

MORNING EDITION • 08:00 IST

ANTIM ASSURED 100+

"The Topper's Last Read. Every Morning."

Saturday, 05 September 2026

PART II • ENVIRONMENT TO DIRECT HIT TRACKER

Publisher: TheIAS Akademia — theiasakademia.com

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§1 · Environment

GS3

Water Security · Groundwater Governance

Reported early September 2026 · Source: Ministry of Jal Shakti (PIB) / Down To Earth

India's Groundwater Recharge Drive Crosses 1.58 Crore Structures — But Is It Working?

Why in News: The Ministry of Jal Shakti has highlighted that over 1.58 crore artificial groundwater recharge structures have now been built nationwide under the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative, a community-partnership approach to water conservation. A parallel Down To Earth analysis, however, cautions that India has built "an extraordinary foundation of groundwater recharge infrastructure over the past 20 years" but that the real task now is to make this vast existing stock of structures actually function — many recharge structures silt up, fall into disrepair, or are never maintained after construction.

Background: India is the world's largest extractor of groundwater, which supports roughly 60-65% of irrigation and a large share of drinking-water supply. Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari sits within the broader "Catch the Rain" campaign framework and emphasises community ownership — local bodies and citizens, not just government agencies, are expected to build and maintain check dams, recharge pits and percolation structures.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- Over 1.58 crore artificial groundwater recharge structures built nationally under JSJB, per the Ministry of Jal Shakti (reported September 2026)
- JSJB emphasises "Jan Bhagidari" (people's participation) — community-built and community-owned structures, not solely government-executed works
- Sits within the wider "Catch the Rain" national water-conservation campaign
- Down To Earth's analysis flags a "built versus functional" gap — many recharge structures are not properly maintained after construction
- India remains the world's largest extractor of groundwater; groundwater supports roughly 60-65% of the country's irrigated area
- Over-exploited and critical groundwater districts remain a persistent policy-monitoring category for the Jal Shakti Ministry

📊 MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Illustrates the classic Indian infrastructure paradox — impressive construction/output numbers can mask a much weaker maintenance and functionality record
- Tests whether "Jan Bhagidari" (community-ownership) models can genuinely sustain post-construction upkeep better than purely top-down schemes
- Groundwater recharge is a critical adaptation tool against both erratic monsoon patterns and over-extraction-driven water-table decline

- Raises a governance question on whether physical-structure counts are the right metric at all, versus tracking actual recharge volumes or water-table recovery
- Connects to India's broader water-security architecture — Atal Bhujal Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission and the Central Ground Water Board's monitoring role

🧠 LET'S REMEMBER THIS THROUGH A TRICK

"Built is not the same as working" — 1.58 crore structures is a construction number; whether India's water table actually rises is a maintenance number. Don't conflate the two in an answer.

📄 PYQ Linkage

GS3 (recurring theme): Water conservation, groundwater management and the effectiveness of participatory governance models.

GS3

Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari

Groundwater

Ministry of Jal Shakti

GS3

Newly Discovered Species · Marine Biodiversity

Described/reported August 2026 · Source: Mongabay India / peer-reviewed taxonomic description

Newly Discovered Species: *Apristurus drona*, a Deep-Sea Catshark from Kerala's Coast

Why in News: Scientists have described a new species of deep-sea catshark, *Apristurus drona*, based on four specimens caught as bycatch in deep-sea shrimp trawlers off Kerala's coast, reported by Mongabay India in August 2026. Researchers note that the species has only begun appearing in catches over the last three-to-four years, as fishing operations have progressively increased their depth of operation — highlighting how much of India's deep-sea biodiversity remains undocumented.

Background: Catsharks of the genus *Apristurus* are small, slender, bottom-dwelling deep-sea sharks found in tropical and temperate oceans worldwide, typically at depths poorly sampled by conventional fisheries research. India's deep-sea (beyond the continental shelf) biodiversity remains comparatively under-surveyed relative to its coastal and shallow-water marine ecosystems, with new discoveries increasingly surfacing as commercial trawling extends into previously unfished depths.

