

PART II • ENVIRONMENT TO DIRECT HIT TRACKER

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MORNING EDITION • 08:00 IST

Saturday, 12 September 2026

INSIDE PART II

1. Environment & Ecology
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

GS3

Wetland Conservation · Ramsar

Hearing developments through ~8-10 September 2026 · Source: Madras High Court proceedings; NGT order background

Madras HC Weighs Replacing Blanket Pallikaranai Construction Ban With Science-Based Zoning

Why in News: The Madras High Court's Chief Justice's Bench is hearing a challenge to the National Green Tribunal's September 2025 blanket construction ban across roughly 8,584 acres within a 1-km buffer of the Pallikaranai marshland, a Ramsar-listed wetland in Chennai. The Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (TNSWA), backed by a scientific hazard-zonation map from the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, has now submitted a revised, graded buffer-zone plan intended to replace the blanket freeze with science-based zoning. Judges have indicated they may set aside the blanket ban but have insisted on safeguards against fresh unregulated construction — a genuinely new procedural development, not a repeat of last year's original order.

Background: Pallikaranai is one of the last natural marshlands of south India, Ramsar-listed in 2022, its extent having shrunk from roughly 50 sq km historically to just 6-9 sq km due to landfill and urbanisation along Chennai's OMR IT corridor. Its wetland functions — flood buffering, groundwater recharge, migratory-bird habitat — remain under growing real-estate pressure.

KEY FACTS

- Ramsar Site since 2022
- NGT's blanket 1-km buffer ban issued September 2025, covering ~8,584 acres across 9 Chennai localities
- Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority operationalised the ban via Office Order 07/2025
- National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management prepared the current scientific hazard-zonation map
- Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority is the nodal body under the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017
- Case pending before the Madras High Court's Chief Justice's Bench
- Court is weighing a graded/tiered buffer instead of a uniform blanket ban
- Similar urban-wetland-buffer disputes are simultaneously active at Bhopal's Bhoj Wetland and Jaipur's Hingonia

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Ramsar Convention's "wise use" principle versus municipal planning and real-estate pressure
- Institutional overlap between NGT, State Wetland Authorities and High Courts in environmental adjudication
- Urban wetland shrinkage as a nationwide pattern linked to unplanned IT-corridor/urban growth
- The buffer-zone/zonation approach as a middle path between blanket bans and unregulated development
- Ecosystem-services valuation: flood buffering and groundwater recharge functions lost to encroachment

LET'S REMEMBER THIS THROUGH A TRICK

"50 to 6" — Pallikaranai's shrinkage from ~50 sq km historically to just 6-9 sq km today, one statistic that captures the whole crisis.

PYQ Linkage

Wetland conservation/Ramsar sites is a recurring Prelims and Mains theme; exact past year not confidently confirmed for this specific case.

PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Consider the following statements regarding the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017:

1. They provide for constitution of a State Wetlands Authority in each state/UT.
2. Ramsar Sites in India are automatically exempt from these Rules.
3. The Rules prohibit all forms of construction within any distance of a notified wetland.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

PROBABLE MAINS QUESTION (150 WORDS)

Urban wetlands in India face a common pattern of shrinkage under real-estate pressure despite Ramsar designation. Discuss the institutional and legal mechanisms available to protect them, with examples.

#GS3

#Wetlands

#RamsarSite

#NGT

#UrbanEcology

AKADEMIA MEMORY TRIVIA

Pallikaranai is one of the few surviving natural marshlands in South India still supporting over 100 bird species, including migrants arriving from as far as Siberia.

GS1

Biodiversity · Western Ghats

Described January 2026 (recent) · Source: ZSI scientists / journal Phyllomedusa

New Caecilian Species *Gegeneophis valmiki* Described From Western Ghats

Why in News: Zoological Survey of India scientists, led by K.P. Dinesh, formally described a new limbless, burrowing amphibian species — *Gegeneophis valmiki* — in the journal *Phyllomedusa* in January 2026, based on specimens first collected in 2017 from the Valmiki Plateau in Satara district, Maharashtra, in the northern Western Ghats. It is the first new species added to the genus *Gegeneophis* in over a decade, and phylogenetic analysis of the same dataset hints at roughly six further cryptic lineages awaiting formal description.

