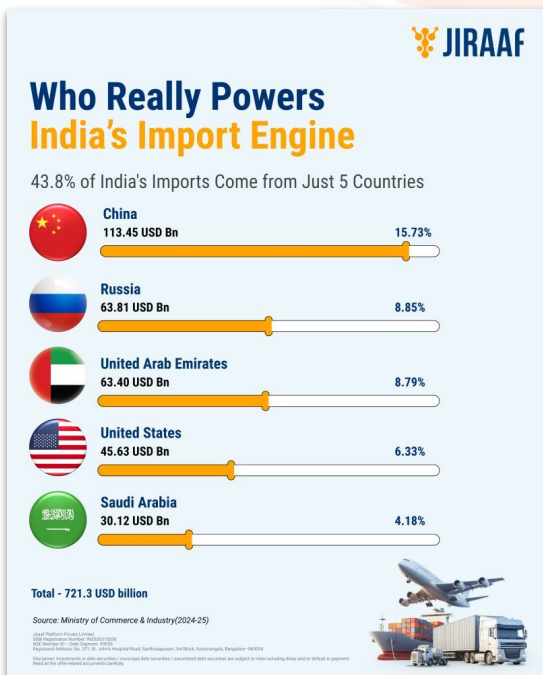
## Emerging Challenges: India’s Strategic Constraints

- Overdependence Risks –
  - Dominance of Few Players –

- Strategic Vulnerabilities – Supply Chains
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Electronics & Semiconductors
  - Energy & Critical Minerals
- Shrinking Strategic Autonomy
  - Earlier: India balanced U.S.–Russia–China triangle
  - Now: Russia–China Nexus – Result?
- Weaponisation of Trade
  - China – post-2020 Galwan
  - US – Russia, Iran
- Technological Dependence – Manufacturing?
- Standard–Setting Deficit – Marginal Role

## Leveraging India’s Strengths

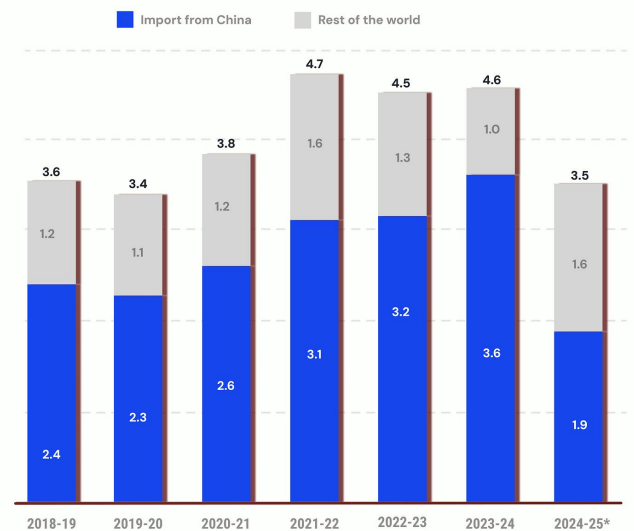
- Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) – Open Digital Ecosystems
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) Collaboration – Potential Coalition –



CHEMICAL CONNECTION

## India makes the pills, but China supplies the raw materials

India imports 70% of APIs from China (Amount in Billion \$)



Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs)  
\*Note: Data as of Dec 2024

Source: pharmexcil



**CONTEXT:** India must move from being a participant in global systems to a “shaper” of them.

## Way Forward: Strategic Responses?

- Shift to “Sectoral Plurilateralism”
  - Build *small, focused coalitions*
- Build Supply Chain Resilience
  - Policy Tools -
- Leverage Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)
  - Digi-Locker; Public Goods
- Become a Standard-Setting Power
  - Lead in: AI Ethics, Tech. Stds.
- Strategic Economic Diplomacy
  - Diversify Partnerships
  - South-South Cooperation
- Invest in Core Technologies -

## Mains Practise Question

*“Global trade is increasingly being shaped by geopolitical considerations rather than economic efficiency.” In this context, examine the challenges faced by India and suggest a suitable strategy to safeguard its interests.*

**(15 Marks, 250 words)**

Ministry of Commerce & Industry



## Production Linked Incentive Schemes for 14 key sectors aim to enhance India's manufacturing capabilities and exports

Posted On: 02 AUG 2023 6:06PM by PIB Delhi

Keeping in view India's vision of becoming 'Atmanirbhar', Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes for 14 key sectors have been announced with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore (over US\$26 billion) to enhance India's Manufacturing capabilities and Exports.

