

DAILY UPSC MASTERY SERIES · 4 JUNE 2026

ANTIM ASSURED 100+

Daily Current Affairs for UPSC Prelims & Mains

PART I · HEADLINES TO PLACES IN NEWS

"FROM DAILY NEWS TO DIRECT UPSC QUESTIONS"

DATE

EDITION

PREPARED BY

Thursday, 4 June 2026 Morning · Part I of II TheIAS Akademia

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- 01 Top 10 Headlines
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ENVIRONMENT / HISTORIC

Southwest Monsoon officially arrives over Kerala today (June 4) — IMD declares onset; Orange alert across Kerala & Tamil Nadu.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Shangri-La Dialogue 2026 outcomes: India strengthens defence partnerships with Singapore, USA, New Zealand; Indo-Pacific vision outlined.

ECONOMY / TRADE

India-Oman CEPA enters into force (June 1, 2026) — duty-free access for 99.38% of India's exports; MSME, farmers, pharma benefit.

GOVERNANCE / TEXTILES

Mission Senehgori launched — Assam's Muga silk positioned as a global luxury brand by Union Minister Scindia & Assam CM.

SCIENCE / TECH

India becomes 3rd largest startup ecosystem — 1.8 lakh DPIIT-recognised startups; 3,600 deep-tech ventures in AI, quantum, frontier tech.

ENERGY / ENVIRONMENT

India generates 50% of electricity from renewable sources — achieves 2030 target 5 years ahead of schedule.

DEFENCE

India-US defence cooperation reaffirmed at Shangri-La Dialogue 2026; Indo-Pacific security architecture discussions advance.

AGRICULTURE / ECONOMY

Monsoon onset triggers kharif sowing season; Orange alert rains provide relief to Kerala, Tamil Nadu after below-normal forecast concerns.

DEFENCE / INNOVATION

RudraM-II to replace Russian-origin Kh-31 missiles in IAF — confirms India's accelerating indigenous weapon substitution programme.

ECONOMY

India-Oman CEPA to boost demand for Indian farm products — honey, cashews, mangoes, organic products; NPOP organic certification recognised.

Mission Senehjori: Assam's Muga Silk Gets Global Luxury Brand Push

PIB · MINISTRY OF TEXTILES · ASSAM GOVERNMENT

WHY IN NEWS

Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia and the Chief Minister of Assam jointly launched Mission Senehjori to elevate Assam's unique Muga silk into a global luxury brand. The mission aims at GI-protected branding, market access, and weaver empowerment.

BACKGROUND

Muga silk is produced exclusively in Assam from the *Antheraea assamensis* silkworm — a wild silkworm found naturally in Assam. It has a natural golden sheen and is one of the rarest silks in the world. India is the world's 2nd largest silk producer. Muga has GI (Geographical Indication) tag.

PRELIMS FACTS

- Muga silk: Produced only in Assam · Natural golden colour
- Silkworm: *Antheraea assamensis* (semi-wild, feeds on Som & Soalu plants)
- GI Tag: Yes — Muga silk of Assam
- India: 2nd largest silk producer globally (after China)
- Ministry: Textiles (Minister: Jyotiraditya Scindia)
- Types of Indian silk: Mulberry, Tasar, Muga, Eri (4 main)

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- GI tags as tools of cultural preservation and economic empowerment
- Handloom & textile policy: ODOP, PM MITRA, Silk Samagra
- Artisan welfare and tribal livelihoods in NE India
- GS1: Art & culture; GS2: Welfare policies; GS3: Industry

UPSC SYLLABUS

GS Paper 1: Indian culture · GS Paper 3: Industrial policy, handicrafts, GI tags

PYQ LINKAGE

UPSC 2019 Prelims: GI tags in India. UPSC 2022 GS1: Handicrafts and artisan livelihoods.

