

PART II · ENVIRONMENT TO DIRECT HIT TRACKER

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Saturday, 29 August 2026

MORNING EDITION · 08:00 IST

IN THIS EDITION

1. Environment & Ecology (2 news cards)
2. Places in News (8 locations, mapped)
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§1 Environment & Ecology

GS3

Conservation & Biodiversity

As reported, late August 2026 · Source: MoEFCC / National Green Tribunal proceedings

MoEFCC Urges NGT to Mandate Annual Neelakurinji Conservation Plans in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka

What happened: The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has urged the National Green Tribunal to direct Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to submit annual conservation action plans for Neelakurinji (*Strobilanthes kunthiana*), the shola-grassland shrub famous for its once-in-twelve-years mass blue bloom. The Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI), Thiruvananthapuram, has proposed a dedicated action plan covering ecological monitoring, restoration of degraded montane grasslands, removal of invasive species, and regulation of tourism activity.

Background: Neelakurinji is recorded across 34 locations in 14 ecological zones spanning the Nilgiris, Palani-Kodaikanal, Anamalai and Munnar-Idukki landscapes at elevations of 1,340–2,600 m, and is currently classified as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List. Kerala had earlier declared the Kurinjimala Sanctuary in 2006 specifically to protect the species and its habitat, but the plant's range spans three states, creating the classic cross-jurisdictional conservation challenge that this NGT direction seeks to address.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- Species: *Strobilanthes kunthiana*; endemic to shola-grassland ecosystems of the southern Western Ghats.
- IUCN Red List status: Vulnerable (Criteria A2c).
- Blooms once every 12 years; recorded across 34 locations in 14 ecological zones.
- Elevation range: 1,340–2,600 metres; landscapes include Nilgiris, Palani-Kodaikanal, Anamalai, Munnar-Idukki.
- Kurinjimala Sanctuary (Kerala, declared 2006) is the only PA created specifically for this species.
- Proposed action-plan measures: ecological monitoring, grassland restoration, invasive-species removal, tourism regulation.

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Cross-jurisdictional conservation: a single species range spanning three states requires inter-state coordination mechanisms that India's largely state-subject forest/wildlife governance often struggles to deliver.
- Shola-grassland ecosystems perform critical hydrological functions (perennial-stream recharge) beyond their biodiversity value — degradation here has direct downstream water-security consequences.
- Mass-bloom tourism is a double-edged sword: it builds public conservation constituency but also drives trampling, littering and habitat fragmentation if unregulated.
- NGT's directive role illustrates the tribunal's growing function as a coordinating forum for inter-state environmental governance gaps that legislation alone has not closed.

💡 LET'S REMEMBER THIS THROUGH A TRICK

"Twelve years to bloom, three states to protect it" — Neelakurinji's rarity is temporal (12-year cycle) and its conservation challenge is jurisdictional (Kerala-TN-Karnataka).

📄 PYQ LINKAGE

GS3 2016: "Enumerate the National Water Policy of India. Discuss the strategies to be adopted to tackle the interstate water disputes." Format cue: apply the same inter-state coordination lens to biodiversity governance across shared shola-grassland landscapes.

Probable Mains Question (150 words): Discuss the ecological significance of shola-grassland ecosystems in the Western Ghats and the challenges of coordinating conservation across state boundaries, with reference to Neelakurinji.

GS3

Neelakurinji

Western Ghats

#NGT

#SholaGrasslands

GS3

Static Topic – Protected Areas & ESZs

Static Topic — notification dated 15 January 2026 · Source: MoEFCC Gazette Notification / Down To Earth

Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary's Aravalli Eco-Sensitive Zone: A Case Study in Buffer-Zone Regulation

What happened: The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajasthan's Aravalli mountain range, extending zero to one kilometre beyond the sanctuary boundary and covering approximately 243 sq km across 94 villages. Within the ESZ, commercial mining, polluting industries, brick kilns and new large-scale construction such as resorts and hotels are prohibited or strictly regulated, while regulated activities like agriculture and small-scale tourism-linked construction continue under monitoring.