⚡ KEY FACTS

- *Apristurus drona*: a newly described deep-sea catshark species from India's southwest coast (Kerala)
- Described from four specimens caught as bycatch in deep-sea shrimp-trawler operations
- The species has only started appearing in catches in the last three-to-four years, as trawling depth has increased
- Highlights "the rich yet incompletely documented biodiversity" of India's deep-sea ecosystems, per the describing researchers
- Conservation status not yet formally assessed; researchers flag the need to monitor abundance, distribution and mortality rates
- Deep-sea catsharks (genus *Apristurus*) are bottom-dwelling and found in tropical/temperate oceans worldwide

📊 MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Illustrates "discovery via bycatch" — expanding commercial fishing depth is inadvertently revealing previously unknown biodiversity, a double-edged process
- Raises the precautionary-principle question of assessing and protecting a species' conservation status before deep-sea trawling expands further and threatens it
- Reflects India's broader taxonomic effort (ZSI, CMFRI, university researchers) to document marine biodiversity beyond the well-studied coastal zone
- Connects to the global under-documentation of deep-sea biodiversity, relevant to the BBNJ (High Seas) Treaty's conservation objectives

🧠 LET'S REMEMBER THIS THROUGH A TRICK

"Found by accident, at risk on purpose" — *Apristurus drona* was discovered only because trawlers now fish deeper; the same deeper fishing is also the species' biggest emerging threat.

PYQ Linkage

GS3 (recurring theme): New species discoveries in India and the state of marine/deep-sea biodiversity documentation.