PROBABLE PRELIMS Q

Muga silk, known for its natural golden colour, is produced from which silkworm? (a) *Bombyx mori* (b) *Antheraea paphia* (c) *Antheraea assamensis* (d) *Philosamia ricini* → **Ans: (c)**

PROBABLE MAINS Q

"GI tags alone cannot save India's dying textile traditions — marketing, skilling, and market access are equally critical." Discuss with examples. (150 words)

GS-1 · GS-3

PYQ Linked

GI Tag

Muga Silk

Assam

Textiles

NE India

AKADEMIA TEACHING HOOK:

List India's 4 silk types: Mulberry (Karnataka/WB), Tasar (Jharkhand), Muga (Assam), Eri (NE India). This is a recurring Prelims factoid. Then pivot: How does GI protection work under TRIPS/WTO? India's GI Registry is in Chennai. Ask: Why is China not allowed to export "Darjeeling tea"? GI power explained.



Shangri-La Dialogue 2026: India's Indo-Pacific Vision & Defence Partnerships Strengthened

INDIAN MASTERMINDS · AWAZ THE VOICE · INDIA STRATEGIC · IISS

WHY IN NEWS

India's Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh represented India at the Shangri-La Dialogue 2026 (Singapore, May 29–31). India outlined its Indo-Pacific vision, strengthened defence partnerships with Singapore, New Zealand, USA, Netherlands, and Australia, and held bilateral meetings on maritime security and defence technology.

BACKGROUND

The Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD) is Asia's premier defence summit, organised by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), held annually in Singapore. It brings together defence ministers, military chiefs, and strategic thinkers. India's consistent presence signals its Indo-Pacific leadership ambitions. 2026 SLD was the 21st edition.

PRELIMS FACTS

- SLD: Annual · Organised by IISS · Location: Singapore (Shangri-La Hotel)
- India's representative: Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh (2026)
- India's Indo-Pacific policy: Free, Open, Inclusive Indo-Pacific
- IISS: International Institute for Strategic Studies (London-based)
- Partners engaged: USA, Singapore, New Zealand, Australia, Netherlands
- India-Singapore: Comprehensive Strategic Partnership

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- India's Indo-Pacific strategy: Quad + ASEAN + bilateral partnerships
- Singapore as India's gateway to SE Asia
- Multilateral defence forums vs. bilateral MoUs — complementary tools
- GS2: India's foreign policy, international groupings

PYQ LINKAGE

UPSC 2023 Prelims: Shangri-La Dialogue — who organises it? UPSC 2022 Mains GS2: India's Indo-Pacific strategy.

PROBABLE PRELIMS Q

The Shangri-La Dialogue is organised by: (a) ASEAN Secretariat (b) United Nations (c) IISS (International Institute for Strategic Studies) (d) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation → **Ans: (c)**

GS-2 · IR

PYQ Linked

Shangri-La

Indo-Pacific

IISS

Singapore

India-US Defence

AKADEMIA TEACHING HOOK:

Shangri-La Dialogue is UPSC gold — asked in Prelims 2023. Three things to memorise: (1) Organised by IISS, (2) Held in Singapore, (3) Asia's premier defence forum. Then build the strategic picture — India uses SLD to signal Indo-Pacific intent while engaging both ASEAN and Quad partners simultaneously.

India-Oman CEPA Enters into Force — Duty-Free Access for 99.38% of India's Exports

PIB · MEA · COMMERCE MINISTRY · KPIAS ACADEMY

WHY IN NEWS

The India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), signed in December 2025, officially came into force on June 1, 2026. It provides duty-free access for 99.38% of India's exports to Oman (covering 98.08% of Oman's tariff lines). Key beneficiaries: MSMEs, farmers (honey, cashews, mangoes), pharma, organic products.

