

PART II · ENVIRONMENT TO DIRECT HIT TRACKER

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Tuesday, 25 August 2026

Morning Edition · 08:00 IST · TheIAS Akademia

INSIDE PART II

1. Environment
2. Places in News
3. Ethics & Integrity Cases
4. Prelims MCQs (20)
5. Mains Questions (9)
6. Answer Writing Value Addition
7. AKADEMIA Direct Hit Tracker
8. Proof of Precision

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GS3

STATIC TOPIC — NEWLY DISCOVERED SPECIES

Taxonomy · NE India Biodiversity

Published 13 Mar 2026 (Phytotaxa) · Source: BSI-affiliated researchers / Gauhati University

Osbeckia zubeengargiana — New Flowering Shrub Described from Manas National Park, Named for Singer Zubeen Garg

Why in News: A new species of flowering shrub, *Osbeckia zubeengargiana*, was formally described in the international botanical journal Phytotaxa on 13 March 2026, discovered in the open grassland ecosystem of Manas National Park's landscape in Baksa district, Assam. Researchers Barnali Das and Namita Nath (Gauhati University) with Prashob Pulpra (NSS College, Kerala) named the species in honour of the celebrated Assamese singer Zubeen Garg, recognising his contribution to Assamese culture. This is not a today-dated story, and is carried honestly as an evergreen taxonomy/conservation profile per the anti-repetition and species-rotation protocol, since no fresher India-specific environment story cleared the freshness bar after a full multi-source sweep today.

Background: Manas National Park sits on the India-Bhutan border in Assam's Bodoland Territorial Region, and carries a rare stack of designations — a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a Project Tiger reserve, a Project Elephant reserve, and the core of the Manas Biosphere Reserve. Its grassland-mosaic habitat, distinct from the closed-canopy forest most people associate with such parks, is exactly the kind of under-surveyed micro-habitat where new species are still being found.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- Family: Melastomataceae; genus *Osbeckia* — a group of flowering shrubs found widely across tropical/subtropical Asia and Africa.
- A perennial shrub with delicate purple-to-pinkish flowers, native to open grassland habitat within the Manas landscape.
- Discovered during field botanical surveys of the Manas grassland ecosystem; formally published 13 March 2026.
- Named *zubeengargiana* in honour of Assamese singer Zubeen Garg, linking taxonomy to regional cultural identity.
- Manas National Park: UNESCO World Heritage Site (natural), Project Tiger reserve, Project Elephant reserve, and core zone of the Manas Biosphere Reserve.
- Located in Baksa district, part of the Bodoland Territorial Region, on the India-Bhutan international border.

Mains Dimensions:

- Grassland ecosystems inside "forest" reserves are frequently under-surveyed compared to closed-canopy habitat — a taxonomic and conservation-funding blind spot.
- Species-naming as cultural commemoration: a growing global trend of honouring artists/scientists/local figures in binomial nomenclature.
- Endemism risk: species restricted to a single grassland patch are acutely vulnerable to grazing pressure, invasive species (e.g. *Chromolaena odorata*) and habitat fragmentation.
- Manas's multiple-designation status (World Heritage + Tiger Reserve + Biosphere Reserve) illustrates how layered protection frameworks can still miss non-charismatic flora until dedicated botanical surveys are funded.

Let's Remember This Through a Trick

Manas wears three hats at once — World Heritage Site, Tiger Reserve, Biosphere Reserve — remember it as "Triple-M": Manas, Multiple designations, Melastomataceae discovery.

PYQ Linkage

GS3, thematic linkage: Biosphere Reserves and protected-area overlap with World Heritage/Tiger Reserve status (recurring UPSC Prelims theme on protected-area classification).