Background: Eco-Sensitive Zones are declared under Section 3(2)(v) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, read with the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, functioning as "shock absorbers" around notified protected areas to reduce the abruptness of the ecological transition between a fully protected core and unregulated land use outside it — a concept that has become central to Aravalli conservation given the range's decades-long battle against illegal mining and encroachment.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- Legal basis: Section 3(2)(v), Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 + Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986.
- ESZ extent: 0–1 km beyond Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary boundary; ~243 sq km; 94 villages covered.
- Prohibited/regulated activities: commercial mining, polluting industries, brick kilns, large-scale resort/hotel construction.
- Location: Aravalli mountain range, Rajasthan — among the world's oldest fold-mountain systems.
- Kumbhalgarh Fort (within the broader landscape) is itself a UNESCO World Heritage Site (Hill Forts of Rajasthan, inscribed 2013).
- National ESZ guidelines generally recommend a minimum 10 km buffer unless site-specific studies justify a smaller "zero to X km" zone, as applied here.

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Buffer-zone regulation embodies the "core-buffer-transition" model of protected-area management, balancing strict conservation with the livelihood needs of surrounding communities.
- Aravalli-specific stakes: decades of illegal mining have already fragmented large stretches of the range, making every fresh ESZ notification part of a broader last-mile conservation effort.
- Livelihood-conservation trade-off: 94 villages fall within regulated limits, requiring compensatory livelihood support (eco-tourism, non-timber forest produce) to sustain local buy-in.
- Comparative note: ESZ extents are not uniform nationally — site-specific ecology, population density and existing land-use patterns determine whether a 1 km or wider buffer is notified.

💡 LET'S REMEMBER THIS THROUGH A TRICK

ESZs are the "shock absorbers" of protected-area law — remember Kumbhalgarh's numbers as "243-94-1": 243 sq km, 94 villages, up to 1 km buffer.

📄 PYQ LINKAGE

GS3 2019: "Explain the causes for declining rate of Female Labour Force Participation Rate in India" (format cue for statement-comprehension questions). Direct thematic PYQ analogue: repeated Mains questions on Eco-Sensitive Zones and buffer-zone management around India's protected areas.

Probable Mains Question (150 words): Explain the concept and legal basis of Eco-Sensitive Zones in India, and discuss the challenges in balancing local livelihoods with conservation objectives, with reference to the Aravalli range.