The 14 sectors are: (i) Mobile Manufacturing and Specified Electronic Components, (ii) Critical Key Starting Materials/Drug Intermediaries & Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, (iii) Manufacturing of Medical Devices (iv) Automobiles and Auto Components, (v) Pharmaceuticals Drugs, (vi) Specialty Steel, (vii) Telecom & Networking Products, (viii) Electronic/Technology Products, (ix) White Goods (ACs and LEDs), (x) Food Products, (xi) Textile Products: MMF segment and technical textiles, (xii) High efficiency solar PV modules, (xiii) Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery, and (xiv) Drones and Drone Components.

The purpose of the PLI Schemes is to attract investments in key sectors and cutting-edge technology; ensure efficiency and bring economies of size and scale in the manufacturing sector and make Indian companies and manufacturers globally competitive.



# Why Quotas Alone won't Help?



**CONTEXT:** Women participation depends on a host of Other factors.

## Context: Debate on Women's Reservation

- Core issue has shifted -
- Whether quotas can overcome deep-rooted structural barriers?

## The Participation-Representation Paradox

- High and Rising Voter Turnout
  - Low representation!
- **74%-84% women** report being "not at all active" beyond voting.
- Low engagement across -
  - Education levels
  - Caste/class groups
  - Age categories
- "active" political participation remains restricted

## Existing setbacks

The data for the tables were sourced from Lokniti-CSDS study

**TABLE 1:** Women's electoral participation across socio-economic groups. All figures in %

	Active electoral participation		
	Not at all active	Somewhat active	Highly active
<b>Locality</b>			
Rural	76	16	8
Urban	80	15	5
<b>Level of education</b>			
Non-literate	84	12	4
Upto primary	75	19	6
Upto matriculation	75	17	8
12th pass/intermediate	75	17	8
College and above'	78	15	7
<b>Age groups</b>			
18 to 25 years	83	13	4
26 to 35 years	78	17	6
36 to 45 years	75	18	7
46 to 55 years	75	17	9
55 years and above	75	16	9

Caste/communities			
Upper castes	78	15	7
OBC	75	18	7
SC	81	14	5
ST	81	15	5
Muslims	70	22	8
Others	81	12	6
Economic class			
Poor	83	13	4
Lower	78	16	6
Middle	74	19	7
Upper class	78	14	9

- Party-Level Barriers: Candidate Selection Bias - ~44%
  - institutional bias within political parties
- Structural and Social Constraints
  - Major Barriers Identified
- Household as a Site of Political Exclusion - ~66%
  - Private Sphere Shapes -
- Low Political Aspirations - ~28%

**TABLE 5:** Women's autonomy in participating in political activities

Level of freedom	(%)
No freedom at all	66
Very little freedom	12
Some freedom	12
A lot of freedom	10

**TABLE 6:** The willingness of women to enter politics

Willingness	(%)
No	61
Yes	28
No opinion	12



# Why Quotas Alone won't Help?



**CONTEXT:** Women participation depends on a host of Other factors.

**TABLE 3:** Perceived barriers to women's political participation

Type of barrier	(%)
Patriarchal structure	22
Household responsibility	13
Individual barriers	12
Cultural norms	7
Constrains related to finance or political structure	6
Negative image of politics	3
Other barriers	1

**TABLE 4:** Extent of patriarchal dominance within households

Level of dominance	(%)
Strong dominance	12
Some dominance	23
Low dominance	31
No dominance at all	28

**TABLE 2:** Public perceptions of gender bias in candidate selection and electoral success

Statement	Agree	Somewhat agree/somewhat disagree	Disagree
Even when a man and a woman are equally good candidates, political parties always prefer a man over a woman while giving tickets	44	30	15
Lesser winning probability of women compared to men	17	31	41

Note: All figures are in percentage. Others did not know

## Limits of Reservation Policy

- Improving numerical representation vs Addressing deep-rooted inequalities
- Quotas without reforms → *symbolic inclusion, not substantive empowerment*

## Way Forward

- Reform party candidate selection processes
- Enhance women's autonomy within households
- Promote political awareness and grassroots engagement
- Address intersectional inequalities

## Mains Practise Question

"Reservation alone cannot ensure substantive political empowerment of women." Discuss.