#OsbeckiaZubeengargiana

#ManasNationalPark

#Melastomataceae

#NewSpecies

#GS3-PYQ

GS3

Biodiversity Documentation · Taxonomy

Released ~30 Jun 2026 · Source: Zoological Survey of India / Botanical Survey of India

India Adds 709 New Faunal Species and 353 Plant Taxa — ZSI-BSI Annual Discoveries 2025

Why in News: The Zoological Survey of India's Animal Discoveries 2025 report, released around 30 June 2026, recorded 483 species entirely new to science and 226 species recorded in India for the first time — a combined 709 additions — taking India's total documented faunal diversity to 1,05,953 species. The Botanical Survey of India added 353 plant taxa, including 14 infraspecific taxa, over the same period. Kerala led in new animal discoveries (98 species) and Arunachal Pradesh led in species new to science (49), underlining the outsized biodiversity contribution of the Western Ghats and Eastern Himalaya hotspots.

Background: ZSI, marking over a century of scientific service (traced to 1916), and BSI together form India's primary taxonomic-survey infrastructure under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, systematically cataloguing the country's flora and fauna as the evidentiary backbone of India's biodiversity conservation policy.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- 483 animal species new to science + 226 first India records = 709 total additions (Animal Discoveries 2025).
- India's cumulative documented faunal diversity now stands at 1,05,953 species.
- BSI added 353 plant taxa, including 14 infraspecific taxa, in the corresponding period.
- Kerala recorded the highest number of new animal discoveries (98 species) — reflecting Western Ghats biodiversity richness.
- Arunachal Pradesh led in species entirely new to science (49) — reflecting Eastern Himalaya endemism.
- ZSI marked over a century of scientific service in 2026, hosting an Animal Taxonomy Summit to commemorate the milestone.

Mains Dimensions:

- Taxonomic documentation is foundational to conservation policy — species cannot be legally protected (Wildlife Protection Act Schedules, IUCN assessment) until they are formally described.
- Concentration of discoveries in Western Ghats and Eastern Himalaya validates India's two globally recognised biodiversity hotspots (of 36 worldwide).
- Links to India's CBD Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework commitments — Target 1 (spatial planning) and Target 4 (halting species extinction) both depend on baseline taxonomic data.
- Chronic underfunding and a shortage of trained taxonomists remain a structural bottleneck, echoing the same "young-talent shortage" theme flagged in today's NITI Aayog R&D report.

💡 Let's Remember This Through a Trick

Remember "483 + 226 = 709": new-to-science plus first-India-record equals the year's total addition — and pair Kerala (most new discoveries) with Arunachal Pradesh (most new-to-science) as India's twin biodiversity engines.

📄 PYQ Linkage

GS3, thematic linkage: Biodiversity hotspots of India and the role of ZSI/BSI in species documentation (recurring UPSC Prelims theme).

#ZSI

#BSI

#BiodiversityHotspot

#SpeciesDocumentation

#GS3-PYQ

2

Places in News

PLACES IN NEWS — 25 AUGUST 2026 | ANTIM ASSURED 100+



- ① New Delhi (Gorkhaland committee announced)
- ② Sukna, Darjeeling foothills, WB (tripartite meeting)
- ③ Kota, Rajasthan (mid-day meal incident)
- ④ Rabat, Morocco (7th India-Morocco JCM)
- ⑤ Darwin, Australia (Exercise Pitch Black 2026)
- ⑥ Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (Exercise Udara Shakti 2026)
- ⑦ Kochi, Kerala (INS Mangrol delivered by CSL)
- ⑧ Manas National Park, Assam (Osbeckia zubeengargiana)

Map note: map_25Aug2026.jpg was not found in the workspace at session start; map_21Aug2026.jpg (most recent available dated map) has been reused per standing workflow, with today's 8 pins freshly calibrated using the equirectangular formula ($\text{left}\% = (\text{lon} + 180) / 360 \times 100$, $\text{top}\% = (90 - \text{lat}) / 180 \times 100$).

① New Delhi (28.61°N, 77.21°E)

National capital; Union Home Ministry announced the Gorkhaland high-level committee here on 22 August 2026. India's seat of government sits in the Indo-Gangetic plain on the Yamuna's west bank.