GS3

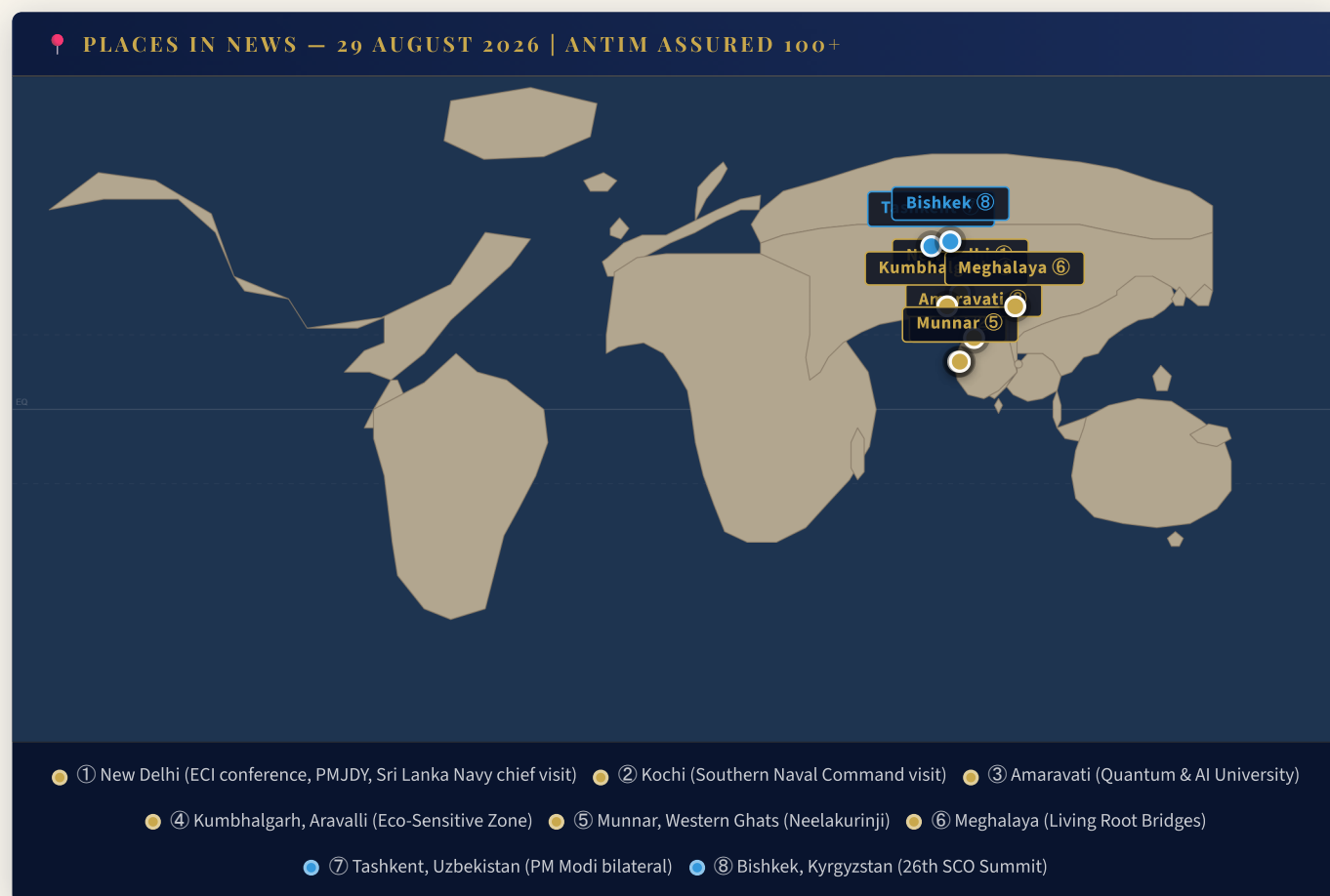
Eco-Sensitive Zone

Aravalli

#Kumbhalgarh

THEIAS AKADEMIA Static-topic questions like ESZ classification are the highest-yield, lowest-effort Prelims marks available — **LAKSHYAM AIR1**'s environment module is built around exactly this kind of legally-precise, memorisable framework.
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§2 Places in News



New Delhi

Hosted the ECI-SEC National Round Table, PMJDY's 12th-anniversary observance, and the Sri Lanka Navy Commander's

Kochi, Kerala

Headquarters of the Southern Naval Command; visited by VAdm Damian Fernando to strengthen India-Sri Lanka naval-training

Guard of Honour & National War Memorial visit.

linkages.

Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh

Site of India's first dedicated Quantum & AI University campus (NIELIT/MeitY, ₹730.7 crore).

Kumbhalgarh, Rajasthan

Aravalli-range wildlife sanctuary now ringed by a 243 sq km Eco-Sensitive Zone across 94 villages.

Munnar / Western Ghats

Idukki-Nilgiris shola-grassland tract where Neelakurinji's 12-year bloom cycle drives today's tri-state conservation-plan direction.

Meghalaya (Nongriat/Cherrapunji)

Home of the Khasi-Jaintia living root bridges, under active UNESCO 2026-27 evaluation as a Cultural Landscape.

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

PM Modi's fourth bilateral visit; talks with President Mirziyoyev on trade, digital connectivity, defence and energy.

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Venue of the 26th SCO Summit (31 Aug–1 Sept) and the Sixth World Nomad Games opening ceremony.