Background: Caecilians (order Gymnophiona) are limbless, largely blind, soil-dwelling "hidden amphibians" that remain poorly surveyed because of their cryptic, fossorial lifestyle. India hosts a disproportionate share of the world's caecilian diversity, concentrated in the Western Ghats — a UNESCO World Heritage biodiversity hotspot — and Northeast India.

KEY FACTS

- Genus: *Gegeneophis*, within the caecilian order Gymnophiona
- Type locality: Valmiki Plateau, Satara district, Maharashtra (northern Western Ghats)
- First specimen collected 2017; formally described January 2026 in journal *Phyllomedusa*
- First new *Gegeneophis* species described in over a decade
- Description used morphology, meristic counts, phylogenetics and ASAP species-delimitation analysis
- Analysis suggests roughly six further cryptic lineages may await formal description
- Western Ghats is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and globally recognised biodiversity hotspot

- Many caecilians remain classified "Data Deficient" on the IUCN Red List due to poor survey coverage

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- The "cryptic species" problem: genetic analysis revealing hidden diversity invisible to morphology-only taxonomy
- ZSI/BSI's institutional role in sustaining India's taxonomic-research capacity
- Western Ghats endemism debate, linkable to the Gadgil and Kasturirangan committee reports
- Conservation-policy gap: protecting "Data Deficient" species when population/range data is scarce
- Funding and career pipeline challenges facing taxonomy as a scientific discipline in India

LET'S REMEMBER THIS THROUGH A TRICK

"1 species, 6 more hiding" — *Gegeneophis valmiki* is the confirmed find, but phylogenetics hints at six cryptic lineages still unnamed.

PYQ Linkage

Western Ghats endemism/biodiversity-hotspot themes have appeared in past Prelims sets; exact year not confidently recalled for this specific species.

PROBABLE PRELIMS MCQ

Caecilians, a group of limbless amphibians found prominently in India's Western Ghats and Northeast, belong to which taxonomic order?

(a) Anura (b) Urodela (c) Gymnophiona (d) Squamata

Answer: (c)

PROBABLE MAINS QUESTION (150 WORDS)

Discuss the significance of the Western Ghats as a global biodiversity hotspot, and the challenges in documenting and conserving its lesser-known faunal groups such as caecilians.