PRELIMS FACTS

- CEPA signed: December 2025 · Into force: June 1, 2026
- Duty-free: 99.38% of India's exports by value
- Oman tariff lines covered: 98.08%
- India's NPOP organic certification: Recognised by Oman
- Key India exports: Medicines, medical devices, honey, cashews, mangoes
- Oman: GCC member · Capital: Muscat · 2nd largest Gulf trade partner of India

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Economic diplomacy: How CEPAs translate into ground-level farmer & MSME benefits
- Organic certification (NPOP) as a non-tariff trade facilitator
- India's Gulf strategy: CEPA as entry point into GCC market
- GS2: Bilateral trade; GS3: Agriculture exports, MSME

PYQ LINKAGE

UPSC 2023 Prelims: India-UAE CEPA features. UPSC 2022 GS2: India's bilateral trade agreements.

PROBABLE MAINS Q

"The India-Oman CEPA is not merely a trade agreement — it is a strategic instrument of India's Act West Policy." Critically examine with specific reference to agriculture, pharma and MSME sectors. (250 words)

GS-2 · GS-3

PYQ Linked

CEPA

Oman

Act West

NPOP

MSME

Agriculture Exports

AKADEMIA TEACHING HOOK:

The CEPA is now operationally live — this is the "implementation story." Ask: What is NPOP? (National Programme for Organic Production) — India's organic certification scheme that Oman now recognises. This creates a direct export pathway for India's 5 million+ organic farmers. Connect NPOP → CEPA → farmer income → GS3 agriculture answer.

India-US Defence Cooperation Reaffirmed at Shangri-La; RudraM-II to Replace Russian Kh-31

ASIANET NEWSABLE · NEWKERALA.COM · DRDO

WHY IN NEWS

At Shangri-La Dialogue 2026, India and the US reaffirmed bilateral defence cooperation across maritime security, technology co-development, and Indo-Pacific stability. Separately, IAF confirmed RudraM-II will replace Russian-origin Kh-31 anti-radiation missiles — marking a key milestone in India's import substitution in defence.

PRELIMS FACTS

- Kh-31: Russian-origin air-to-surface anti-radiation missile used by IAF
- RudraM-II advantage: Better range (300 km vs ~110 km), speed (Mach 5.5 vs Mach 2), indigenous
- India-US defence: BECA, LEMOA, COMCASA — foundational agreements
- iCET: Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (India-US, 2023)
- India-US: Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Import substitution in defence: Reducing Russia-dependency post-Ukraine sanctions
- India-US defence: From buyer-seller to co-development (iCET, GE F414 engine deal)
- Shangri-La as strategic signalling forum for India
- GS2: India-US relations; GS3: Defence indigenisation

GS-2 · GS-3

PYQ Linked

India-US

RudraM-II

iCET

BECA

Aatmanirbhar

AKADEMIA TEACHING HOOK:

The RudraM-II replacing Kh-31 is a textbook Aatmanirbhar Bharat story. Draw the "dependence-to-autonomy" arc: Soviet-era imports → Kh-31 → RudraM-II. Pair with iCET (India-US tech initiative) for a complete GS3 answer on India's defence modernisation strategy. Ask: Why does India want to reduce Russia dependence now?

India: 3rd Largest Startup Ecosystem — 1.8 Lakh DPIIT-Recognised Startups, 3,600 Deep-Tech Ventures

IBEF · DPIIT · MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

WHY IN NEWS

India has consolidated its position as the world's 3rd largest startup ecosystem with over 1.8 lakh DPIIT-recognised startups, including 34,000 technology startups and 3,600 deep-tech ventures in AI, quantum computing, and frontier technologies.

PRELIMS FACTS

- DPIIT-recognised startups: 1.8 lakh+ (as of June 2025)
- India: 3rd largest startup ecosystem (after USA, China)
- Deep-tech startups: 3,600 (AI, quantum, biotech, space)
- Startup India: Launched Jan 2016 by PM Modi
- DPIIT: Dept. for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade
- Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS): SIDBI-managed · ₹10,000 crore

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Startup ecosystem as driver of innovation, employment, and export revenue
- Policy enablers: Startup India, iDEX, PLI schemes, SIDBI FFS
- Deep-tech gap: India leads in IT services but lags in hardware, semiconductors
- GS3: Industrial policy, innovation ecosystem, entrepreneurship

PYQ LINKAGE

UPSC 2023 GS3 Mains: India's startup ecosystem and challenges. UPSC 2021 Prelims: Startup India features.