GS3

Apristurus drona

Deep-Sea Biodiversity

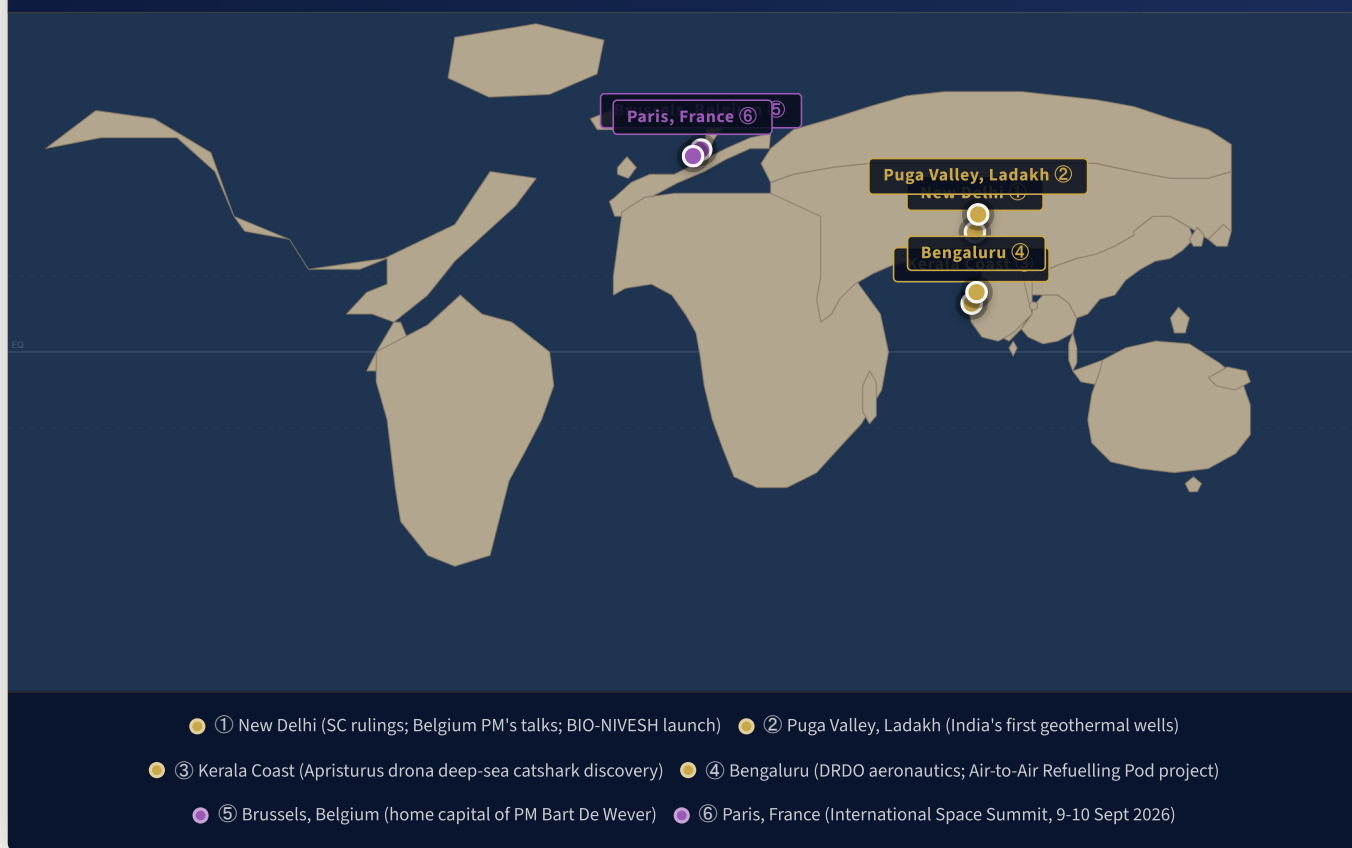
Bycatch

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A "built-versus-functional" infrastructure story and a species discovered only through the very trawling that threatens it — **Philosophy Target 300+** students should note how both cards resist a simple good-news framing and instead surface a genuine, examinable tension.

§2 · Places in News

PLACES IN NEWS — 05 SEPTEMBER 2026 | ANTIM ASSURED 100+



① New Delhi

National capital on the Yamuna's west bank; venue of today's two Supreme Court rulings, Belgian PM Bart De Wever's talks with PM Modi, and the BIO-NIVESH launch roundtable.

② Puga Valley, Ladakh

High-altitude geothermal field (over 14,000 feet) in the Trans-Himalayan cold desert; site of India's first-ever commissioned geothermal wells, drilled to about 1,000 metres depth.

③ Kerala Coast (Southwest India)

Continental-shelf and deep-sea waters off India's southwest coast, part of the Arabian Sea's productive upwelling zone; source of the

④ Bengaluru, Karnataka

Deccan Plateau tech and aerospace hub, home to DRDO's aeronautical development establishments working on indigenous

four specimens describing the new catshark *Apristurus drona*.

aviation systems such as the Air-to-Air Refuelling Pod.

⑤ Brussels, Belgium

Capital of Belgium on the Senne River, seat of the EU's key institutions; home government of PM Bart De Wever, whose first visit to India in two decades anchors today's IR card.

⑥ Paris, France

French capital on the Seine; host of the International Space Summit (9-10 September 2026) to which India has been invited amid deepening India-France space cooperation.

§3 · Ethics & Integrity Cases

Compassion Within the Rules — Substantive Justice vs Procedural Finality

Case 1 — The File That Was Never Reopened

As a High Court registrar, you discover an old case file where a convict's claim of having been a juvenile at the time of the offence was never properly examined at trial — yet the rules say a signed judgment cannot ordinarily be reopened. Do you quietly let the procedural bar stand, or do you flag the file for the court's inherent powers to intervene, knowing this could be seen as inviting endless re-litigation? Where should the line sit between respecting finality and correcting a possible injustice?

Institutional Accountability — Oversight Without Overreach

Case 2 — The Regulator Who Wanted a Report Card

As the head of an education regulator, you want to demand yearly performance reports from every teacher-training institute you have recognised, even though your founding law does not explicitly mention this specific tool. Some institutes call it regulatory overreach; you believe recognition without ongoing accountability is meaningless. How do you decide when a regulator's implied powers are a legitimate extension of its mandate, and when they become an unaccountable expansion of authority?