#GS1

#GS3

#WesternGhats

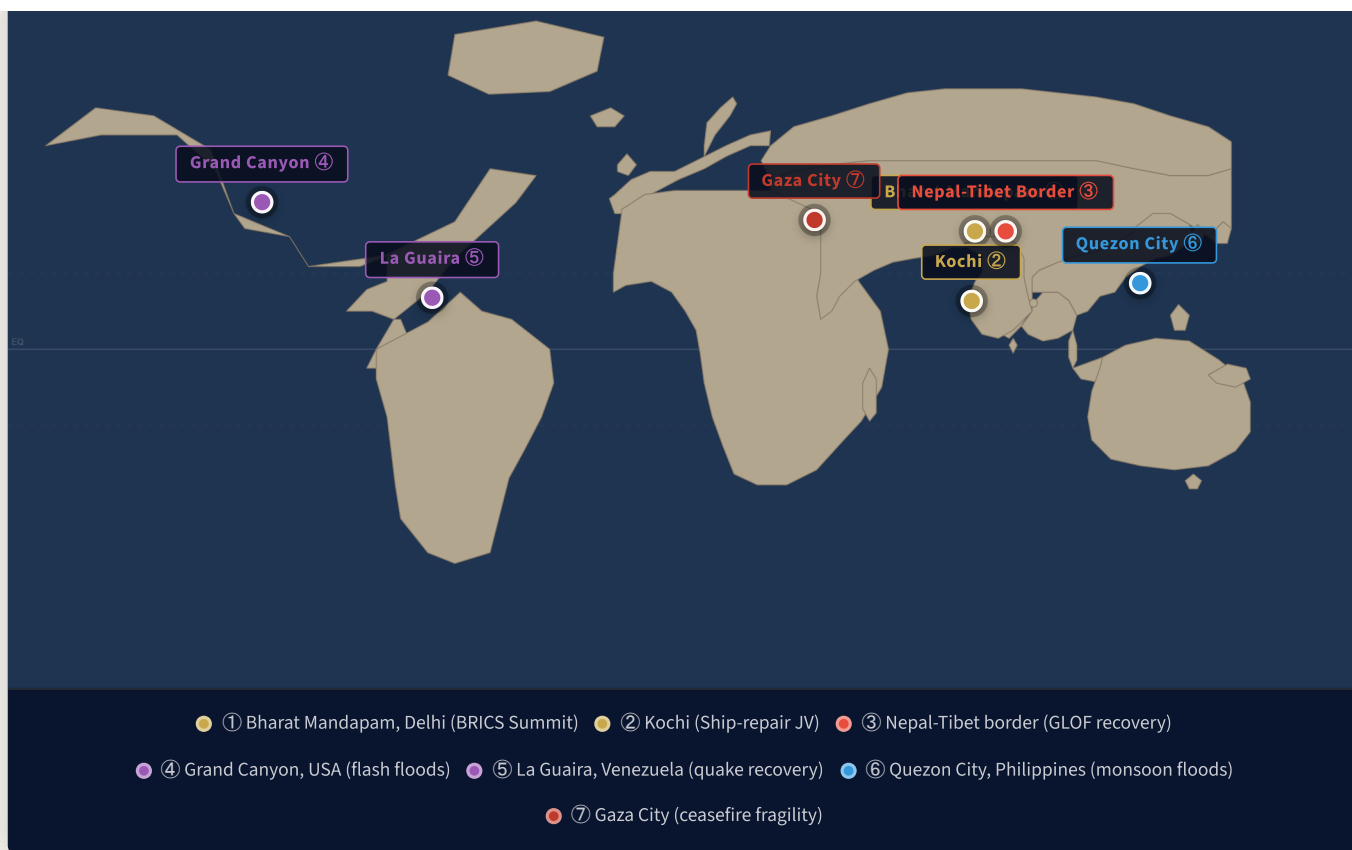
#Biodiversity

#Taxonomy

AKADEMIA MEMORY TRIVIA

Caecilians resemble earthworms or snakes so closely that many were likely overlooked for decades — a reminder that "new species" discoveries are often about better detection, not new evolution.

§2 Places in News



① Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, India

INDO-GANGETIC PLAIN · YAMUNA FLOODPLAIN

Why in news: Venue for the 18th BRICS Summit, 12-13 September 2026 — India's first in-person Chairship since the bloc's expansion to 11 members.

Geography context: Built on the Yamuna floodplain for G20 2023, it has since become India's default global-summit venue.

② Kochi, Kerala, India

MALABAR COAST · BACKWATERS

Why in news: Site of the International Ship Repair Facility (ISRF), now subject to a ₹1,800 crore Cochin Shipyard-Drydocks World joint venture announced 11 September 2026.

Geography context: Kochi sits at the mouth of the Vembanad backwater system on the Arabian Sea coast, historically one of India's key natural harbours.

③ Rasuwagadhi / Nepal-Tibet Border (Langtang-Gyirong)

HIGH HIMALAYA · BHOTE KOSHI-TRISHULI BASIN

Why in news: The region remains in recovery from the late-August 2026 Langtang glacial-lake-outburst/avalanche disaster that sent a debris surge down the Bhote Koshi, disrupting the Nepal-China Gyirong trade corridor.

Geography context: Sits on the glacier-fed Bhote Koshi-Trishuli river system on the Himalayan frontal thrust — a classic high-altitude cryosphere hazard zone and a major Nepal-China trans-Himalayan trade route.

④ Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona, USA

COLORADO PLATEAU

Why in news: Flash flooding this week stranded tourists and disrupted lodging and access routes.

Geography context: Carved by the Colorado River through the semi-arid Colorado Plateau — terrain prone to sudden, monsoon-driven flash floods despite its dry climate.