§3 Ethics & Integrity Cases

Subsidiarity & Cooperative Federalism

Case 1: One Table, Three Tiers

A young IAS probationer posted to a State Election Commission is asked by a senior state functionary to delay the local-body electoral roll's publication until after a politically sensitive land-acquisition drive concludes, "for administrative convenience," even though no legal ground for delay exists. The officer must weigh institutional loyalty to the state machinery against the constitutional independence guaranteed to the SEC under Article 243K.

Course of Action: The officer should decline the informal request, place the reasoning on file, and if pressure persists, escalate in writing to the State Election Commissioner — upholding institutional independence over administrative convenience, exactly the kind of harmonisation-without-capture the 2026 National Declaration seeks to protect.

Intergenerational Equity & Stewardship

Case 2: The Bridge That Cannot Be Rebuilt

A tourism-department officer in Meghalaya is under pressure to fast-track a concrete viewing platform near a centuries-old living root bridge to handle rising visitor numbers ahead of the peak season, against the advice of village elders who warn it will damage the root system irreversibly. Short-term revenue and visibility for the UNESCO bid pull one way; long-term, irreversible loss of a living heritage structure pulls the other.

Course of Action: The officer should invoke the precautionary and intergenerational-equity principles, defer construction pending a heritage-impact assessment, and work with the Autonomous District Council to design low-impact visitor infrastructure that keeps the community's long-term custodianship intact.

Prudential Ethics in Statecraft (Multi-Alignment)

Case 3: One Delegation, Two Audiences

A junior MEA desk officer drafting talking points for the SCO Summit is asked to soften language on cross-border terrorism to avoid friction with a fellow SCO member, even though the officer believes a firmer formulation better reflects India's stated position and past summit language.

Course of Action: The officer should present both formulations with their diplomatic trade-offs clearly stated to the decision-making authority, preserving the substantive position while leaving the final calibration of tone to political leadership — the correct division between technical advice and political judgment in statecraft.

Confidence-Building & Relational Trust

Case 4: The New Chief's First Call

An Indian Navy liaison officer hosting a visiting neighbouring service chief for the first time is informed of a minor unresolved fishermen-detention issue between the two countries that could sour the visit if raised undiplomatically, but which the visiting side has quietly hinted it wants acknowledged.

Course of Action: The officer should ensure the issue is raised through the appropriate channel during the visit rather than suppressed, since selective silence on irritants undermines the very trust-building purpose of the visit; transparency, handled with tact, strengthens rather than weakens long-term confidence-building measures.

Dual-Use Ethics & Arms-Trade Responsibility

Case 5: The Streamlined File

A Deputy Secretary in the Department of Defence Production is processing a defence-export authorisation under the new streamlined timeline. The buyer has a clean commercial record, but unverified open-source reports hint at possible re-export risk to a third, conflict-affected country. Clearing the file on time supports the government's ease-of-export reform and the exporting firm's contract; delaying it for further checks breaches the promised turnaround and could cost India's credibility as a reliable, fast-moving exporter.

Course of Action: The officer should seek a short, time-bound additional end-use verification from the intelligence/diplomatic channel rather than either blind clearance or indefinite delay, documenting the reasoning — procedural speed must never override India's non-proliferation and end-use-monitoring obligations.

Precautionary Principle & Ecological Justice

Case 6: Whose Twelve Years?

A District Forest Officer in the Nilgiris must decide whether to permit a large private eco-tourism resort's expansion near a Neelakurinji bloom site, backed by strong local employment arguments, just months before an anticipated bloom cycle draws national attention and revenue.

Course of Action: The DFO should apply the precautionary principle — given the species' Vulnerable status and the irreversibility of grassland degradation — and permit only reversible, low-footprint tourism infrastructure, ensuring local livelihoods are supported through regulated guiding and homestay models rather than permanent construction that outlives any single bloom season.

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Election Commission of India and State Election Commissions:

1. The ECI derives its powers from Article 324, while State Election Commissions derive theirs from Articles 243K and 243ZA.
2. State Election Commissioners are appointed by the Governor of the respective State.

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) Both statements are factually accurate as constitutional provisions.