(10 Marks, 150 words)



# Fertilizer Shortage, GCC & Biostimulants



**SYLLABUS: GS 3: Agriculture**

**Newspaper : Indian Express; Page No : 13**

**Harish Damodaran**  
New Delhi, April 22

EARLIER THIS month, Indian Potash Ltd (IPL) issued a tender for import of 2.5 million tonnes (mt) of urea. The tender received offers with the lowest price bids at \$935 per tonne (cost plus freight) for supplying to the west coast and \$959 per tonne for eastern Indian ports. Compare this with a tender on February 18 by Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF), which secured offers of up to 1.3 mt at \$508 and \$512 per tonne for west and east coast delivery respectively.

The difference — a near doubling of prices within two months — reflects the supply shocks from the US-Israel versus Iran conflict and closure of the vital Strait of Hormuz waterway since February 28.

It's not only urea. Recent imports of diammonium phosphate (DAP) by Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals were at about \$865 per tonne as against a pre-war level of \$720 and last year's \$680 at this time. Current expected landed prices are at \$925 per tonne.

Again, for intermediates used in making finished fertilisers, pre-war prices of imported sulphur were \$550 per tonne (\$300 in April 2025) — today, it isn't below \$900. Ammonia is, likewise, priced at \$850-900 per tonne, up from an average of \$435 in 2025.

"The ammonia facilities of QatarEnergy and Saudi Arabia's Maaden are shut follow-

ing Iranian strikes, forcing us to source mainly from Indonesia and Malaysia. Saudi Arabia was also our largest DAP supplier. Now, it is Morocco and Jordan that have to also cater to South America and other markets," noted an industry source.

## The kharif challenge

All this could pose a challenge for the ensuing kharif crop season, whose plantings will take off with the southwest monsoon's onset from June.

The total requirement of urea for kharif 2026 was at 19.4 mt, whereas actual availability at the start of April was hardly 5.5 mt (see chart).

India annually consumes 39-40 mt of urea, with 30-31 mt produced domestically and the balance imported. The Gulf Cooperation Council countries — Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain — accounted for nearly 40% of India's urea imports pre-war. Over 60% of its imports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) — raw material for indigenous manufacturing of urea — came from Qatar, UAE, and Oman.

"We normally produce roughly 2.5 mt of urea per month. In March, we could do only 1.5 mt due to LNG supply disruptions. This month, too, it would be 1.7-1.8 mt. Even if the war ends soon and LNG starts coming in through Hormuz, we will not reach 2.5 mt before June," said the industry source.



# Fertilizer Shortage, GCC & Biostimulants



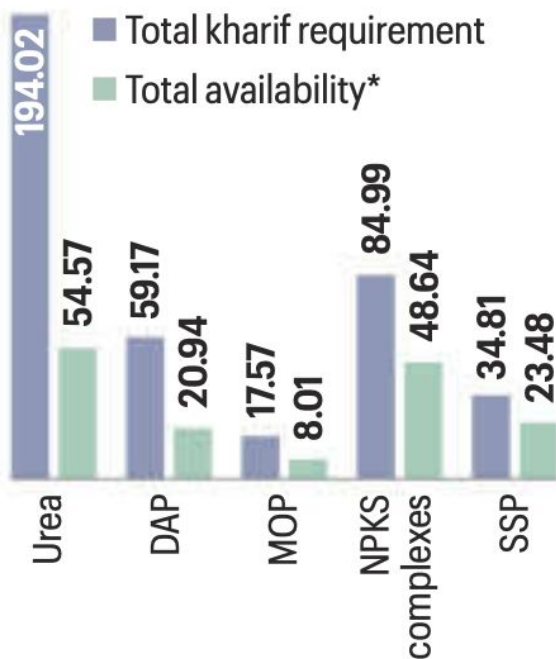
**SYLLABUS: GS 3: Agriculture**

**Newspaper : Indian Express; Page No : 13**

to April 30 because of ships either not being available or stuck in the Persian Gulf before the Hormuz maritime chokepoint.