⑤ La Guaira, Venezuela

CARIBBEAN-SOUTH AMERICAN PLATE BOUNDARY

Why in news: La Guaira's international airport partially resumed operations this week, roughly ten weeks after the devastating June 2026 twin earthquakes.

Geography context: A Caribbean coastal state straddling the seismically active Caribbean-South American plate boundary along the El Pilar-Boconó fault system.

⑥ Quezon City / Metro Manila, Philippines

LUZON ISLAND · PASIG-MARIKINA BASIN

Why in news: La Mesa Dam overflow and continuing monsoon rains forced fresh mass evacuations this week.

Geography context: Luzon sits in the western Pacific typhoon corridor; the low-lying Pasig-Marikina river basin is chronically prone to compound dam-overflow and urban flooding.

⑦ Gaza City, Palestinian Territories

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN · LEVANT

Why in news: A fragile, repeatedly-violated ceasefire remains under strain, with continuing security operations reported in the strip this week.

Geography context: An eastern Mediterranean coastal strip between Israel and Egypt's Sinai Peninsula — part of the Levant, a longstanding regional conflict fault-line.

§3 Ethics & Integrity Cases

Autonomy vs Utilitarian Manipulation

Case 1 — Dark Patterns in E-Commerce

An e-commerce platform's product managers know that a fake "prior price" strikethrough increases conversions by double digits, even though the new Consumer Protection Rules require honest 30-day price disclosure. A design lead is asked to "interpret" the rule loosely to preserve the conversion lift.

Ethical concept: This tests Kantian respect for the consumer's autonomy and rational choice against a purely utilitarian, profit-maximising calculus. Kant's categorical imperative would treat manipulating a customer's perception as using them merely as a means to revenue, not as an end in themselves — the design lead's duty is to comply with the rule's spirit, not merely its loophole.

Natural Justice · Audi Alteram Partem

Case 2 — Selective Reading of Service Records

A senior bureaucrat reviewing officers for a "public interest" retirement decision is handed a summary that highlights only adverse remarks from an officer's file, omitting years of strong appraisals and a recent promotion.

Ethical concept: This is a natural-justice dilemma around audi alteram partem — the principle that no one should be condemned unheard, and that a decision-maker must consider the whole record, not a curated slice. The bureaucrat's integrity obligation is to insist on the complete file before signing off, exactly as the Supreme Court held in S.S. Das.

Libertarian Paternalism vs Individual Liberty

Case 3 — Warning Labels on Food

A food-industry association argues that mandatory red-hexagon warning labels infringe on consumers' freedom to choose what they eat, while public-health officials insist that without a "nudge," obesity and diabetes will keep rising, especially among children who cannot make informed choices.

Ethical concept: This is a textbook libertarian-paternalism dilemma — whether the state may "nudge" (not force) choices through information design for the collective good, versus a strict libertarian view that autonomous adults alone bear responsibility for their diet. A defensible middle path preserves choice (no bans) while ensuring information is honest and salient.

Political Realism vs Idealism

Case 4 — Reconciling With a Border Rival

A foreign-service officer must brief the Prime Minister ahead of the first bilateral with a neighbouring power's leader since a deadly border clash that claimed the lives of Indian soldiers. Veterans' families ask whether resuming warm diplomacy dishonours that sacrifice.

Ethical concept: This is the classic realism-versus-idealism tension in diplomatic ethics — whether national interest (stable borders, trade, regional balance) justifies engaging a rival despite unresolved grievances, or whether idealistic commitments to justice and memory should take precedence. Statecraft typically resolves this through compartmentalisation: pursuing practical cooperation while keeping unresolved issues formally on the table, not forgotten.

Ecocentrism vs Anthropocentrism · Intergenerational Equity

Case 5 — Easing a Wetland Construction Ban

A state wetland authority official must recommend whether to ease a blanket construction ban near a shrinking Ramsar marshland to accommodate housing demand from a booming IT corridor, knowing future generations will inherit whatever wetland capacity remains.

Ethical concept: This pits ecocentrism (valuing the wetland's intrinsic ecological worth and its non-human inhabitants) against anthropocentrism (prioritising immediate human housing needs), layered with intergenerational equity — the duty not to foreclose future generations' access to flood-buffering and groundwater services. A graded, evidence-based buffer is the ethically defensible middle path over either extreme.