Q2. Which UNESCO category best describes India's nomination of Meghalaya's living root bridges?

- (a) Natural Heritage Site (b) Cultural Landscape (c) Intangible Cultural Heritage (d) Mixed Heritage Site

Answer: (b) The dossier is nominated under the Cultural Landscape category.

Q3. Consider the following statements about the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC):

1. Its founding/full members are India, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Mauritius.
2. Bangladesh and Seychelles participate as observer states.
3. Its focus areas include maritime security, counter-terrorism and cyber security.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (c) All three statements correctly describe the CSC's membership and mandate.

Q4. The 26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit (2026) is being hosted by which country?

- (a) Uzbekistan (b) Kazakhstan (c) Kyrgyzstan (d) Tajikistan

Answer: (c) The Summit is held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (31 Aug–1 Sept 2026).

Q5. Consider the following statements on the Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy (DPEPP), 2020:

1. It is implemented by the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence.
2. It sets turnover and export targets for India's defence sector.
3. It entirely replaced India's Foreign Trade Policy for defence goods.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) DPEPP sets sectoral targets under the DDP but does not replace the Foreign Trade Policy.

Q6. Landing Platform Docks (LPDs), recently in news for an India-UK propulsion agreement, are primarily used for:

- (a) Anti-submarine warfare (b) Amphibious warfare and sealift operations (c) Aerial reconnaissance (d) Nuclear deterrence patrols

Answer: (b) LPDs carry troops, vehicles and equipment for amphibious and HADR operations.

Q7. Consider the following statements about the National Quantum Mission:

1. It has an outlay of over ₹6,000 crore for eight years (2023–2031).
2. It has four Thematic Hubs covering Computing, Communication, Sensing & Metrology, and Materials & Devices.

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) Both statements correctly describe the Mission's structure.

Q8. The IndiaAI Mission's "Safe & Trusted AI" pillar primarily deals with:

- (a) Subsidised GPU compute access (b) AI governance guardrails and responsible-AI standards (c) Startup financing (d) Dataset curation

Answer: (b) This pillar covers bias audits, safety guardrails and responsible-AI standards.

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding India's foreign exchange reserves:

1. They comprise Foreign Currency Assets, gold holdings, SDRs and India's Reserve Tranche Position with the IMF.
2. RBI's June 2026 hedging-facility measures were aimed specifically at boosting rupee-denominated equity FDI.

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) The 2026 measures targeted dollar inflows via hedging for overseas borrowings and NRI deposits, not equity FDI specifically.

Q10. The "JAM Trinity" refers to:

- (a) Judiciary-Administration-Military (b) Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (c) Justice-Accountability-Merit (d) Jan Dhan-Agriculture-MSME

Answer: (b) The JAM Trinity underpins India's Direct Benefit Transfer architecture.

Q11. Consider the following statements about Neelakurinji (*Strobilanthes kunthiana*):

1. It is endemic to the shola-grassland ecosystems of the Western Ghats.
2. It blooms once every twelve years.
3. It is currently classified as "Critically Endangered" on the IUCN Red List.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Its actual IUCN status is Vulnerable, not Critically Endangered.

Q12. Eco-Sensitive Zones around protected areas, such as the one recently notified around Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, are declared under which legislation?

- (a) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (b) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (c) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (d) Biological Diversity Act, 2002

Answer: (c) ESZs are declared under Section 3(2)(v) of the EPA, 1986.

Q13. Consider the following statements about India's UNESCO World Heritage tally:

1. India currently has 45 inscribed World Heritage Sites.
2. Sarnath was inscribed as India's 45th site in 2026.
3. India's Tentative List currently has fewer than 40 sites.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) India's Tentative List stands at 62 sites, so statement 3 is incorrect.

Q14. Living root bridges of Meghalaya are grown using the aerial roots of which tree species?

- (a) *Ficus religiosa* (b) *Ficus elastica* (c) *Ficus benghalensis* (d) *Shorea robusta*

Answer: (b) *Ficus elastica*, the Indian rubber fig.