② Sukna, Darjeeling foothills, West Bengal (26.85°N, 88.42°E)

Site of the 22 August tripartite stakeholder meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah — at the base of the Darjeeling Himalaya, gateway to the Darjeeling-Kalimpong hill region and the Dooars.

③ Kota, Rajasthan (25.18°N, 75.85°E)

Industrial city on the Chambal river, nationally known as India's coaching-institute hub; site of the 25 August mid-day-meal food-poisoning incident affecting 27 government-school children.

④ Rabat, Morocco (34.02°N, 6.85°W)

Morocco's capital on the Atlantic coast; hosted the 7th India-Morocco Joint Commission session (24-25 Aug 2026) on trade diversification, anchored by the phosphate-fertiliser relationship.

⑤ Darwin, Australia (12.46°S, 130.84°E)

Capital of Australia's Northern Territory and home to RAAF Base Darwin, host of the biennial Exercise Pitch Black — where IAF Rafales deployed for the first time in a large multilateral exercise.

⑥ Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (3.14°N, 101.69°E)

Malaysia's capital; venue context for Exercise Udara Shakti 2026, the bilateral India-Malaysia air exercise the IAF flew immediately after Pitch Black as part of one continuous Indo-Pacific deployment.

⑦ Kochi, Kerala (9.93°N, 76.27°E)

Home to Cochin Shipyard Limited, which delivered INS 'Mangrol' — India's third indigenous Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft — to the Navy on 21 August 2026.

⑧ Manas National Park, Baksa district, Assam (~26.7°N, 91.0°E)

UNESCO World Heritage Site, Project Tiger and Project Elephant reserve on the India-Bhutan border; grassland habitat of the newly described shrub *Osbeckia zubeengargiana*.

Ethics & Integrity Cases

1

Federalism, Trust, and the Ethics of Political Patience

Concept: Incrementalism in Trust-Building

The Gorkhaland committee is the third tripartite attempt since 1988 to resolve a decades-old identity demand. A civil servant tasked with implementing such a committee's recommendations must weigh the ethical duty to honour past commitments (from 1988 and 2011) against the political reality that each new government wants visible "fresh" outcomes. The applicable value is institutional continuity — treating inherited promises as binding moral commitments of the state, not just the administration that made them, so that repeated negotiation does not erode public trust in the process itself.

2

Duty of Care and the Ethics of the Public Trust Doctrine

Concept: Public Trust Doctrine / Negligence Liability

The Kota mid-day-meal incident raises the public trust doctrine — the principle that public officials hold certain resources and duties (here, child nutrition and safety) in trust for citizens, with a heightened duty of care toward children who cannot protect themselves. Even without proven malice, procedural negligence (inadequate food-quality checks) is an ethical breach of this trust, distinct from criminal liability, and demands the same seriousness in the administrative response.

3

Reciprocity and the Ethics of Resource Interdependence

Concept: Reciprocity in International Relations

India's near-total dependence on Moroccan phosphates for fertiliser security, and Morocco's interest in Indian markets for diversified exports, illustrates reciprocity as an ethical (not just strategic) principle in diplomacy — durable partnerships require both sides to see tangible mutual benefit, not a one-way extraction relationship, especially when the resource in question (phosphate) is finite and geopolitically concentrated.

4

Discipline, Restraint and the Ethics of Military Diplomacy

Concept: Restraint as Strategic Virtue

Deploying Rafales abroad for a multilateral exercise rather than a bilateral show of force reflects restraint as an ethical and strategic choice — building interoperability and trust with over 20 nations without provoking bloc-style confrontation. This models a value relevant well beyond defence: influence built through demonstrated competence and cooperation tends to be more durable than influence asserted through coercion.

5

Intergenerational Responsibility and the Ethics of Investing in Discovery

Concept: Intergenerational Justice in Science Investment

NITI Aayog's finding that India starves R&D of both money and career pathways for young researchers is, at its core, an intergenerational-justice problem: today's underinvestment forecloses tomorrow's innovation capacity and pushes talented young researchers abroad. The ethical case for raising R&D intensity is not only economic competitiveness but fairness to a generation whose most productive research years are being spent in institutionally uncertain conditions.