Corporate Accountability · Protection of Vulnerable Groups

Case 6 — Platform Responsibility for Harmful Advertising

A large technology platform's India policy team receives a regulator's summons over paid advertisements allegedly linked to child-sexual-abuse material appearing on its service, and must decide how transparently to cooperate versus how much to lean on "safe harbour" legal protections.

Ethical concept: This tests corporate accountability and the special duty of care owed to vulnerable groups, particularly children. A rights-based approach holds that safe-harbour protections cannot be invoked to evade a platform's basic duty of care once it is on

notice of harm — cooperation with the regulator (NCPCR) is the only ethically sound response, irrespective of the narrower legal defence available.

§4 Prelims MCQs

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006: 1. It repealed multiple pre-existing food-related laws, including the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. 2. FSSAI is empowered to lay down science-based standards for food articles. 3. State-level Food Safety Commissioners are appointed under this Act. 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 **Ans: (d)**

Q2. Consider the following statements about "dark patterns" in e-commerce: 1. They refer to UX/UI design tricks that manipulate users into unintended purchases or disclosures. 2. The Central Consumer Protection Authority first issued guidelines against dark patterns in 2023. 3. India's 2026 E-Commerce Amendment Rules are the world's first-ever measure against dark patterns. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (a) — the EU's Digital Services Act predates it.**

Q3. Fundamental Rule 56(j) primarily deals with: (a) Pension eligibility of civil servants (b) Compulsory retirement in public interest (c) Transfer policy of civil servants (d) Reservation in promotion **Ans: (b)**

Q4. Consider the following statements about Article 311 of the Constitution: 1. It provides safeguards against arbitrary dismissal, removal or reduction in rank of civil servants. 2. It applies only to All India Services officers. 3. Disciplinary action under it requires a reasonable opportunity of being heard. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (a) — Article 311 covers all persons in the civil service of the Union or a State, not just AIS.**

Q5. The 18th BRICS Summit (2026) was hosted by India at which venue? (a) Vigyan Bhawan (b) Bharat Mandapam (c) Pragati Maidan (d) Hyderabad House **Ans: (b)**

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding BRICS expansion: 1. Saudi Arabia and the UAE joined as full members in the 2023-24 expansion. 2. Argentina formally joined as a full member in 2024. 3. Indonesia is a full BRICS member as of 2026. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (a) — Argentina's new government declined to join.**

Q7. The Line of Actual Control (LAC) separates India from which country? (a) Pakistan (b) Nepal (c) China (d) Myanmar **Ans: (c)**

Q8. Consider the following statements about Chabahar Port: 1. It is located in Iran. 2. It is being developed with Indian investment as an alternative connectivity route. 3. It provides India connectivity to Afghanistan and Central Asia while bypassing Pakistan. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 1, 2 and 3 (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1 and 2 only **Ans: (b)**

Q9. Project-75 of the Indian Navy relates to the indigenous construction of: (a) Aircraft carriers (b) Diesel-electric submarines (c) Destroyers (d) Amphibious ships **Ans: (b)**

Q10. Consider the following statements about the National Quantum Mission: 1. It has a total outlay exceeding ₹6,000 crore. 2. It runs from 2023 to 2031. 3. Quantum Key Distribution is one of its focus areas. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (d)**

Q11. Aadhaar is issued under the provisions of which Act? (a) Information Technology Act, 2000 (b) Aadhaar Act, 2016 (c) Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 (d) Citizenship Act, 1955 **Ans: (b)**

Q12. Consider the following statements on India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI): 1. UPI, Aadhaar and DigiLocker together form what is often called "India Stack." 2. DPI has been promoted by India as a model for other developing countries. 3. All DPI components in India are operated exclusively by private fintech companies. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (a)**

Q13. The New Development Bank (NDB), set up by BRICS countries, is headquartered in: (a) New Delhi (b) Shanghai (c) Moscow (d) Johannesburg **Ans: (b)**