Q15. Consider the following statements regarding the Aravalli Range:

1. It is one of the oldest fold-mountain systems in the world.
2. Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary lies within the Aravalli Range in Rajasthan.

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) Both statements are correct.

Q16. Bishkek, the venue of the 26th SCO Summit, is the capital of:

- (a) Kazakhstan (b) Uzbekistan (c) Tajikistan (d) Kyrgyzstan

Answer: (d) Bishkek is the capital of Kyrgyzstan.

Q17. Consider the following statements about the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

1. India became a full member in 2017 at the Astana Summit.
2. Pakistan is not a member of the SCO.
3. The SCO Secretariat is based in Beijing.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Pakistan is also a full SCO member (joined alongside India in 2017), so statement 2 is incorrect.

Q18. The Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, relevant to Meghalaya's tribal governance, provides for:

- (a) Special provisions for Scheduled Areas in mainland India (b) Administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram (c) Reservation in Parliament for Scheduled Tribes (d) Autonomous Panchayati Raj institutions nationwide

Answer: (b) The Sixth Schedule governs Autonomous District Councils in these four northeastern states.

Q19. Consider the following statements about the Colombo Security Conclave's recognised focus pillars:

1. Maritime safety and security
2. Counter-terrorism and counter-radicalisation
3. Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)

Which of the above are recognised CSC pillars?

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

Answer: (c) All three, alongside cyber security and transnational organised crime, are CSC pillars.

Q20. India's Q1 FY27 (April-June 2026) GDP estimates are scheduled to be released by which body, and around which date?

- (a) RBI, on 15 August (b) National Statistical Office, around 31 August (c) NITI Aayog, on 1 September (d) Comptroller and Auditor General, on 5 September

Answer: (b) The NSO releases quarterly GDP estimates, with the Q1 FY27 print due around 31 August 2026.

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Getting these 20 right under time pressure — not just knowing the facts — is a distinct skill. **NEEB 300+ Live PYQ Writing** sessions simulate that exact pressure every week. theiasakademia.com

§5 Mains Questions

GS1 150 words

Examine the concept of "bio-cultural heritage" with reference to Meghalaya's living root bridges. How can Sixth Schedule institutions balance heritage conservation with tourism-driven livelihoods?

GS1 150 words

Discuss the ecological significance of endemic flora such as Neelakurinji in the shola-grassland ecosystems of the Western Ghats.

GS2 250 words

Critically examine the constitutional architecture governing elections to Panchayats and Municipalities vis-à-vis elections to Parliament and State Legislatures. Suggest measures for greater harmonisation.

GS2 200 words

"India's Central Asia policy is as much about connectivity as it is about counter-terrorism." Discuss with reference to India's SCO engagement.

GS2 200 words

Assess the role of the Colombo Security Conclave in institutionalising India's "Neighbourhood First" policy in the Indian Ocean Region.

GS3 200 words

Discuss the objectives of the Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy, 2020, and examine the ethical and strategic considerations in liberalising India's defence exports.

GS3 200 words

Examine the interlinkages between the National Quantum Mission and the IndiaAI Mission in building India's deep-tech workforce pipeline.

GS3 200 words

Analyse the drivers behind India's record foreign exchange reserves in 2026 and discuss the associated monetary-policy trade-offs.

GS4 - Case Study 250 words

You are a Deputy Secretary in the Department of Defence Production, tasked with clearing a defence-export authorisation for a mid-sized private firm within the new streamlined timeline. The buyer country has a good commercial track record, but recent open-source reports raise unconfirmed concerns about possible re-export to a conflict-affected third country. Delaying the file breaches the promised turnaround time and could cost the firm a lucrative contract; clearing it without further verification risks strategic and reputational fallout for India. (a) What are the ethical issues involved? (b) What course of action would you adopt, and why?

§6 Answer-Writing Value Addition

59.09 cr PMJDY accounts after 12 years — up from 14.72 crore in the scheme's first year (2014-15), with deposits growing ~12.8x over the same period.