6

Stewardship and the Ethics of Naming Nature

Concept: Environmental Stewardship & Commemorative Ethics

Naming *Osbeckia zubeengargiana* after a beloved artist ties a scientific act to collective cultural memory, but it also carries a quieter ethical charge — the responsibility that follows once a species bears a well-known name: heightened public attention, and heightened obligation on institutions to actually protect the grassland habitat the name is meant to honour, not just publicise it.

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Naming every ethical concept precisely — not just describing the dilemma — is what separates a Topper's GS4 answer from an average one. **EMP (Ethics & Moral Philosophy)** drills exactly this concept-first framework. theiasakademia.com

4

Prelims MCQs

1. With reference to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), consider the following statements: (1) It was developed by the National Payments Corporation of India under RBI's regulatory oversight. (2) It is recognised by the IMF as the world's largest real-time payment system by transaction volume. 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 per NPCI/RBI and IMF characterisations.

2. The Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) functions under which of the following?

(a) The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution (b) The West Bengal GTA Act, 2011 (c) A Presidential Order under Article 371 (d) The Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996

Answer: (b)

GTA is a state-legislated sui generis body, distinct from Sixth Schedule Autonomous District Councils.

3. The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India provides for Autonomous District Councils in which of the following states? (1) Assam (2) Meghalaya (3) West Bengal (4) Mizoram. Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: (b)

Sixth Schedule applies to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram — not West Bengal.

4. PM POSHAN (formerly the Mid-Day Meal Scheme) derives its statutory backing primarily from which legislation?

(a) The Right to Education Act, 2009 (b) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (c) The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (d) The Consumer Protection Act, 2019

Answer: (b)

NFSA 2013 mandates a hot cooked meal for children in classes I-VIII.

5. Consider the following statements regarding Morocco: (1) It holds the world's largest known reserves of phosphate rock. (2) It is India's largest source of fertiliser and phosphate-linked imports by value. 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)

Morocco holds the largest global phosphate reserves; it is a major, but not necessarily India's single largest, fertiliser-import source overall.

6. Exercise 'Pitch Black' is a biennial multinational air combat exercise hosted by which country?

(a) Malaysia (b) Australia (c) Singapore (d) Indonesia

Answer: (b)

Exercise Pitch Black is hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force at RAAF Base Darwin.

7. Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) vessels such as INS 'Mangrol' are primarily built by which shipyard?

(a) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (b) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (c) Cochin Shipyard Limited (d) Hindustan Shipyard Limited

Answer: (c)

Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi, builds the ASW-SWC series including INS Mangrol.

8. With reference to India's Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD), consider the following statements: (1) It has remained below 1% of GDP for over a decade. (2) Government institutions contribute a larger share of GERD than the private sector in India. 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)

India's GERD has stayed under 0.7-0.7% of GDP, and government labs dominate R&D spend, unlike most advanced economies.

9. The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) was established under which of the following?

- (a) An executive order of the Department of Science & Technology (b) The ANRF Act, 2023 (c) The Scientific and Industrial Research Act, 1942 (d) A NITI Aayog resolution

Answer: (b)

ANRF was created by an Act of Parliament in 2023, envisaging ₹50,000 crore mobilisation over five years.

10. The Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS) is the policy successor to which earlier scheme?

- (a) SPECS (b) The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for mobile manufacturing (c) Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) (d) M-SIPS

Answer: (b)

MPMS follows the expiry of the mobile-phone PLI scheme on 31 March 2026.

11. Under the MPMS, what is the additional incentive available for domestic sourcing of key components and sub-assemblies?

- (a) Up to 1.5% (b) Up to 3% (c) Up to 5% (d) Up to 7.5%

Answer: (a)

An additional incentive of up to 1.5% is available for domestic component/sub-assembly sourcing.