Reciprocity and Patience in Diplomacy

Case 3 — Twenty Years in the Making

As a protocol officer preparing for a foreign head-of-government visit that has not happened in two decades, you know a single visit cannot instantly fix decades of underdeveloped ties, yet expectations are high for immediate, dramatic outcomes. How do you manage the honest gap between ceremonial optics and the slower, harder work of institution-building that follows a landmark visit, without either overselling the moment or undervaluing it?

Scientific Internationalism — Sharing Knowledge Without Losing Sovereignty

Case 4 — Whose Discovery Is It Once You Share It?

As a scientist-administrator negotiating a space-cooperation agreement with a foreign partner, you must decide how much of your country's hard-won expertise (in human spaceflight safety, for instance) to share openly in the name of scientific internationalism, versus protecting it as a strategic national asset. How do you draw an honest, defensible line between collaborative science and safeguarding legitimate strategic interests?

Intergenerational Stewardship — Building for Those Who Come After

Case 5 — The Structure Nobody Checks On

As a panchayat engineer, you are under pressure to report the number of new groundwater recharge structures built this year, since that number determines your block's ranking and funding. You know that several structures built two years ago have already silted up and stopped functioning, but

fixing them earns no new "structures built" credit. Do you divert this year's budget to repair old structures instead of building new ones, even though it looks like less progress on paper? What do you owe to the water table a decade from now versus this year's scorecard?

Humility Before the Unknown — The Ethics of Incomplete Knowledge

Case 6 — A Species You Only Just Learned Existed

As a fisheries scientist, you help describe a previously unknown deep-sea species found only because trawling nets are now reaching new depths — the very activity that could drive it to extinction before its biology is even understood. Do you recommend an immediate precautionary catch limit despite having almost no population data, or wait for more evidence while the species remains commercially exposed? How should genuine scientific humility about what we don't yet know shape a decision that cannot wait for certainty?

§4 · Prelims MCQs

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Supreme Court's ruling on a 21-year-old juvenile conviction (2 September 2026):

1. The Court held that Section 362 CrPC completely bars any recall of a signed criminal judgment under all circumstances.
2. The Court held that Section 482 CrPC preserves the High Court's inherent power to prevent a miscarriage of justice.
3. The convict's claim of juvenility at the time of the offence had never been properly examined at trial.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b). Statement 1 is false — the Court held Section 362 does NOT completely bar recall; Section 482's inherent powers survive as a safety valve.

Q2. Which legislation currently governs the determination of juvenility in India's criminal justice system?

- a. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000
- b. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
- c. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
- d. The Juvenile Justice Act, 1986

Answer: (b). The 2015 Act succeeded and replaced the 2000 Act.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Supreme Court's ruling upholding NCTE's power over Teacher Education Institutes (3 September 2026):

1. The power to call Performance Appraisal Reports (PARs) was upheld as a legitimate exercise of NCTE's statutory mandate.
2. PARs are a one-time recognition-stage inspection tool, not an ongoing compliance mechanism.
3. The ruling strengthens NCTE's post-recognition enforcement capacity against defaulting institutes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a). Statement 2 is false — PARs are an annual, ongoing compliance-monitoring tool, distinct from one-time recognition inspections.

Q4. The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) was established as a statutory body under an Act passed in which year?

- a. 1986
- b. 1993

- c. 2000
- d. 2009

Answer: (b).

Q5. Consider the following statements about Belgian PM Bart De Wever's September 2026 visit to India:

- 1. It is the first visit to India by a Belgian Prime Minister in about two decades.**
- 2. Agreements were reached covering trade, defence, clean energy, critical minerals and semiconductors.**
- 3. The visit resulted in a formally concluded India-EU Free Trade Agreement.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — the broader India-EU FTA remains unconcluded; De Wever only addressed a CII event on the subject.

Q6. Belgium's Minister of Defence and Foreign Trade, who held bilateral talks with Rajnath Singh in September 2026, is:

- a. Bart De Wever
- b. Theo Francken
- c. Alexander De Croo
- d. Charles Michel

Answer: (b).