Lower imports and domestic production can constrain urea availability in the upcoming kharif. The availability-to-

## Fertiliser requirement vs availability (in lakh tonnes)



\*AS ON APRIL 2, 2026; SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE

them the cost of separately buying and applying zinc sulphate,” he pointed out.

The present crisis may also be a shot in the arm for India’s fledgling biostimulants industry. Biostimulants, unlike fertilisers, don’t contain nutrients per se and are derived from microbes (bacteria and fungi), soil organic matter (humic and fulvic acids), seaweed extracts and other naturally occurring substances. These can enhance the nutrient use efficiency of the fertilisers applied by farmers.

“The N, P or K present in fertilisers aren’t necessarily available for uptake by the plant. For example, P is often locked in soils, making it unavailable to the plant roots. Even the nutrients that are taken up by the plant may not convert into biomass and yield. Biostimulants basically modify internal plant processes to improve their functionality and nutrient use efficiency,” said Renuka Diwan, co-founder of the Pune-based BioPrime AgriSolutions Pvt. Ltd.

Biostimulants include phosphate solubilising bacteria that convert insoluble P in soil into soluble orthophosphates, which are immediately available for plant uptake and use. “We can have similar biomolecules extracted from microbes and plants that can even be blended with chemical fertilisers. It will make the latter work better, thereby reducing their consumption,” said Diwan.



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS:** Institutions

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

# 'Toxic workplaces take lives of 8.4 lakh people annually'

**A.M. Jigeesh**

NEW DELHI

More than 8,40,000 people die each year around the globe from health conditions linked to psychosocial risks, including long working hours, job insecurity, and workplace harassment, according to a new global report by the International Labour Organization (ILO) released in Geneva on Wednesday.

These work-related psychosocial risks are mainly associated with cardiovascular diseases and mental disorders, including suicide, according to the report titled "The psychosocial working environment: global developments and pathways for action".

The report prescribes policy interventions at both levels of government and industry to address the situation, along with empowering collectivisa-

## **The report calls for policy interventions at both central and State levels of government**

tion of the workforce.

The report said work-related psychosocial risks represent a major and growing threat to workers' safety and health, organisational productivity, and broader economic performance. Psychosocial risk factors are responsible for more than 8,40,000 deaths annually due to associated cardiovascular diseases and mental disorders, the report added. "These risks also lead to nearly 45 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) lost each year. The combined impact of cardiovascular disease and mental disorders associated with psychosocial risk factors is

estimated to result in 1.37% of global GDP lost annually," the report said.

"The ILO estimates that globally, 35% of workers work more than 48 hours per week. Exposure to bullying and other forms of violence and harassment is another major concern. The ILO estimates that 23% of workers globally have experienced at least one form of violence or harassment in their working life, with psychological violence being the most prevalent at 18%," the report said.

The ILO estimated the figure of over 840,000 deaths per year by using two key sources of evidence, including the global prevalence of five major psychosocial risk factors at work – job strain, effort-reward imbalance, job insecurity, long working hours, and workplace bullying and harassment.



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS:** Institutions  
**Newspaper :** The Hindu; **Page No :** 12

## International Labour Organisation (ILO) Functions

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) performs a wide range of functions aimed at establishing social justice, promoting fair labour standards, and ensuring the protection of workers across the world. It sets international labour norms, provides technical support to countries, and monitors compliance to improve working conditions globally.

- **Formulates International Labour Standards (ILS):** Creates conventions and recommendations to improve wages, working hours, safety, and rights at work.
- **Supervises Implementation:** Monitors whether member countries follow the labour standards they have ratified.
- **Provides Technical Assistance:** Offers expertise in areas like labour law reform, employment policies, social security, and workplace safety.
- **Supports Employment Promotion:** Helps nations design programs for job creation, skill development, and fair recruitment practices.
- **Conducts Research & Publishes Reports:** Produces global reports on labour trends, working conditions, and economic changes.
- **Encourages Social Dialogue:** Facilitates cooperation among governments, employers, and workers for policy-making and dispute resolution.
- **Promotes Social Protection:** Works on programs related to health insurance, maternity benefits, pensions, and protection of vulnerable workers.
- **Eliminates Child Labour & Forced Labour:** Assists countries in implementing strategies to end exploitation and ensure safe, dignified work for all.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) was established after World War I to promote global labour rights and later became the first specialised agency of the UN, continuously working for social justice and fair labour standards worldwide. Over time, it has played a significant role in shaping labour reforms, supporting decolonization, and strengthening democratic labour movements.