\$729.33bn India's record forex reserves (week ended 21 Aug 2026) — an eight-week, ~\$63 billion rally driven by RBI's hedging incentives and NRI deposits.

27 years Gap since the last National Round Table Conference of State Election Commissioners before the 2026 conclave that adopted the "National Declaration 2026."

₹730.7 cr Outlay for India's first dedicated Quantum & AI University campus at Amaravati, jointly operationalising the National Quantum Mission and IndiaAI Mission's skilling goals.

93.18 lakh GPU-hours consumed under the IndiaAI Mission's subsidised-compute pillar across 237 projects to date.

62 sites India's current UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List count — the pool from which nominations like Meghalaya's living root bridges are drawn.

Vulnerable Neelakurinji's (*Strobilanthes kunthiana*) IUCN Red List status; it flowers once every 12 years across 34 recorded locations in the Western Ghats.

4th visit PM Modi's Uzbekistan visit count as of August 2026, reflecting India's sustained institutional outreach to Central Asia since 2015.

§7 AKADEMIA Direct Hit Tracker

TOPIC	GS PAPER	CAPSULE	PROBABILITY
ECI-SEC National Round Table 2026	GS2	Art 324 vs 243K/243ZA harmonisation	★★★★
Meghalaya Living Root Bridges	GS1	UNESCO 2026-27 cycle; <i>Ficus elastica</i>	★★★★
PM Modi Uzbekistan-SCO tour	GS2	Security-Connectivity-Opportunity	★★★★★
Colombo Security Conclave	GS2	Sri Lanka Navy chief's first visit	★★★★
DPEPP 2020 export streamlining	GS3	Faster defence-export authorisation	★★★
India-UK LPD pact / India-Kuwait JDC	GS2/GS3	Defence-diplomacy twin track	★★★
National Quantum Mission / Amaravati campus	GS3	₹730.7cr quantum-AI talent pipeline	★★★★
IndiaAI Mission progress	GS3	93L GPU-hrs, 58 CoEs	★★★★
Forex reserves record	GS3	\$729.33bn, 8-week rally	★★★★★
PMJDY @ 12 years	GS3	JAM Trinity; 59cr accounts	★★★★
Neelakurinji conservation plan	GS3	MoEFCC-NGT; Vulnerable status	★★★
Kumbhalgarh Eco-Sensitive Zone	GS3	Aravalli; 243 sq km buffer	★★★
SCO structure & membership (static)	GS2	2017 Astana entry; 8 full members	★★★
Sixth Schedule tribal governance (static)	GS2	Meghalaya Autonomous District Councils	★★★
National Quantum Mission hubs (static)	GS3	4 Thematic Hubs	★★★
JAM Trinity & DBT (static)	GS3	Leakage-reduction mechanism	★★★
Colombo Security Conclave pillars (static)	GS2	Maritime/counter-terror/cyber/HADR	★★★
Aravalli Range geography (static)	GS1	Oldest fold-mountain system	★★★

★ THEIAS AKADEMIA — PROOF OF PRECISION

UPSC CSE Prelims 2026 Results

In what critics called the most unpredictable Prelims paper in a decade —

48

QUESTIONS FROM
ANTIM ASSURED 100+

7

QUESTIONS FROM
A SINGLE DOCUMENT

6

QUESTIONS FROM
A SINGLE CLASS

Our students had seen 48 questions before the paper was opened.

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VERIFIED • PART II

Proof of Precision

Every item mapped. Every claim verified.

2

NEWS ITEMS

6

ETHICS CASES

20

MCQS GENERATED

9

MAINS QUESTIONS

8

PLACES MAPPED

0

REPEATED TOPICS

Environment

Geography

Ethics (GS4)

International Relations

Culture

✓ All news sourced from MoEFCC / PIB / Down To Earth / IUCN / primary institutional sources

✓ Every static topic cross-checked for 30-day non-repetition against the topic blacklist

✓ Map pins computed from real longitude/latitude via the standard equirectangular formula

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