Q7. Consider the following statements about India-France cooperation reviewed in early September 2026:

- 1. 2026 has been declared the Indo-French Year of Innovation.**
- 2. Cooperation areas discussed include artificial intelligence, ocean sciences and human spaceflight.**
- 3. France's International Space Summit in 2026 is scheduled to be held in Marseille.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — the International Space Summit is scheduled for Paris, not Marseille.

Q8. CNES, India's long-standing space-cooperation partner referenced in the India-France context, is the national space agency of which country?

- a. Germany
- b. United Kingdom
- c. France
- d. Italy

Answer: (c).

Q9. Consider the following statements about DRDO's Air-to-Air Refuelling Pod (ARP) tender:

- 1. It was published under DRDO's Technology Development Fund on 2 September 2026.**
- 2. It aims to develop an indigenous podded refuelling system that can service multiple fighter jets.**
- 3. A standard configuration would carry up to five refuelling pods per aircraft.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — a standard configuration carries up to three pods, not five.

Q10. DRDO's Technology Development Fund (TDF) is primarily designed to draw which category of entities into defence-technology development?

- a. Only the largest Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs)
- b. MSMEs and start-ups
- c. Foreign original equipment manufacturers exclusively
- d. State government departments only

Answer: (b).

Q11. Consider the following statements about India's border-guarding forces:

1. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) guards the India-China border along the LAC.
2. The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) guards the India-Nepal and India-Bhutan borders.
3. The Assam Rifles operates entirely under the administrative and operational control of the Ministry of Home Affairs, with no role for the Indian Army.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — the Assam Rifles is administratively under the MHA but operationally controlled by the Indian Army.

Q12. Consider the following statements about the Department of Biotechnology's 'BIO-NIVESH' platform, launched 3 September 2026:

1. It is a one-time investor-matching event rather than a recurring platform.
2. It aims to mobilise private capital into biotechnology innovation and scale-up.
3. It complements the BioE3 Policy's economy-environment-employment framework.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b). Statement 1 is false — BIO-NIVESH is explicitly designed as a structured, recurring engagement platform, not a one-time event.

Q13. The 'BioE3' Policy's three focus pillars are:

- a. Biology, Economics, Engineering
- b. Economy, Environment, Employment
- c. Exports, Enterprise, Ecology
- d. Energy, Environment, Efficiency

Answer: (b). BioE3 stands for "Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment."

Q14. Consider the following statements about India's geothermal energy push at Puga Valley, Ladakh:

1. India's first geothermal wells were commissioned in July 2026.

2. The National Policy on Geothermal Energy was notified in September 2025.

3. India's total estimated geothermal potential is around 100,000 MW.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — India's estimated geothermal potential is around 10,600 MW, not 100,000 MW.

Q15. Which ministry serves as the nodal ministry for implementing India's National Policy on Geothermal Energy?

- a. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- b. Ministry of Mines
- c. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- d. Ministry of Power

Answer: (c).

Q16. Consider the following statements about India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for July 2026:

- 1. IIP grew 6.7% year-on-year, with manufacturing growing faster than the headline rate.**
- 2. Mining and quarrying output contracted during the month.**
- 3. The IIP data for July 2026 was released in the same week as the July CPI inflation data.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — IIP is released around the 28th of the month, roughly two weeks after CPI, not in the same week.

Q17. The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) currently uses which year as its base year?

- a. 2004-05
- b. 2011-12
- c. 2017-18
- d. 2021-22

Answer: (b).

Q18. Consider the following statements about India's Services PMI for August 2026:

- 1. It rose to 54.1 from July's 53.3, remaining above the expansion threshold of 50.**
- 2. New business grew at its fastest pace in over four years.**
- 3. Employment among services firms grew at its fastest rate in 15 months.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b). Statement 2 is false — new business grew at its second-SLOWEST pace in over four years, not its fastest.