Q14. Consider the following statements about the Sagarmala Programme: 1. It was launched to promote port-led development in India. 2. It covers port modernisation, port connectivity, port-linked industrialisation and coastal community development. 3. It is implemented exclusively through 100% central government funding with no private participation. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (a) — Sagarmala explicitly encourages PPP models.**

Q15. India's Central Bank Digital Currency is popularly known as: (a) e-Rupee (b) UPI Coin (c) Digital Gold (d) RuPay Token **Ans: (a)**

Q16. Consider the following statements about Ramsar Sites in India: 1. A Ramsar designation is made under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. 2. Ramsar designation automatically confers complete legal immunity from all forms of nearby construction. 3. Pallikarai Marsh in Tamil Nadu is a Ramsar Site. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (a)**

Q17. Caecilians, limbless burrowing amphibians found in the Western Ghats, belong to the order: (a) Anura (b) Urodela (c) Gymnophiona (d) Chelonia **Ans: (c)**

Q18. Consider the following statements about the Western Ghats: 1. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. 2. It is recognised as one of the world's biodiversity hotspots. 3. The Kasturirangan Committee recommended declaring 100% of the Western Ghats an Ecologically Sensitive Area. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (a) — Kasturirangan recommended roughly 37%, not the entire range.**

Q19. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) derives its powers primarily from: (a) The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 (b) The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 (c) The POCSO Act, 2012 (d) The Right to Education Act, 2009 **Ans: (b)**

Q20. Consider the following statements regarding intermediary liability under Indian law: 1. "Safe harbour" protection for online intermediaries is provided under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000. 2. Safe harbour protection is absolute and cannot be conditioned on due-diligence obligations. 3. The IT Rules, 2021 impose additional due-diligence obligations on significant social media intermediaries. Which are correct? (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 **Ans: (a)**

THEIAS AKADEMIA 20 statement-based-heavy MCQs in one morning is exactly the volume NEEB 300+'s live PYQ writing sessions are designed to help you convert into speed and accuracy under exam conditions. theiasakademia.com

§5 Mains Questions

GS1 • 150w Discuss the ecological significance of Western Ghats caecilian diversity and the institutional challenges in documenting India's lesser-known faunal groups.

GS2 • 150w Examine the judiciary's use of continuing mandamus to compel regulatory action, with reference to the Supreme Court's recent intervention in FSSAI's Front-of-Package Labelling scheme.

GS2 • 150w Discuss the constitutional safeguards under Article 311 against arbitrary compulsory retirement of civil servants, with reference to recent judicial pronouncements.

GS2 • 250w "BRICS today is less an economic acronym and more a geopolitical platform for the Global South." Discuss with reference to the 18th BRICS Summit's New Delhi Declaration.

GS2/GS3 • 250w Assess the trajectory of India-China relations since the 2020 Galwan clash and the prospects for durable de-escalation following renewed high-level engagement.

GS3 • 150w Discuss the strategic and economic significance of quantum communication technologies for India, with reference to the National Quantum Mission's emerging public-private investment models.

GS3 • 250w Examine the rationale for BRICS countries' push toward payment-system interoperability and Central Bank Digital Currencies, and the structural challenges to reducing dependence on dollar-based settlement.

GS3/GS4 • 150w Public-health regulation often requires balancing individual liberty with paternalistic intervention. Discuss with reference to India's proposed Front-of-Package warning labelling for ultra-processed foods.

GS4 • 150w Corporate platforms increasingly host third-party advertising content that may be harmful to vulnerable groups such as children. Discuss the ethical responsibilities of platforms and regulators in this context.

THEIAS AKADEMIA A GS1-to-GS4 spread in a single day's Mains bank is precisely what Philosophy Target 300+ and NEEB 300+ students practise weekly — full-paper balance, not just current-affairs recall. theiasakademia.com

§6 Answer Writing Value Addition

"BRICS' share of global merchandise exports has risen from 12% in 2003 to nearly 24% in 2026, with total exports growing from about \$900 billion to almost \$6 trillion."

— Piyush Goyal, BRICS Business Forum, 11 September 2026

"An officer's entire service record, not a selective reading of adverse remarks, must inform a compulsory retirement order."