GS-3

PYQ Linked

Startup India

DPIIT

Deep Tech

Innovation

AKADEMIA TEACHING HOOK:

India is 3rd in startups but 15th in Global Innovation Index. Why the gap? Because startups ≠ innovation leadership. Deep-tech requires long R&D cycles, patient capital, and university-industry linkages — all weak in India. This contrast makes a brilliant Mains answer opener. Ask students: What's the difference between a startup and a deep-tech company?



India-Oman CEPA: Agriculture & MSME Gains — NPOP Organic Certification Opens Gulf Market

PIB · COMMERCE MINISTRY · KPIAS ACADEMY

WHY IN NEWS

With India-Oman CEPA now operational, India's organic farmers get a direct export pathway as Oman recognises India's NPOP (National Programme for Organic Production) certification. Demand for Indian honey, cashews, mangoes, butter, eggs, and sweet biscuits is expected to rise sharply in Oman's food market.

PRELIMS FACTS

- NPOP: National Programme for Organic Production — India's organic certification
- NPOP Authority: Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)
- India organic farming area: ~5.5 million hectares (APEDA 2024)
- India: Largest organic producer by number of farmers (3.5 million+)
- Key export items: Honey, cashews (Goa/Kerala/WB), Alphonso mangoes, organic spices

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Agricultural exports and farmer income: MSP, APEDA, GI, CEPA linkage
- Organic farming as a trade and sustainability instrument
- MSME: Micro exporters accessing GCC market through CEPA
- GS3: Agriculture, food processing, international trade

GS-3

NPOP

APEDA

Organic Farming

CEPA

Agriculture Exports

AKADEMIA TEACHING HOOK:

APEDA + NPOP + CEPA = the agriculture export triple-lock. Draw the chain: Indian organic farmer → NPOP certification (APEDA) → CEPA duty-free access → Oman market. This is a live example of how policy convergence creates farmer income. Use it to enrich GS3 agriculture answers with concrete institutional linkages.

Southwest Monsoon Arrives Over Kerala — IMD Declares Onset on June 4, 2026

IMD · PIB · FREE PRESS JOURNAL · INDIA.COM

WHY IN NEWS

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) declared the onset of the southwest monsoon over Kerala on June 4, 2026 — the normal onset date. Heavy rains with Orange and Yellow alerts issued across all districts of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Conditions favourable for rapid advance into Gulf of Mannar, Bay of Bengal.

BACKGROUND

The southwest monsoon is the primary rainfall system for India, delivering ~70% of annual rainfall during June–September. Its onset over Kerala marks the official start of the kharif sowing season. The IMD uses Multi-Model Ensemble (MME) forecasting. 2026 monsoon is projected at ~90% of Long Period Average (LPA) — below-normal but not deficient.

PRELIMS FACTS

- Monsoon onset over Kerala: June 4, 2026 (normal: June 1)
- IMD scientist Neetha K. Gopal: Confirmed onset declaration
- Alert: Orange alert — very heavy rainfall (115.6–204.4 mm/day)
- Yellow alert: Heavy rainfall (64.5–115.5 mm/day)
- 2026 seasonal forecast: ~90% of LPA (below-normal)
- IMD under: Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)
- LPA: 87 cm for June–September season

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- Monsoon as lifeline of Indian agriculture and rural economy
- IMD's improved forecasting: MME, Doppler radar network, satellite data
- Climate change impact on monsoon variability and predictability
- Kharif sowing implications: Rice, soybean, cotton, groundnut
- GS1: Climatology; GS3: Agriculture, food security

PYQ LINKAGE

UPSC 2022 Prelims: Southwest monsoon characteristics. UPSC 2019 GS1: Monsoon mechanism and variability.