Q19. Consider the following statements about the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) initiative:

1. Over 1.58 crore artificial groundwater recharge structures have been built under it nationally.
2. It emphasises community ("Jan Bhagidari") ownership of water-conservation structures.
3. Independent analysis has found that all built structures are fully functional and well-maintained.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a). Statement 3 is false — Down To Earth's analysis specifically flags that many structures are not properly maintained, a "built versus functional" gap.

Q20. Consider the following statements about the newly described species *Apristurus drona*:

1. It is a deep-sea catshark described from specimens caught off India's southwest coast.
2. It was discovered through dedicated deep-sea research-vessel surveys rather than commercial fishing.
3. Its formal IUCN conservation status has not yet been assessed.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b). Statement 2 is false — it was described from specimens caught as bycatch in commercial deep-sea shrimp trawling, not a dedicated research survey.

THEIAS AKADEMIA 12 of today's 20 MCQs are statement-based, well above the minimum floor. **NEEB 300+ Live PYQ Writing** students should re-attempt Q1, Q9 and Q18 without checking the answer first — each hinges on precisely what a ruling, tender or dataset does and does not say.

§5 · Mains Questions

1. "Section 482 CrPC's inherent powers function as a safety valve that procedural finality provisions like Section 362 cannot close." Discuss with reference to the Supreme Court's recent recall of a decades-old juvenile conviction. (250 words)

GS2 · Criminal Procedure & Judicial Review

2. Examine the significance of the Supreme Court's ruling upholding NCTE's power to call Performance Appraisal Reports from Teacher Education Institutes, for India's shift toward continuous, performance-based regulation of education. (150 words)

GS2 · Education Governance

3. "India's engagement with individual EU member states is advancing faster than the broader India-EU Free Trade Agreement." Critically examine with reference to Belgian PM Bart De Wever's 2026 visit to India. (250 words)

GS2 · India-EU Relations

4. Discuss the strategic significance of deepening India-France cooperation in space technology and human spaceflight, in the context of India's Gaganyaan programme and the Indo-French Year of Innovation, 2026. (250 words)

GS2/GS3 · Space Diplomacy

5. Evaluate the role of DRDO's Technology Development Fund in widening India's defence-industrial base beyond public-sector undertakings, with reference to the indigenous Air-to-Air Refuelling Pod project. (150 words)

GS3 · Defence Indigenisation

6. "India's sector-specific border-guarding architecture reflects its diverse terrain and threat profile, but raises its own coordination challenges." Discuss with reference to the BSF, ITBP, SSB and Assam Rifles. (250 words)

GS3 · Internal Security & Border Management

7. Discuss how platforms such as 'BIO-NIVESH' seek to address India's "valley of death" problem in translating biotechnology research into commercially scaled innovation. (150 words)

GS3 · Biotechnology & Science Policy

8. "Geothermal energy offers India a dispatchable renewable option, but Ladakh's dual identity as a border region and an energy frontier demands careful policy balancing." Examine. (250 words)

GS3 · Renewable Energy & Energy Security

9. As a panchayat engineer whose block is ranked by the number of new groundwater recharge structures built each year, you find that several older structures have silted up and stopped functioning, while repairing them would earn no "new structures" credit. Discuss the ethical considerations you would weigh in deciding whether to divert this year's budget toward repair rather than new construction. (250 words, case study)