12. As per the National Steel Policy, 2017, India's crude steelmaking capacity target by 2030 is:

- (a) 200 million tonnes (b) 250 million tonnes (c) 300 million tonnes (d) 350 million tonnes

Answer: (c)

National Steel Policy 2017 targets 300 MTPA capacity by 2030; current capacity is around 222 MTPA.

13. India's export policy for goods, including wheat and wheat-flour products, is administered under which classification system?

- (a) HSN (b) ITC(HS) (c) SITC (d) GATT Schedule

Answer: (b)

DGFT classifies export policy (Free/Restricted/Prohibited) under the ITC(HS) system.

14. Consider the following statements about ICAR-NBAGR: (1) It is headquartered in Karnal, Haryana. (2) It is the nodal body for characterisation and registration of indigenous livestock breeds in India. 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)

ICAR-NBAGR, Karnal, is India's nodal breed-registration authority.

15. As of the latest ICAR-NBAGR registration, India's total documented animal breed count stands at:

- (a) 198 (b) 226 (c) 246 (d) 262

Answer: (d)

262 total (258 indigenous + 4 synthetic) after the latest 16-breed registration.

16. *Osbeckia zubeengargiana*, discovered in Manas National Park, belongs to which plant family?

- (a) Rubiaceae (b) Melastomataceae (c) Orchidaceae (d) Poaceae

Answer: (b)

*The species belongs to the Melastomataceae family, genus *Osbeckia*.*

17. Manas National Park carries which of the following designations? (1) UNESCO World Heritage Site (2) Project Tiger Reserve (3) Project Elephant Reserve (4) Ramsar Wetland. Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: (a)

Manas is a World Heritage Site, Tiger Reserve and Elephant Reserve, but is not designated a Ramsar wetland.

18. As per the Zoological Survey of India's Animal Discoveries 2025 report, consider the following statements: (1) A total of 709 species were added to India's faunal record, combining new-to-science and first-India-record species. (2) Arunachal Pradesh recorded the highest number of species new to science. 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)

483 new-to-science + 226 first-India-records = 709; Arunachal Pradesh led new-to-science discoveries (49), Kerala led total new discoveries (98).

19. India's biodiversity hotspots recognised globally include which of the following? (1) Western Ghats (2) Eastern Himalaya (3) Deccan Plateau (4) Sundaland. Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: (a)

Only the Western Ghats-Sri Lanka and Himalaya (including Eastern Himalaya) hotspots fall within India among global biodiversity hotspots; Deccan Plateau and Sundaland are not part of India's recognised hotspots.

20. Which body is responsible for regulating food safety standards applicable to mid-day meal preparation in India?

- (a) National Human Rights Commission (b) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) (c) Bureau of Indian Standards (d) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

Answer: (b)

FSSAI, under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, sets applicable food-safety standards.

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5

Mains Questions

GS2 · 150 WORDS

1. Discuss the challenges of reconciling regional identity assertions with constitutional unity, with reference to asymmetric federal arrangements like the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration.

GS2 · 150 WORDS

2. Using the PM POSHAN scheme as a case study, examine why welfare-scheme design in India frequently succeeds on paper but fails at the implementation stage.

GS2 · 150 WORDS

3. "India's food security is increasingly a function of its fertiliser diplomacy." Discuss with reference to India's relationship with phosphate-rich nations such as Morocco.

GS3 · 150 WORDS

4. Evaluate the role of joint military exercises such as Pitch Black and Udara Shakti in advancing India's Indo-Pacific strategy without formal alliance commitments.

GS3 · 150 WORDS

5. Discuss the significance of indigenous Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft in India's layered coastal maritime security architecture.

GS3 · 150 WORDS

6. India's R&D expenditure has stagnated below 0.7% of GDP for over a decade. Analyse the structural reasons identified by NITI Aayog and suggest reforms.

GS3 · 150 WORDS

7. Critically examine the evolution of India's electronics-manufacturing incentive architecture from the PLI scheme to the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS).

GS3 · 150 WORDS

8. India added 709 new faunal species and 353 plant taxa in its latest annual biodiversity discovery report. Discuss the significance of sustained taxonomic documentation for conservation policy and India's international biodiversity commitments.