- Established in 1919 under the Treaty of Versailles as part of the League of Nations.
- Became the first specialised agency of the United Nations in 1946.
- **Headquarter:** Geneva, Switzerland.
- Founded on the belief that social justice is essential for universal and lasting peace.
- Works to promote internationally recognised human and labour rights.
- Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1969 for advancing peace and workers' welfare.



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS:** Institutions  
**Newspaper :** The Hindu; **Page No :** 12

## Core Conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)

The eight fundamental conventions form the global foundation for worker protection. They address child labour, forced labour, discrimination, and the right to organize. They are part of the wider UN Human Rights Framework and ratification reflects a nation's commitment to fair labour standards.

1. Forced Labour Convention (No. 29)
2. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No. 105)
3. Equal Remuneration Convention (No. 100)
4. Discrimination Convention (No. 111)
5. Minimum Age Convention (No. 138)
6. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182)
7. Freedom of Association Convention (No. 87)
8. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention (No. 98)

Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Labour & Employment

24-July-2017 15:23 IST

### ILO Fundamental Conventions

#### India ratified six out of the eight core/fundamental International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions

India has ratified six out of the eight core/fundamental International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions. These are the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105), Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100), Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

India has not ratified the core/fundamental Conventions, namely Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) and Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98).



**SYLLABUS: GS 2:** Regulatory Bodies

**Newspaper :** The Hindu; **Page No :** 1

# Registration now mandatory for e-sports

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) on Wednesday notified rules allowing registration of e-sport games and the firms running them, which will come to effect from May 1. The rules come as subordinate legislation for the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, which prohibited real money gaming in India.

The Online Gaming Authority of India (OGAI), which will run as an attached office within MeitY as a fully digital organisation, has been set up under the rules. Representatives from the Ministries of



The rules also have provisions to regulate age classifications of video games should the govt. deem it necessary. GETTY IMAGES

Home Affairs and Law have been added to the OGAI.

Under the new rules, registration for “online social games” will only be required and triggered when the Centre notifies a specific category of games as requiring such registration. Registration for e-sports is mandatory.

IT Secretary S. Krishnan told the media that the rules have enabling provisions to regulate and require age classifications of video games in the future, should the government deem it necessary to address issues like addiction.

The rules provide for a “code of practice” the the

IT Ministry could notify in the future covering video games, such as games with microtransactions.

“Most games which are not money games should be able to operate with no obligation to necessarily either be determined or registered,” Mr. Krishnan said. “That entire process is optional.”

On the issue of betting markets hosting wagers on Indian elections and cricket matches, Mr. Krishnan said that such sites were being blocked as and when they were brought to notice.

“Access through VPNs is a slightly thorny issue,” he added. “We are trying to see how we can regulate VPNs more effectively”.

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**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS:** Statutory Bodies

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

The National Investigation Agency is the **federal counter-terrorism law enforcement agency** of India. It is a thoroughly professional investigative agency that matches the best international standards. It has extensive powers to investigate terror activities in any part of India, register a case, and arrest people **without the permission of the state** government.

The NIA is a **statutory body** established under the **NIA Act 2008** and functions under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**. It was established in the aftermath of the **26/11 Mumbai terror attack** which exposed the limitations of existing intelligence agencies to prevent and fight such attacks.

## Functioning of the National Investigation Agency

The major objectives of the NIA are the in-depth professional investigation of scheduled offences using the latest scientific methods, building a database of all terrorist-related information and assisting states and other investigating agencies in the investigation of terrorist cases.

### Statutory Provisions

It was established under the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008.

- **Investigation of Scheduled Offences:**
  - On receipt of a report from the State Government, if the Central Government thinks that the offence is a fit case to be investigated by the Agency, it shall direct the Agency to investigate the offence.
  - The Central Government may (without any report from the State), **suo motu**, direct the agency to investigate the said offence.
- **Power to investigate connected offences:** While investigating any Scheduled Offence, the Agency may also investigate any other connected offence which the accused has committed.
- **State Government to extend assistance to National Investigation Agency:** The State Government shall extend all assistance and cooperation to the Agency for investigation of the Scheduled Offences.