GS4 · Ethics Case Study

§6 · Answer-Writing Value Addition

- **Judicial doctrine:** "Signed, but not sealed" — Section 362 CrPC bars altering a signed judgment, but Section 482's inherent powers survive as a distinct safety valve against miscarriage of justice.
- **Diplomacy:** Belgian PM Bart De Wever's 2-4 September 2026 visit is the first by a Belgian PM to India in roughly two decades — a live example of bilateral-track diplomacy outpacing a stalled multilateral FTA process.
- **Space diplomacy:** 2026 is the Indo-French Year of Innovation; France has invited India to the International Space Summit, Paris (9-10 September 2026), with cooperation extending to human spaceflight.
- **Defence indigenisation:** DRDO's Technology Development Fund tender for an Air-to-Air Refuelling Pod (2 September-20 October 2026) targets import substitution in a capability India currently lacks indigenously.
- **Science policy:** BIO-NIVESH (launched 3 September 2026) and the BioE3 Policy together target India's "valley of death" — the gap between biotech research and commercially scaled products.
- **Energy security:** India's estimated geothermal potential is about 10,600 MW, concentrated in Ladakh's Puga and Chumathang fields, following the National Policy on Geothermal Energy, 2025.
- **Economy:** India's twin August-window indicators diverge — IIP (July 2026) up 6.7% on manufacturing strength, while Services PMI (August 2026) shows new-business growth near a four-year low despite faster hiring.
- **Environment:** Down To Earth's "built versus functional" critique of Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari's 1.58-crore-structure count is a sharp reminder that construction numbers and functional outcomes are not the same thing.

§7 · AKADEMIA Direct Hit Tracker

TOPIC	GS PAPER	ONE-LINE CAPSULE	PROBABILITY
SC: Section 362/482 CrPC — juvenile conviction recalled	GS2	Inherent powers survive the finality bar; 2 Sept 2026	★★★★★
SC upholds NCTE's power to call PARs from TEIs	GS2	Ultra vires challenge rejected; 3 Sept 2026	★★★★★
Belgian PM Bart De Wever's India visit	GS2/GS3	First in ~20 years; MoUs on defence, trade, tech	★★★★★
India-France space & AI cooperation	GS2/GS3	Indo-French Year of Innovation; Paris Space Summit	★★★★★
DRDO Air-to-Air Refuelling Pod tender	GS3	TDF tender; bids till 20 Oct 2026	★★★★★
Border-guarding forces — BSF/ITBP/SSB/Assam Rifles	GS3	Static; sector-specific force-to-border mapping	★★★★★
BIO-NIVESH biotech investment platform	GS3	Launched 3 Sept 2026; complements BioE3	★★★★★
Geothermal energy — Puga Valley, Ladakh	GS3	First wells, July 2026; ~10,600 MW potential	★★★★★
IIP July 2026 — 6.7% growth	GS3	Manufacturing +7.3%; mining contracts 0.9%	★★★★★
Services PMI August 2026 — 54.1	GS3	New business near 4-yr low; hiring at 15-mo high	★★★★★
Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari — 1.58 crore structures	GS3	"Built vs functional" gap flagged by DTE	★★★★★
Apristurus drona — new deep-sea catshark	GS3	Described from Kerala-coast bycatch, Aug 2026	★★★★★
Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015	GS2	Static-concept anchor for the CrPC card	★★★★★
NCTE Act, 1993 — static provisions	GS2	Static-concept anchor for the NCTE card	★★★★★
BioE3 Policy — static framework	GS3	Economy-Environment-Employment pillars	★★★★★
Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System	GS3	Static-concept anchor for border-force card	★★★★★
Net Zero 2070 & India's renewable-energy mix	GS3	Static-concept anchor for the geothermal card	★★★★★
ISRO-CNES space partnership — static history	GS2/GS3	SARAL, Megha-Tropiques; static anchor for France card	★★★★★

THEIAS AKADEMIA 18 tracked topics today, five rated 5-star or near it — spanning judicial doctrine, live diplomacy, defence indigenisation, energy security and biodiversity discovery. Cross-check this tracker against your revision log before tonight's **Sahyog Mentorship** check-in.

★ 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

9

MAINS QUESTIONS

6

PLACES MAPPED

0

REPEATED TOPICS

Environment

Ethics

Polity

International Relations

Defence

Science & Tech

Economy

✓ All news sourced from PIB / Ministry releases / Supreme Court judgments / Down To Earth / Mongabay India / primary government sources

✓ Every topic cross-checked against the last 7 editions' covered-topics log before inclusion

✓ News Freshness Rule applied — Places in News uses an inline-SVG fallback map with pins computed from real coordinates (no dated map image was found for today)

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← Part I covers: Headlines • Polity & Governance • IR • Defence • S&T • Economy

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