— Supreme Court, S.S. Das v. Union of India, 2026 INSC 980

Chile's black-octagon front-of-pack warning labels, introduced in 2016, were associated with a documented decline in sugary-drink purchases within a few years — the global benchmark India's proposed red hexagon draws on.

— Comparative public-health policy data point

UIDAI: over 5 billion Aadhaar face-authentication transactions completed since the feature's 2021 launch, across nearly 200 authorised agencies.

— UIDAI, Global Fintech Fest 2026

National Quantum Mission outlay: ₹6,003 crore (2023-2031) — India's dedicated push into quantum computing, communication, sensing and materials.

— Department of Science and Technology

Pallikaranai marshland has shrunk from roughly 50 sq km historically to just 6-9 sq km today — a benchmark statistic for urban wetland loss in India.

— Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority data

India's coastline stretches approximately 7,516 km, yet the country captures only a small share of Asia's ship-repair market — the gap the Cochin Shipyard-Drydocks World JV targets.

— Maritime India Vision 2030 context

"We must engage in conflict prevention and encourage a culture of dialogue and diplomacy."

— New Delhi Declaration, 18th BRICS Summit, 12 September 2026

§7 AKADEMIA Direct Hit Tracker

TOPIC	GS PAPER	CAPSULE	PROBABILITY
FSSAI Red Hexagon FoPL SC Order	GS2	SC presses FSSAI on FoPL implementation	★★★★☆
Consumer Protection E-Commerce Rules 2026	GS2	Dark-pattern crackdown, prior-price mandate	★★★★☆
S.S. Das v UOI (FR 56(j))	GS2	Full record needed before compulsory retirement	★★★☆☆
18th BRICS Summit / New Delhi Declaration	GS2	UNSC reform push, terrorism condemnation	★★★★★

Modi-Xi Bilateral	GS2	First bilateral since Galwan	★★★★★
Modi-Pezeshkian Bilateral	GS2	Chabahar, West Asia peace push	★★★★☆
Kalvari-Class Submarines (Project-75)	GS3	Indigenous submarine construction	★★★★☆
UIDAI Aadhaar Face Auth SDK	GS3	DPI expansion, biometric authentication	★★★★☆
QNu Labs / National Quantum Mission	GS3	Quantum tech public-private investment	★★★★☆
BRICS Trade Doubling + UPI-Pix Interoperability	GS2/GS3	De-dollarisation, payment linkage	★★★★☆
Cochin Shipyard-Drydocks World JV	GS3	Ship-repair PPP, Sagarmala	★★★★☆
CBDC/e-Rupee Scale-Up	GS3	Tokenised bond atomic settlement	★★★★☆
Pallikaranai Marshland Buffer Dispute	GS3	Ramsar wetland vs urban development	★★★★☆
Gegeneophis valmiki (new caecilian)	GS1/GS3	Western Ghats cryptic-species discovery	★★★★☆
NCPCR-Meta CSAM Inquiry	GS2/GS4	Child protection, platform accountability	★★★★☆
BRICS Expansion & UNSC Reform	GS2	11-member bloc, Global South platform	★★★★★
India-China LAC De-escalation	GS2/GS3	Border management trajectory	★★★★☆
Digital Public Infrastructure (India Stack)	GS2/GS3	Aadhaar-UPI-DigiLocker export model	★★★★☆

★ 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.

This is not luck. This is TheIAS Akademia.

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VERIFIED · PART II

Proof of Precision

Every item mapped. Every claim verified.

2

ENVIRONMENT CARDS

6

ETHICS CASES

20

MCQS GENERATED

9

MAINS QUESTIONS

7

PLACES MAPPED

0

REPEATED TOPICS

Environment

Ethics

Geography

Polity

IR

Economy

✓ All news sourced from Supreme Court/High Court records, MoEFCC-adjacent scientific bodies (ZSI), and primary institutional sources

✓ Every Ethics case names its underlying philosophical concept explicitly, not a bare dilemma description

✓ News Freshness Rule and RULE 9 anti-repetition scan applied — no topic repeated from the last 7 editions without a materially new angle

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