PROBABLE PRELIMS Q

Which of these correctly defines an "Orange Alert" for rainfall? (a) Extremely heavy rain >204 mm/day (b) Very heavy rain 115.6–204.4 mm/day (c) Heavy rain 64.5–115.5 mm/day (d) Moderate rain 35–64.4 mm/day → **Ans: (b)**

PROBABLE MAINS Q

"The arrival of the monsoon over Kerala is not just a meteorological event — it triggers India's entire food security apparatus." Discuss. (150 words)

GS-1 · GS-3

PYQ Linked

Southwest Monsoon

IMD

Kerala

Kharif

Orange Alert

AKADEMIA TEACHING HOOK:

The monsoon onset is one of the most predictable UPSC triggers — every year from 2015–2024, a monsoon-related question appeared in Prelims or Mains. Today's declaration makes it live. Draw the monsoon mechanism: ITCZ shift + Arabian Sea branch + Bay of Bengal branch. Ask: Which branch brings more rainfall to India and why?

India Achieves 50% Renewable Electricity — Hits 2030 Target Five Years Early

PIB · MINISTRY OF NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY · IBEF

WHY IN NEWS

India has achieved a landmark milestone — generating 50% of its electricity from renewable sources, meeting its 2030 target five years ahead of schedule. This represents a major step toward India's NDC (Nationally Determined Contribution) commitments under the Paris Agreement.

PRELIMS FACTS

- 50% electricity from renewables — achieved 2025 (5 years early)
- India's 2030 renewable target: 500 GW installed capacity
- India's renewable mix: Solar (largest share), Wind, Hydro, Biomass
- Ministry: New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)
- India NDC: 45% reduction in emissions intensity by 2030 (vs 2005)
- India: 4th largest renewable energy capacity globally

MAINS DIMENSIONS

- India's climate commitments: NDC, COP26/COP30, LiFE Mission
- Energy transition: Coal dependence vs. renewable growth
- Green hydrogen, battery storage as next frontier
- GS3: Environment, energy, climate change

GS-3

PYQ Linked

Renewable Energy

NDC

Paris Agreement

Solar

MNRE

AKADEMIA TEACHING HOOK:

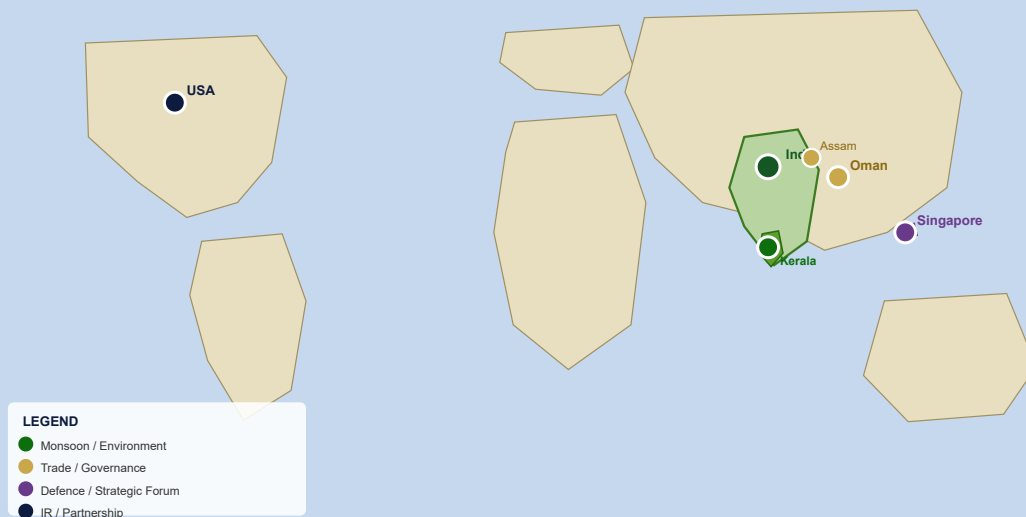
India at 50% renewable electricity is a landmark to memorise. Put it in the NDC-Paris-COP framework: India pledged 45% emission intensity reduction by 2030 — the renewable target is how it gets there. Ask: What is the difference between installed capacity and actual generation? (Capacity factor) — a subtle but important UPSC distinction.