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS: Statutory Bodies**

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

- **Investigation of offences under other acts:** For prosecuting under the UAPA and certain other offences, the NIA has to take the sanction of the Central government.
- **Prosecution of Offences:** When the investigation is complete, the cases are placed before the **NIA Special Court**.
- **The Schedule:** The schedule of the NIA Act lists several acts such as:
  - The Atomic Energy Act, 1962
  - The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967
  - The Anti-Hijacking Act, 1982, etc.

## Institutional Framework

- **National Investigation Agency:** The NIA Act provides for the creation of the National Investigation Agency to investigate and prosecute offences specified in the schedule.
  - The NIA officers have the same powers as other police officers concerning the investigation.
  - The NIA comes under the jurisdiction of the **Ministry of Home Affairs**.
- **Special Courts:** The Act empowers the central and state governments to establish Special Courts for the trial of scheduled offences.
  - The appeal lies to the High Court of the concerned state.

## Difference between NIA and CBI

NIA	CBI
It is a statutory agency under the NIA Act of 2008.	It is not a statutory agency, however, it derives powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act of 1946.
It functions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs.	It functions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
The NIA investigates incidents of terrorist attacks, funding of terrorism and other terror-related crimes.	The CBI investigates crimes of corruption, economic offences and serious and organised crime other than terrorism.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Central Government can order the NIA to investigate a scheduled offence in any State.</li><li>• The NIA has the power to probe terror attacks in any part of the country without the permission of the state government.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Central Government can order the CBI to investigate a crime in any State but only with the consent of the respective State Government.</li><li>• The Supreme Court and High Courts, however, can order the CBI to investigate such a crime anywhere in the country without the consent of the State.</li></ul>



**SYLLABUS: PRELIMS:** Statutory Bodies

**Newspaper :** Indian Express; **Page No :** 17

## About Central Electricity Regulatory Commission:

- It is a **statutory body** established by the Government of India under the provisions of the **Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998**.
- It is the Central Commission for the purposes of the Electricity Act, 2003, which has repealed the ERC Act, 1998.
- **Composition:** The Commission consists of a **Chairperson and four other members** including the Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority, who is an ex-officio Member of the Commission.
- The Commission intends to promote competition, efficiency, and economy in bulk power markets, improve the quality of supply, promote investments, and advise the government on the removal of institutional barriers to bridge the demand supply gap and thus foster the interests of consumers.
- **Functions:**
  - To **regulate the tariff** of generating companies owned or controlled by the Central Government;
  - To regulate the tariff of generating companies other than those owned or controlled by the Central Government specified in clause (a), if such generating companies enter into or otherwise have a composite scheme for generation and sale of electricity in more than one State;
  - To **regulate the inter-State transmission** of electricity;
  - To determine tariff for inter-State transmission of electricity;
  - To issue **licences to persons** to function as transmission licensee and electricity trader with respect to their inter-State operations.



**Q1. Which of the following countries are members of the Gulf Cooperation Council?**

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Oman
3. UAE
4. Yemen
5. Iran

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below.**

- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- b) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

**Answer: c**

**Q2. Consider the following statements regarding ILO:**

1. It is the only tripartite U.N. agency that brings together governments, employers, and workers of member states.
2. It was created in 1919 as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I.
3. India has successfully ratified all eight 'Fundamental Conventions' identified by the ILO.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: d**

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Online Gaming Authority of India (OGAI):**

1. The OGAI functions as a traditional, physically centralised regulatory authority to oversee gaming firms.
2. The OGAI includes representatives from the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Law and Justice.

**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: b**

**Q4. Regarding the Special Courts constituted under the NIA Act, consider the following statements:**

1. The judge of a Special Court is appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of the Supreme Court.
2. An appeal against any judgment, sentence, or order of an NIA Special Court lies directly with the Supreme Court of India.
3. If a question arises regarding the jurisdiction of a Special Court, it is referred to the Central Government, whose decision is final.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: c**

**Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC):**

1. It is a statutory body currently functioning under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003.
2. The Chairperson of the Central Electricity Authority serves as an ex officio Member of the CERC.
3. The CERC does not determine the retail electricity tariff for end-use consumers across all Union Territories.

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

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

**Answer: c**





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## **Institute for IAS Examination**

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