GS4 · CASE STUDY · 250 WORDS

9. A District Education Officer, investigating a mid-day-meal food-poisoning incident at a government school, faces pressure from local politicians to downplay the findings, while affected parents demand full accountability. Identify the ethical values at stake and discuss the course of action she should adopt.

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6

Answer Writing Value Addition

"UPI accounts for nearly 49% of global real-time payment transaction volumes."

— IMF characterisation, cited in NPCI/RBI 10-year UPI review, Aug 2026

"Morocco holds over 70% of the world's known phosphate rock reserves."

— widely cited USGS-derived estimate, relevant to India's fertiliser-security answers

"India's R&D spend has stayed under 0.7% of GDP for over a decade — among the lowest in the G20."

— NITI Aayog report, 24 Aug 2026

"The Gorkhaland Territorial Administration operates under the West Bengal GTA Act, 2011 — outside the Constitution's Sixth Schedule."

— MHA record; useful contrast point for Sixth Schedule answers

"India's crude steelmaking capacity stands at 222 MTPA, working toward the National Steel Policy 2017 target of 300 MTPA by 2030."

— Ministry of Steel, Aug 2026

"ICAR-NBAGR's total registered breed count now stands at 262 — 258 indigenous and 4 synthetic breeds."

— ICAR-NBAGR, Aug 2026

"India's documented faunal diversity now stands at 1,05,953 species."

— Animal Discoveries 2025, Zoological Survey of India

"Under MPMS, Indian-owned brands (Target Segment 2) receive a 5% incentive plus an additional 3% for domestic design and R&D."

— MeitY notification, 21 Aug 2026

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A memorised statistic dropped at the right moment is what separates an average GS3 answer from a Topper's answer — **LAKSHYAM AIR1** trains exactly this kind of precision recall. theiasakademia.com

7

AKADEMIA Direct Hit Tracker

TOPIC	GS PAPER	ONE-LINE CAPSULE	PROBABILITY
Gorkhaland Committee	GS2	3rd tripartite milestone for a permanent political solution	★★★★
GTA & Sixth Schedule contrast	GS2	Sui generis body vs Article 244(2) Autonomous Councils	★★★
PM POSHAN / Kota incident	GS2	Implementation-gap case study in welfare delivery	★★★

NFSA 2013	GS2	Legal basis for the mid-day meal entitlement	★★
India-Morocco JCM	GS2	7th session; trade-basket diversification push	★★★
Phosphate / fertiliser security	GS3	Morocco holds >70% of world phosphate reserves	★★★★
Exercise Pitch Black 2026	GS3	First large-force multilateral Rafale deployment	★★★
Exercise Udara Shakti 2026	GS3	Bilateral India-Malaysia air exercise, back-to-back with Pitch Black	★★
INS Mangrol / ASW-SWC	GS3	3rd indigenous shallow-water ASW craft, built by CSL	★★★
NITI Aayog R&D report	GS3	Funding crunch + talent shortage flagged as hurdles	★★★★
ANRF	GS3	₹50,000 cr mobilisation target under ANRF Act 2023	★★★
MPMS	GS3	₹62,500 cr, TS1/TS2 structure, PLI successor	★★★★
Crude steel output / NSP 2017	GS3	222 MTPA capacity, targeting 300 MTPA by 2030	★★★
DGFT wheat export policy	GS3	Wheat-flour products moved from prohibited to free	★★
ICAR-NBAGR breeds	GS3	16 new breeds registered; national tally 262	★★★
UPI @ 10	GS3	~13,000x volume growth; ~49% of global RTP volume	★★★★★
Osbeckia zubeengargiana	GS3	New shrub from Manas NP, named after Zubeen Garg	★★★
ZSI-BSI Discoveries 2025	GS3	709 new faunal additions; 353 new plant taxa	★★★

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UPSC CSE Prelims 2026 Results

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

48

QUESTIONS FROM
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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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