08 Places in News Today

World & India: Key Locations — 4 June 2026

Identify · Locate · Connect to UPSC Syllabus · Prelims + Mains Angles

PLACES IN NEWS · 4 JUNE 2026



📍 Kerala — Monsoon Onset

WHY IN NEWS: SW Monsoon declared over Kerala on June 4 — normal onset date

LOCATION: South-western tip of India · Western Ghats (east) · Arabian Sea (west) · Lakshadweep Sea

PRELIMS: Normal monsoon onset: June 1 · Kerala: Highest literacy state · 14 districts · Wayanad: Human-tiger conflict zone · Backwaters: Ramsar wetlands

MAINS: Monsoon-agriculture nexus; Kerala development model; climate vulnerability of coastal states

PYQ TREND: Monsoon onset, Kerala development model, coastal ecology

sg Singapore — Shangri-La Dialogue

WHY IN NEWS: Shangri-La Dialogue 2026 (May 29–31) — India outlined Indo-Pacific vision, signed defence partnerships

LOCATION: SE Asia · Island city-state · Strait of Malacca · South China Sea · ASEAN member

PRELIMS: Singapore: ASEAN founding member (1967) · Busiest port in SE Asia · Raffles Institution · India-Singapore: Comprehensive Strategic Partnership · Singapore dollar

MAINS: Strait of Malacca strategic importance; ASEAN centrality in Indo-Pacific; India-SE Asia connectivity

om Oman (Muscat) — CEPA Operational

WHY IN NEWS: India-Oman CEPA entered into force June 1, 2026

LOCATION: Arabian Peninsula · Gulf of Oman + Arabian Sea coast · Borders UAE, Saudi Arabia, Yemen

PRELIMS: GCC member · Duqm Port (strategic for India) · Indian diaspora ~760,000 · Muscat: Capital · Hormuz Strait proximity · NPOP certification now recognised

MAINS: Act West Policy; economic diplomacy; IMEEC; organic farming exports

📍 Assam — Mission Senehjori

WHY IN NEWS: Mission Senehjori launched — Muga silk global branding

LOCATION: Northeast India · Brahmaputra river valley · Borders Bhutan, Arunachal, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, West Bengal

PRELIMS: Muga silk: GI tag · *Antheraea assamensis* silkworm · Kaziranga (UNESCO) · Majuli: World's largest river island · Sixth Schedule area (tribal districts)

MAINS: NE India development; GI protection; artisan empowerment; DONER Ministry

us USA — India-US Defence Reaffirmation

WHY IN NEWS: India-US defence cooperation reaffirmed at Shangri-La Dialogue

LOCATION: North America · NATO member · Permanent UNSC member (P5)

PRELIMS: India-US: Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership · BECA, LEMOA, COMCASA (foundational defence agreements) · iCET: Initiative on Critical & Emerging Technologies (2023) · GE F414 engine deal for Tejas Mk2

MAINS: India-US: Strategic convergence on Indo-Pacific; tech diplomacy; QUAD reinforcement

📌 Strait of Malacca

WHY IN NEWS: Singapore's Shangri-La Dialogue highlighted Malacca Strait security concerns for Indo-Pacific

LOCATION: Between Malay Peninsula and Sumatra (Indonesia) · Connects Indian Ocean to South China Sea

PRELIMS: World's busiest shipping strait (90,000+ vessels/year) · Connects Indian Ocean to Pacific · Piracy hotspot historically · India's "Malacca Dilemma" — over-dependence on this choke point · Andaman & Nicobar Islands command the western entrance

MAINS: Maritime choke points; India's IOR strategy; Andaman & Nicobar as India's "unsinkable aircraft carrier"

End of Part I — Headlines to Places in News

Continue to **PART II: Ethics · MCQs · Mains · Answer Writing · Proof of Precision**

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